

Committee proposes changes

Core Curriculum Review Committee releases recommendations for courses

Observer Staff Report

After more than a year of deliberation, the Core Curriculum Review Committee, tasked with evaluating University requirements for undergraduates and proposing necessary changes, released a draft report Monday containing recommendations for certain changes to the courses that currently constitute the University's core curriculum.

The draft report, which is a preliminary write-up of the committee's recommendations that will be followed by a final report to faculty and administration in fall 2016, proposes modifications to several of the current core requirements, as well as a reduction in the total number of requirements from 12 to 11 courses, excluding the Moreau First Year Experience course. The decrease in the number of required courses comes from the recommendation of the committee to eliminate one of the four current core requirements

see CURRICULUM PAGE 4

CORE REQUIREMENTS: RECOMMENDED CHANGES	
CURRENT	PROPOSED
2 courses in math and 2 in science	1 course in quantitative analysis, 1 in scientific and technical analysis and 1 in either category
1 course each in history, a social science and a fine arts or literature	3 courses chosen from "aesthetic analysis," "social sciences inquiry," "historical analysis," "advanced language and culture" and "integration"
2 courses in theology	2 courses in theology, with ability to place into more advanced first theology course
2 courses in philosophy	2 courses in philosophy or 1 course in philosophy and 1 in the Catholicism and the Disciplines category
1 Writing and Rhetoric course, which can be waived with AP credit	1 Writing and Rhetoric course or 1 writing-intensive course depending on AP score
1 University Seminar	1 University Seminar
1 Moreau First Year Experience course	1 Moreau First Year Experience course

ERIC RICHELSEN | The Observer

SGA promotes dialogue at SMC

By HALEIGH EHMSSEN
Saint Mary's Editor

The Student Government Association (SGA) and Student Diversity Board (SDB) will co-sponsor an opportunity for students to come together and talk about controversial issues at a Catholic institution tonight in Rice Commons, according to OrgSync, the Saint Mary's student activities portal.

The event will last one hour, beginning at 7:30 p.m., and will be closed to faculty, staff and media.

The opportunity to come together follows campus controversy about Planned Parenthood but also in light of the harassment junior Maranda Pennington faced when a homophobic slur was written on her whiteboard.

"We have broadened the event to be an opportunity to discuss

see DIALOGUE PAGE 4

Campus Ministry hosts Las Posadas

By MEGAN VALLEY
News Writer

The Catholic liturgical season of Advent, which began Sunday, marks a time of preparation for the celebration of Christmas, and Campus Ministry is hosting a corresponding celebration of Las Posadas, a traditional procession that celebrates the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem before Christ was born. Las Posadas, which means "lodgings" in Spanish, will be celebrated Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 9:30 p.m. at the Grotto. Participants will then continue to Fisher

Hall, Farley Hall and the Coleman-Morse Center, all of which are co-sponsors for the celebration.

Campus Ministry intern and senior Steven Fisher, who focuses on Latino ministry, said in an email that the event will be a condensed version of the traditional celebration.

"If you were to grow up in Mexico, Central America or the Southwest United States, the celebration of Las Posadas would be a hallmark for nine days of your Advent season," he said. "Each day you and your family would

see LAS POSADAS PAGE 4



GRACE TOURVILLE | The Observer

Campus Ministry will celebrate Las Posadas on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. During the procession, students will process from the Grotto to Fisher Hall, Farley Hall and finally Coleman-Morse Center.



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THE OBSERVER

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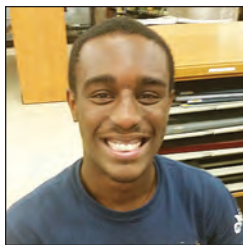
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QUESTION OF THE DAY:

What is your favorite Thanksgiving food?

Have a question you want answered?

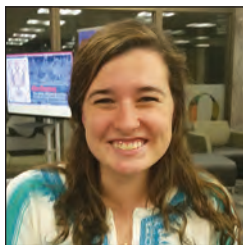
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Abdel Madina

junior
off campus

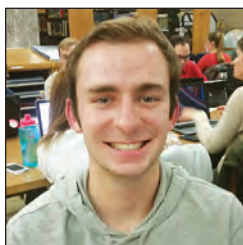
“Baked mac and cheese.”



Meg Dalton

junior
Walsh Hall

“Mashed potatoes.”



Scott Nussbaum

freshman
Knott Hall

“Stuffing.”



Nick Rajewski

junior
Zahm House

“Sweet potato casserole.”



Eric Schnurrenberger

senior
off campus

“Apple pie with whipped cream.”



Meghan Till

junior
Lewis Hall

“Ribs.”



ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

Irish defensive coordinator Brian VanGorder gives instruction during Notre Dame's 38-36 loss at Stanford Stadium on Saturday. Stanford senior quarterback Kevin Hogan torched the Irish defense in the game, throwing for four touchdowns.

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Corrections

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

THE NEXT FIVE DAYS:

Want your event included here?

Email news@ndsmcobserver.com

Tuesday

“Facilitating Change”

Geddes Hall
8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m.
Center for Social
Concerns seminar.

Theile Lectureship

Ecks Visitor Center
3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Lecture on 3D tissue
engineering by
Professor Samuel Sia.

Wednesday

“Mastering Leadership”

Hammes Bookstore
4:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
Bob Anderson
launches his new book.

Women's Basketball vs. Ohio State

Joyce Center
7 p.m.-9 p.m.
Notre Dame takes on
the Buckeyes.

Thursday

Silent Auction

LaFortune Student
Center
6 p.m.-9 p.m.
Fundraiser for
Hannah's House.

Father Ted Talk: Ed Hums

Reckers
8:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.
Lecture on an
integrated life of faith.

Friday

Laudato Lunch

Geddes Hall
12:30 p.m.-1:30 p.m.
Notre Dame at Paris
Climate Conference.

Hockey vs. Massachusetts

Compton Ice Arena
7:35 p.m.-9:35 p.m.
Notre Dame takes on
the Minutemen.

Saturday

Shakespeare Festival

DeBartolo Performing
Arts Center
10 a.m.-6 p.m.
Auditions for “Pericles”
and “The Tempest.”

“Anchored in Hope”

Keenan Hall
7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
The Voices of Faith
Gospel Choir Fall
Concert.

Speaker discusses state formation, economy

By CATHERINE OWERS

Associate News Editor

Sebastián Mazzuca, assistant professor at Johns Hopkins, delivered a lecture on the relationship between state formation and economic failure in South America on Monday in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies.

In mainstream history, state formation in Latin America is essentially about fragmentation, Mazzuca said.

"If you compare two maps, compare the map of colonial Latin America to contemporary Latin America, there's an obvious change in number, in size," he said. "There were five political units in colonial Latin America, and there are 20-plus countries today."

The income per capita in Latin American countries is a fifth of the income of advanced economies, Mazzuca said.

"The question is, 'Why does it exist, why is it there?'" he said. "Of course, the gap began more than 200 years ago. It began small, but it began and remains."

Intermediate maps provide a fuller story, Mezzuca said.

"If you look at intermediate maps, you will see that in the very first decades after independence, even in what today is Argentina, you have at least four distinct political units," he said. "So in between these two things, you have a different trajectory, which is atomisation first and then reaggregation. It is not a history of fragmentation, it is a more complicated story — it's not that complicated, but it's more interesting and more complicated."

Mezzuca said countries in South America that have the potential to become advanced economies with sustained growth but failed were "perverse combinations" of subnational regions.

"The second question, which has to do with state

formation, is, 'Why did state formation in South America result in the creation of economical dysfunctional national arenas?'" he said. "Although most state formation in early modern Europe were military conquests ... [in South America] you also don't see economic mergers, which is another path to state formation. It is neither a military conquest nor economic merger, but it is actually a process of coalition

"If you compare two maps, compare the map of colonial Latin America to contemporary Latin America ... There were five political units in colonial Latin America, and there are 20-plus countries today."

Sebastián Mazzuca
assistant professor
Johns Hopkins University

building."

State formation from the 1840s through the 1860s led to the creation of countries as dysfunctional territorial matches, Mezzuca said, which then resulted in economic failures in these countries.

Examining "quasi take-offs" in South American countries provide a shortcut to understanding 200 years of complicated economic history, Mezzuca said.

"The quasi takeoffs are the moment in which some countries were really likely to start sustained economic growth, or they initiated it and then reversed," he said.

From 1817 to 1903, Argentina experienced a period of sustained economic growth, Mezzuca said.

"It went from 55, 60 percent of the income per capita of rich countries, and I mean

France, the UK, England and Australia, to 98 percent the income of those countries," he said. "It became an advanced country by 1908, but not only that — it stayed there for another twenty-two years and a half. ... It stayed there, and then it reversed back in a sustained fashion until it's back to 40 percent of the income of advanced countries."

From 1950 to 1970, Brazil experienced a period of economic growth, Mezzuca said, and from 2002 to 2022 there has been another opportunity for economic growth.

"It is really too tell. We don't know if anything's going to happen. We are almost sure Chile is going to make it into the income bracket of the advanced economies," he said. "It has been growing faster, by half a percent faster than advanced economies for 25 years already. That's really a lot — it's very hard to derail Chile from that."

Mezzuca said the first emerging market in Latin America in the 1870s had many short-lived booms. Two regions had "winning tickets" for the commodity lottery and the potential to be growth engines for entire continent.

"The Paraíba Valley, is one, that's in the São Paulo area in Brazil," he said. "The main product there is coffee. Of course, coffee, you do not know for sure if it's a winning ticket ... but Brazil, coffee production was so big — actually it was a quasi-monopoly — that it could create price-setting mechanisms."

The Pampas in Argentina was another area that had a "winning ticket" in the commodity lottery, Mezzuca said, and experienced exceptional growth.

"There it was not coffee, it was wool, it's wheat, it's beef," he said. "There was a string of booms, and they were sustained booms."

Economists believe innovation and investment equal growth, Mezzuca said. There

are fundamental answers, which include culture, geography and institutions, but have a serious flaw in that there is competition among the factors instead of integration and interaction.

"There's nothing systematic. So that to me is the main limitation, so we're trying to combine stuff a little bit, combine classes of economic causes," he said.

The answer to the question of economic failure in South America is perverse combinations of subnational regions, Mezzuca said.

"The first reason why countries can be perverse combinations [is that] of course, national income level is an average of subnational income levels," he said. "While this is sort of trivial, but it points to the fact that in Latin America income inequality is very bad in terms

"It went from 55, 60 percent of the income per capita of rich countries, and I mean France, the UK, England and Australia, to 98 percent the income of those countries."

Sebastián Mazzuca
assistant professor
Johns Hopkins University

of social groups and classes, but there is a huge inequality across regions."

There are also economic mechanisms at play, Mezzuca said, if there are countries that contain "backwards" and "dynamic" regions.

"The dynamic sector exports and then the exports from the dynamic sector produce an influx of hard currency donors that overvalues the exchange rate, and that overvaluation pushes the other regions into a complete lack of competitiveness — they cannot be competitive because of

the exchange rate that's given by the dynamic regions," he said.

Mezzuca said political mechanisms are the key contributor to economic failure in South American countries.

"It's a two-sided thing. One is the exploitation of the center by the periphery, so the surplus of the center can be transferred to the periphery at a high cost, in terms of sustainability," he said. "So there's an inefficient transfer of resources from the center to the periphery. ... Second, not only the center gets weakened, but also, the periphery gets weakened in the long run."

Mezzuca said another political geography was possible for South America, and said new evidence suggests that for a time, Argentina could be an "obvious yes," after the creation of the Argentine Republic in 1861.

"A few months later, after what is considered to be the moment of unification, [the Spanish consul in Montevideo] wrote to his boss, wrote to the crown in Spain, to say that, 'I foresee partition and secession within Argentine Confederation,'" he said.

Comparative history depicts Brazil as the strongest South American state in terms of post-independence secession risks, Mezzuca said, but even independent Brazil was contested.

Mezzuca said local division and national unification can actually help aggregate an entire country.

"Division within a subnational reason drives the two factions within that region to compete for allies, and maybe under some conditions that search for allies in subaggregating regions into a national arena," he said.

There is a clear trade off as local factions search for external allies, Mezzuca said, and trade economic development for political power.

Contact Catherine Owers at cowers@nd.edu

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Las Posadas

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

join a procession led by two individuals dressed as Mary and Joseph, and together, everyone reenacts their journey to the inn in Bethlehem. You'd arrive at certain designated homes in the neighborhood and in song ask for lodging until the homeowner finally recognizes Mary and Joseph. Once inside everyone joins together for prayer and good tamales, piñatas, punch and, if you're my

grandmother, a hidden bottle of tequila."

Fisher said the Notre Dame version will start with a short gathering at the Grotto before two students, in the role of Mary and Joseph, lead a musical procession to each building, where there will be a short prayer service and Gospel reading before refreshments are served. Coro Primavera, a Spanish choir, and MariachiND will lead the songs.

"The song we sing goes back and forth between the procession and the hosts

playing the role of the innkeepers," Fisher said. "It's one that illuminates my own childhood memories in Mexico of days leading to Christmas and allows my heart to swell with love for my own faith and heritage. To ask for lodging not only from the cold, but also from our own loneliness and longing to be loved and love others invites everyone to open their hearts. Together as a community, we serve as each other's shelter."

Offering different Catholic traditions at Notre Dame

is important because it exposes students to different "modes of expression that the Catholic faith offers for everyone's spiritual growth," Fisher said.

"For Latino students and all who participate, Las Posadas presents an opportunity to forge culture and identity in creative alliance for an understanding of faith that collaborates with tradition, local experience and scripture, and as a result, reclaims the diversity of Catholicism as a source of vitality," he said.

Elaine DeBassige, rector of Farley Hall and the woman who brought Las Posadas to campus, said in an email that including cultural Catholic traditions is important because it embodies the Catholic faith.

"Christ invites everyone to the table, and by including other cultural celebrations, it gives light to the many ways people from around the world come together to honor and praise God."

Contact Megan Valley at mvalley@nd.edu

Curriculum

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

in mathematics and the sciences.

"Building on a vision of the Catholic liberal arts, Notre Dame's own mission and history, the reflections of our faculty, students and alumni, and the University's existing structures and practices, the committee recommends a new structure for general education requirements at Notre Dame," the report states.

"In the proposed structure, six courses would be required in the general liberal arts, with more student choice than at present and with the new option of an integration course. Four courses would be required in the explicitly Catholic dimensions of the liberal arts, with the new option of a Catholicism and the Disciplines (CAD) course. Finally, to enhance students' writing skills, the core would include a second required writing course for all students, including those who test out of the Writing and Rhetoric course."

The six general liberal arts requirements as outlined in the report consist of three courses taken in the categories of "quantitative analysis" and "scientific and technical analysis," and an additional three courses chosen from the categories of "aesthetic analysis," "social sciences inquiry," "historical analysis," "advanced language and culture" and "integration."

The three requirements in quantitative analysis and scientific and technical

analysis — one course taken in each of the two categories and a third in the category of the student's preference — would take the place of the four courses currently required in mathematics and the sciences, according to the report.

The other three liberal arts courses, chosen from the five listed categories, would replace the three current requirements in history, the social sciences and the fine arts or literature. Two of the five categories — integration and advanced language and culture — do not currently form part of the core curriculum.

According to the report, the integration course would be a brand-new offering at Notre Dame and would be team-taught by faculty from separate departments or academic units.

"Courses in the integration category must have as a primary goal the pursuit of knowledge that integrates and synthesizes the perspective of two or more disciplines to address a particular issue that is too complex to be adequately addressed by a single field of study," the report states. "They must be interdisciplinary courses whereby each represented discipline makes an explicit and significant contribution to the analysis, and the course activities require the students to identify commonalities and differences, as well as strengths and weaknesses, among the various disciplinary perspectives."

Concerning the philosophy and theology requirements, the report states its

recommendation that the core curriculum should continue to require two courses each in theology and philosophy, with the modification that students may substitute a "Catholicism and the Disciplines" course for their second philosophy requirement. Furthermore, the committee encouraged the department of theology to continue developing a system to allow incoming students with previous coursework in theology to test into a more advanced first course.

"As central threads in the Catholic intellectual tradition, theology and philosophy have played and should continue to play a central role in Notre Dame's core curriculum," the report states. "... In placing theology at the core of its Catholic liberal arts education, Notre Dame is not merely adding another discipline to the existing educational paradigm. Instead, it embraces a paradigm of the intellectual life that posits the complementarity of faith and reason."

The final core requirement recommended by the report is a Writing and Rhetoric course, which is currently taken during freshman year along with the University Seminar. The report recommends that both Writing and Rhetoric and the University Seminar "continue to count toward the University's writing requirement" and furthermore, "students who test out of Writing and Rhetoric be required to take not just the University Seminar but also a second writing-intensive course,

so designated in the course catalog."

According to the First Year of Studies website, current students can test out of Writing and Rhetoric by scoring either a 4 or 5 on the Advanced Placement (AP) English Literature or AP English Language and Composition exams. The draft report states "more than 60 percent of Notre Dame students ... test out of the current Writing and Rhetoric course."

"To strengthen the writing requirement further, the Advanced Placement focus group recommended that the University (1) should not allow any AP English Literature exam score to be used to test out of the Writing and Rhetoric course and (2) should consider raising the requirement for credit based on the AP English Language and Composition exam to a score of 5," the report states.

The report additionally states the committee's recommendation that students should no longer be able to use AP credit to test out of any of the core requirements.

"The committee ... recommends that the University no longer accept AP credit to test out of core requirements," the report states. "AP credit would, however, continue to be accepted for placement purposes — including in the writing requirement, where students can place out of the Writing and Rhetoric course but would therefore take a second University Seminar or other writing-intensive course to satisfy the two-course writing requirement. AP credit can also still be

accepted in lieu of college, school and major requirements at the discretion of the colleges, schools and departments."

In addition to outlining these changes to University requirements, the report also states the principles underlying the committee's recommendations.

Concerning the actual delivery of core curriculum courses, the report recommends "that introductory courses in the core curriculum be taught by regular (i.e. tenure-track and special professional) faculty." This comes as a response to the findings of the Office of Strategic Planning and Institutional Research that "only 37 percent of the first philosophy courses, 31 percent of the first math courses, and 30 percent of the first theology courses in the core curriculum were taught by tenured or tenure-track faculty in the 2013-14 academic year."

The report further names flexibility as one of the major concerns of the committee in evaluating the curriculum, stating that its proposals are designed to allow students of all majors greater flexibility in choosing courses to fulfill core requirements.

"All students in all colleges will see an increase in flexibility with a greater variety of courses fulfilling requirements in philosophy, theology and quantitative reasoning, and with more choice in other liberal arts courses because of the addition of integration and CAD courses as possible options."

Dialogue

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

all of the types of controversy that have been occurring and how we can move forward, make changes and be better as a community," student body president Kaitlyn Baker said.

"Students will have an opportunity to voice their opinions and why they believe what they believe," she said. "We are all still Belles, and it's important for students to listen to other students' opinions

and say, 'I respect your opinion, but I believe this.'"

Student body vice president Maddie Kohler said SGA hopes the event will be a learning opportunity for students who attend.

"We will close the event knowing that we are still one community [and] it's okay that we are at a Catholic institution and have different beliefs," she said.

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THE MESSAGE IS CLEAR, 'BUT YOU CAINT USE MY PHONE'

By **JACK RIEDY**
Scene Writer

Erykah Badu is back, and it seems we have Drake to thank for it.

In early October, the neo-soul songstress released a cover of the omnipresent “Hotline Bling” on her SoundCloud. In trademark fashion, things got weird quickly. What begins as a straightforward rendition with some modified lyrics leads to a hilarious voicemail message meant to ward off opportunistic acquaintances. The nearly eight-minute track wraps up in a lush coda where the percussion loop of the original song is bolstered by chimes, organ and brushed snare drum. While other musicians covered Drake’s hit as a way of generating headlines, Badu made it clear that she had found inspiration when she announced that the track would be part of an all-new mixtape.

On Black Friday, Badu released “But You Caint Use My Phone” as an Apple exclusive, her first new music in five years. Such a long gap may have made her an unknown to some modern listeners, but this album works well as a summary of where she’s been and an indication of where she’s going. After all, the title comes from her song “Tyrone,” released in 1997.

While Badu has previously focused on bringing her uniquely funky sensibility

to acoustic instrumentation, this new tape also shows her being more engaged with contemporary hip-hop than ever. On “Phone Down,” the second single, Badu builds an eerie atmosphere out of trap drums and pitch-shifted backing vocals. A thin sheen of auto tune covers her formidable voice as she croons “I can make you put your phone down.” It’s part boast, part come-on, part plea for some old-fashioned FaceTime.

Badu has a lot to say about cell phones and their peculiar influence on today’s world. As she wrote in an anticipatory press release, each song references “our own reliance on staying interconnected.” She’s far from a Luddite; she frequently talks to fans on Twitter, and part of her pre-release publicity involved streaming on Periscope, the live broadcasting app for Twitter. It’s not the technology itself she has beef with, but rather the way so-called communication devices can widen the distances between people. Oh, and also, they’re killing bees, as she explains in the intro to boom-bap throwback “Dial’afreq.”

Fittingly, Badu is not the only voice on the record. Two songs feature a voice so close to Drake’s as to fool a majority of early listeners, if the Internet is to be believed. Badu’s denial then led to speculation that the rapper might be Seven Benjamin, her 18-year-old son with André 3000, making his musical

debut. Investigation into songwriting credits and Genius pages ultimately revealed the mysterious rapper to be ItsRoutine, an Atlanta-based unknown born Aubrey Davis. It’s always great to see established artists putting on up-and-comers, but when this guest shares his flow and legal first name with the biggest rapper in the world, it’s hard not to feel a little tricked.

Closing track “Hello” features André 3000 with his first new verse since his reunion tour with Outkast, and the native ATLien does not disappoint. Rhymes pour out of him as rapid and as smooth as a waterfall over the minimal music. He urges his lover to “leave [their] phone unlocked and right side up.” It’s difficult to imagine a more momentous expression of trust. Though the two musicians haven’t been romantically involved since the late ’90s, their relationship is clearly intimate, evidenced by the confounding lyrical substitution of “squirrel” for “girl.” It makes no sense, but it’s funky and adorable. Their comfort with each other shines through on this ode to loving the one you’re with, even if it means ignoring the small feeling of missing out (“FOMO”) in the back of your head.

The intimate vibe does not always connect so beautifully. The telephone theme becomes too repetitive when the lyrics echo the same conversational

phrases frequently. The music repeats itself as well, with several short tracks replaying motifs from earlier songs. It’s cohesive, but not exactly exciting. At only 37 minutes, the mixtape feels somewhat minor.

In the same press release, Badu writes that she fine-tuned details “with the goal of creating a sound that brings peace and tranquility to its listener.” The songs on “But You Caint Use My Phone” conjure up those feelings and more, as Badu analyzes cell phones from all angles. She incorporates seemingly every style from her past, going from old-school soul to modern trap. Though it’s less vital than her previous albums, Badu’s new mixtape is a great reminder of its creator’s talent. Here’s hoping inspiration rings her up again soon.

Contact Jack Riedy at jriedy@nd.edu

“But You Caint Use My Phone”

Erykah Badu

Label: Motown Records

Tracks: “Hello,” “Mr. Telephone Man”

If you like: D’angelo, Sza, Missy Elliot



25 DAYS — *of* — : ‘THIS CHRISTMAS’ CHRISTMAS

By **MIKO MALABUTE**
Scene Editor

With the beginning of December comes the latest in Scene series, “25 Days of Christmas,” in which the staff will highlight and share some of our favorite bits of Christmas-related pop culture to get into the holiday season.

As a yearly tradition, my brother and I watch the movie “This Christmas,” starring the likes of Chris Brown, Lauren London and Loretta Devine. As routine, we gather on my mother’s couch while Chris Brown’s character “Baby” carols and sings to the audience on set and at home.

For those unfamiliar with the film, the story looks at a typical family gathering setting for the holiday season, but starring an atypical family, filled with enough interesting characters and hijinx to fill the quota for a feel-good, if not cheesy family holiday movie.

The screenplay and dialogue is relatively subpar and won’t exactly be confused for an all-time English classic anytime soon. However, for a holiday movie, it is simple enough to follow and enjoy without thinking too hard, which is honestly a top-notch quality after a long, exhausting year.

However, the understated genius of the movie is in the chemistry between

the actors, playing the roles of siblings coming home for the holidays after extended periods of time away from each other. The little sister who brings home the new boyfriend to show off to the family; the little brother who is still living at home with the parents but tries to prove to the big siblings how grown up he is; the oldest sister who attempts to take control of the family finances and affairs, now that the parents are getting a bit older — all of these personalities truly underscore the reality of the family dynamic at the dinner table around the holiday season.

The movie truly hits home because it captures an essential, if not

underappreciated, part of the holiday season — simply coming home to see family. None of the pageantry or decorations is really all that important when it comes really comes down to it. The only thing that truly matters is the family. This is well-reflected in the movie, as throughout the course of the movie, plans for a peaceful family reunion go awry; yet, the season simply feels like a success because at the end of it all, despite the frustrations and disappointments, the family is still together and stronger for it.

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INSIDE COLUMN

Coming to America

Wei Cao

Mulimedia Editor

About six years ago, I took a flight from Pudong International Airport in Shanghai to Los Angeles International Airport that changed my life. No, I was not coming to America for the first time. I'm an American citizen who was returning to my home in California.

I was waiting behind an Indian family of five in the Chinese airport security line. The security officer was frustrated and instructed the family before me in heavily accented English, "Put your jacket in the bin." Of course, when she saw me, a fellow Chinese person, she was relieved as she was operating under the false assumption that we would be able to flawlessly communicate in Chinese.

Never could she have been more wrong.

In Chinese, she asked me to place my jacket in the bin. I did not understand her words for "jacket," "bin" or even "place," and so I uttered a quiet "I'm sorry, what?" in the most apologetic English to have ever been said that day in all of Eastern China. She repeated the question, her dwindling patience punctuated by the sharp rise in her tone of voice.

I could feel my impending execution for my cultural betrayal. How could I, a Chinese person, not understand a simple Mandarin command? Apologizing for a second time, she broke out in English, "Put your jacket in the box." This was then followed by a phrase that I understood perfectly well, "Ni shì zhongguó rén ma?" In English, "Are you a Chinese person?"

This phrase was the blade that slighted my identity as a Chinese person. Some say the eviscerated remains of the metaphorical equivalent of a body for my honor continues to rest in that airport security line. In hindsight, it is a poignant memory that I am still able to write about today, so I guess it turned out to be a net positive experience. Well, you know what they say, "ròu bao zi da gou."

As a first generation Chinese-American, I have the privilege of walking the line between two incredibly different cultures. I can give credit to my parents for a successful immigrant story: coming to America with an educational visa, working knowledge of English, \$200 and the motivation to make it all work out. Then there's me: I love staple dishes like three cup chicken, roast duck and mapo tofu, but I order them in English because I'm embarrassed to speak in broken Mandarin.

Because I had that hybrid Chinese and American upbringing, I can clearly see the quirky qualities of both cultures. They've both got their pros and cons with plenty of parallels between them. So to answer that airport security lady — who, in hindsight, may have just been having a bad day — yes, I am Chinese, and I am also American.

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

The importance of free speech

Neil Joseph

Viewpoint Columnist

I'm thankful that Notre Dame hasn't been in the news this past month. We've seen plenty of our peer institutions in the news for the wrong reasons, and I'm glad we haven't followed. Yale, Mizzou and scores of other universities have been in national news because of student unrest due to racial issues. Why haven't we? It may be because Notre Dame has a unique sense of community, because students here are uniquely open-minded or because we are able to have civil discussion. I really don't know. Regardless, our students and our University have a lot that they can learn from the issues that other colleges have faced, particularly related to speech and racial issues on college campuses.

One thing must be clarified first. Commentators and students alike frequently cite the first amendment when they talk about places like Yale; specifically, in order to defend what students say. They say that the First Amendment protects free speech, and thus anything (aside from the explicit exceptions) can be said on campus. Quite clearly, however, the First Amendment doesn't apply to places like Notre Dame. The First Amendment only protects people from the government restricting speech; as a private university, Notre Dame is free to do what it wants. If it wanted to, Notre Dame could ban all hate speech or racially insensitive speech. So why shouldn't it?

Free speech is vital at a university for a variety of reasons. First, there is the theoretical reason. College is a place for learning in a variety of ways. As a university committed to the liberal arts, we are committed to (and should continue to be committed to) being challenged, discussing difficult topics and learning from other opinions. The best way to learn about yourself and what you believe in is by confronting people who believe exactly the opposite of what you believe. Educationally and academically, free speech is the best way to prepare students for the future and for life.

But most people who oppose free speech don't oppose the theoretical and academic reasons. They believe that speech that offends is wrong and has no place in society. Most people who advocate for restricting some speech have legitimate gripes that some things that people say are patently wrong. So much so, in fact, that people feel disrespected and marginalized what other people do. Culturally insensitive Halloween costumes, ignorant comments about race or just blatant hate can have real,

tangible effects on people of all kinds. A lot of people may not understand, and it may sound simple, but words and actions can have a real negative impact on people. But the solution isn't getting rid of these words and actions: history shows it.

In the 1960s, the KKK had tens of thousands of members spread all over the country, particularly concentrated in Southern states. In addition to their (illegal) acts of violence and terror that they perpetrated, the Klan (and other racist groups and people) enjoyed popularity partly due to the legal actions that they took. In states such as North Carolina, Klan rallies (which were protected by free speech and the right to assemble) would occur daily. The Klan and other racist groups surely perpetuated hate, albeit in a lot more drastic way than we see today.

But the solution wasn't to censor or outlaw these rallies. Rather, civil rights activists pushed for action. Using their freedom of speech, these people changed minds, changed laws, but never took away the freedom that all people had to speak their minds. Today, the KKK has significantly fewer members than they did in the 1960s and continues to be on the decline. Nothing they have said and nothing that they do say is illegal or banned, yet today they're ostracized and stigmatized by most of the country. We don't need to censor to create change.

There is no right to not be offended, and there is no right to censor opinions that you disagree with. But there is a right, a duty even, to change the things that you believe are wrong. And the ability to speak freely guarantees everyone can do that. The best way to affect change is to encounter what is wrong, acknowledge it and do all that you can to make sure that it doesn't happen again. If someone says something racist, acts insensitively or offends someone, the solution isn't to punish and forbid their action. That breeds hostility and doesn't actually create change — it merely enforces it upon others. There will always be racist people, racist thoughts and insensitive actions. To change, to really have an impact on people, we must change how they think, not how they act or speak. Only then will we see progress. Only then will society change.

Neil Joseph is a junior in Stanford Hall majoring in political science and economics. He welcomes all thoughts and suggestions, and can be reached at njoseph2@nd.edu.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank you from the class of 1978

To our players, coaches and athletic director:

We want to thank all of the seniors and the entire Notre Dame organization for an incredible season. For the last four years you have provided us with so many great victories and brought great pride to our school.

As graduates of the Class of 1978, we've witnessed the rebirth of the program from its heyday. The transformation this team has made from one that struggled to break into the top-25 rankings, to a national championship contender each year, has been special to watch.

We've been lucky enough to meet several players over the years, and we can truly say that this year's seniors are not only great athletes but even better

people. Your accomplishments on and off the field have been amazing.

We would like to wish you the best of luck in this year's bowl game. A nice win would be a terrific sendoff for such a talented group of young men.

Go Irish!

John Coyne
class of 1978

Jimmy Dunne
class of 1978

Jimmy Martin
class of 1978

Rich Riley
class of 1978

Stan Zihlerl
class of 1978
Nov. 30

IRISH INSIDER

STANFORD 38, NOTRE DAME 36 | TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2015 | NDSMCOBSERVER.COM

Dreams dashed

Last-second field goal dooms Notre Dame as playoff hopes vanish in California



ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

Cardinal senior kicker Conrad Ukropina kicks the game-winning 45-yard field goal to lift Stanford over Notre Dame, 38-36, at Stanford Stadium on Saturday. Irish sophomore quarterback DeShone Kizer led an 88-yard touchdown drive to put the Irish ahead with 30 seconds left before Ukropina's right leg kicked Notre Dame out of playoff contention.

Irish fall short of completing fairy-tale season



Zach Klonsinski
Sports Editor

STANFORD, Calif. — Saturday night we watched what seemingly could have been a dream season, the type they make movies about, come to an arguably unfitting end at Stanford Stadium.

Instead of defying all the odds, overcoming a staggering amount of adversity and making a run at college football's greatest prize, Notre Dame had its heart ripped from its chest by a rising rival.

As is always the case in college athletics, one side erupted in jubilation as Stanford senior kicker Conrad Ukropina struck the winning blow. Seeing his kick travel straight through the north end-zone uprights, the senior created his own fairy-tale moment, going from walk-on freshman to senior hero.

On the opposite side of the field, Notre Dame watched silently as Ukropina's boot burst the bubble on its own fable, one

see KLONSINSKI **PAGE 3**

By **ALEX CARSON**
Associate Sports Editor

STANFORD, Calif. — As he had done at Virginia, Clemson and Temple earlier this season, sophomore quarterback DeShone Kizer led a trailing No. 6 Notre Dame down the field late in the fourth quarter and into the end zone.

Down 35-29 to the No. 9 Cardinal, the Irish (10-2) took over on their own 12-yard line with 6:48 to play, needing a touchdown drive to keep their playoff hopes alive on a chilly night in Palo Alto.

Fifteen plays and 88 yards later, they delivered.

After converting a

third-and-10 early in the drive and a fourth-and-1 late, Kizer rolled out on a naked bootleg, powering through Stanford defenders and across the goal line to tie the game. Freshman kicker Justin Yoon's point after gave Notre Dame the lead, 36-35, with just 30 seconds left.

It seemed that Notre Dame was going to wrap up its regular-season résumé with 11 wins. But Stanford senior quarterback Kevin Hogan had other ideas.

Aided by a facemask penalty called on Irish junior defensive lineman Isaac Rochell, Hogan moved the Cardinal (10-2, 8-1 Pac-12) 45 yards in 19 seconds to set up a game-winning, 45-yard

field goal from Stanford senior kicker Conrad Ukropina, lifting the Cardinal to a 38-36 win.

"Tough to talk to our team in the locker room after a game like this," Irish head coach Brian Kelly said. "Two very good football teams playing today. ... Stanford made a play that they needed to make to win the game, and we didn't make it."

Two plays after Rochell's penalty, Hogan connected with fifth-year senior receiver Devon Cajuste for a 27-yard gain that moved the Cardinal into field-goal range with nine seconds left.

"We thought it was some

see COMEBACK **PAGE 2**

Defense struggles in key third-down situations

By **ZACH KLONSINSKI**
Sports Editor

STANFORD, Calif. — Despite holding the Pac-12's record holder for all-purpose yards in a single season in check all night, the Irish defense still couldn't find a way to stem the Cardinal attack for much of No. 6 Notre Dame's 38-36 loss to No. 9 Stanford on Saturday night at Stanford Stadium.

That defensive weakness came to a head in the form of a 27-yard pass from Cardinal fifth-year senior quarterback Kevin Hogan to classmate receiver Devon Cajuste that set up senior kicker Conrad Ukropina's game-winning field goal as time expired.

"We've got to close down inside out on that seam route," Irish head coach Brian Kelly said after the game. "I thought we probably played it a little bit too much outside in, worried about backing up. We got to be more aggressive to a seam route."

On a night when its offense moved the ball so well it didn't have to punt until the fourth

see DEFENSE **PAGE 3**

PLAYER OF THE GAME

KEVIN HOGAN

CARDINAL SENIOR QUARTERBACK

In his final regular season game, Hogan shined, throwing as many touchdowns as incompletions in Stanford's win. The son of a Notre Dame graduate, Hogan's 27-yard pass to Devon Cajuste with seconds left set up the game-winning field goal.

QUOTE OF THE GAME

"Fact of the matter is, we're not going to get that chance."

Irish head coach Brian Kelly after saying he'd "put his team up against anybody in the country" Saturday following the loss that knocked Notre Dame out of playoff contention.

REPORT CARD

B

QUARTERBACKS

While he only completed 13 of 25 passes Saturday, DeShone Kizer still had a solid game against Stanford. His involvement in the ground game, rushing for 128 yards on 16 carries, was key as the Notre Dame offense marched down the field time and time again. However, he couldn't finish those drives, leaving points on the board three times in the red zone.

A

RUNNING BACKS

Like he did a few weeks ago against Pittsburgh, freshman Josh Adams had a standout performance for Notre Dame on Saturday. He ran for 168 yards on 18 carries, including a 62-yard touchdown rush that put the Irish on top in the third quarter.

B

RECEIVERS

Irish fans saw both Will Fuller's best asset, his speed, and his biggest spot for improvement, his hands, Saturday. His 73-yard touchdown reception energized Irish fans in California but also dropped a key third-down pass earlier in the day. The rest of the corps had a solid, if unspectacular, day against the Cardinal.

A

OFFENSIVE LINE

After a few substandard performances, the offensive line blossomed against the Cardinal. Notre Dame ran for 8.5 yards per carry and 299 yards, and DeShone Kizer was well-protected: Kizer wasn't sacked and was hurried once.

B+

DEFENSIVE LINE

Stanford fans waited all day for Christian McCaffrey to break a big gain — and he didn't, as the Irish defense held him to just 3.5 yards per carry. However, Kevin Hogan didn't face much pressure, enabling his stellar day.

B+

LINEBACKERS

Brian Kelly called Jaylon Smith's 15-tackle effort "normal" against Stanford, and the Irish head coach wasn't wrong. Greer Martini was disruptive in the backfield with the game's only sack, and the unit aided the defensive line in the containment of McCaffrey.

C-

DEFENSIVE BACKS

To say KeiVarae Russell's absence was felt Saturday may be an understatement. Devin Butler whiffed on a tackle on a Stanford touchdown, and the secondary routinely lost Devon Cajuste, who had 125 yards on five receptions — including the crucial 27-yard one that set the Cardinal up for their game-winning touchdown.

A+

SPECIAL TEAMS

Throughout the course of the season, this unit had been plagued by inconsistency — but Saturday, the special teams crew put it all together in a brilliant performance. C.J. Sanders returned Notre Dame's first kickoff in four years, a veteran kick coverage crew kept McCaffrey from breaking a big return, Tyler Newsome had two 50-plus-yard punts, and Justin Yoon was perfect en route to scoring 12 points.

B-

COACHING

While the offensive game plan worked well, the defensive one didn't. Brian VanGorder's defense couldn't get off the field and consistently blew coverages downfield.

OVERALL GPA: 3.26 (A-)

Despite suffering a loss that ended its playoff hopes, Notre Dame played one of its best games of the season Saturday at Stanford — it just ran into another talented team that played a little better. In a high-profile game, Notre Dame looked like it belonged in the middle of the national discussion. But the offense's lack of execution in the red zone and the defense's inability to get off the field hampered Irish playoff hopes.

PLAY OF THE GAME

CONRAD UKROPINA'S GAME-WINNING 45-YARD FIELD GOAL

When DeShone Kizer led a touchdown drive to put the Irish ahead with 30 seconds left, it looked like Notre Dame was set to keep its playoff hopes alive. But the former walk-on flipped the script with his right leg, booting the game-winner through the uprights as time expired.



ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

Irish sophomore quarterback DeShone Kizer scores the game-tying touchdown with 30 seconds left Saturday at Stanford Stadium. Notre Dame went ahead on the extra point but lost in regulation, 38-36.

Comeback

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

lanes inside," Stanford head coach David Shaw said of the seam route Cajuste ran. "So we weren't trying to score a touchdown, we were just trying to get in field-goal range."

Irish graduate student cornerback Matthias Farley was in coverage on the play.

"We've got to close down inside out on that seam route," Kelly said. "I thought we probably played it a little bit too much outside in, worried about backing up. We've got to be more aggressive to a seam route."

From there, Stanford sophomore running back Christian McCaffrey ran two yards to the Irish 28-yard line to set up Ukropina's game-winner.

"You're talking about a walk-on kicker that came in as a young guy, earned his stripes, learned, grew, earned a scholarship and he's our guy now," Shaw said. "And he's done a phenomenal job and he's become one of the best kickers in the nation."

Stanford's last-second drive overshadowed Notre Dame's final possession, where Kizer accounted for 23 of his team's final 29 yards to give the Irish the lead.

"I thought it was as good as it could get, right?" Kelly said of Kizer's drive. "[He] eats up the whole clock, makes an incredible play on the third down, throws a big route under duress, runs the ball physically. I think he handled himself like a fifth-year senior, and he's just a [redshirt] freshman. So, if there's a bright spot there, obviously, the way DeShone Kizer played was pretty bright."

Throughout the night, Notre Dame struggled in two areas — the red zone and on third downs — it has had trouble with all year.

A week after turning the ball over three times inside Boston College's 20-yard line, the Irish managed to collect points on each red zone trip Saturday. But the final drive was the only time Notre Dame scored a touchdown, as the offense settled for three field goals on three trips inside the Stanford 10-yard line.

"We'll evaluate it, we'll go back and check it out," Kizer said of Notre Dame leaving points on the board Saturday. "I know some of the decisions I made down there weren't obviously the best."

While the final Stanford drive

secured the Cardinal victory, Kelly pointed to his team's red-zone struggles as a reason why the Irish fell Saturday.

"It's never about the last 30 seconds," Kelly said. "We had a number of opportunities in the red zone that we should have converted or could have converted into touchdowns that we had to settle for field goals."

On the other side of the ball, Notre Dame's defense struggled on third down. The Cardinal converted their first five third-down tries en route to an 8-for-12 mark on the day.

"They executed better than we did on those third down situations and it's something where it's very crucial and it's hard to defeat them when it's a lot of third-and-shorts, a lot of third-and-ones," Irish junior linebacker Jaylon Smith said.

Stanford got out to a strong start Saturday, when Hogan led an 11-play, 75-yard opening drive that culminated in a 1-yard touchdown pass to fifth-year senior senior Remound Wright.

But the Irish answered without the offense touching the ball when freshman receiver C.J. Sanders sprinted 93 yards for Notre Dame's first kickoff return for a touchdown in four years.

The Cardinal hit right back, though, with Hogan connecting with Cajuste, who finished with 125 receiving yards, for a 6-yard touchdown.

"[Cajuste hadn't] really had a breakout game all year, and he's had probably his best year of blocking," Shaw said. "... And today was the day. The coverage dictated it. The right plays were there, the quarterback saw it and hit him and he made them."

On the ensuing Irish possession, Kizer led Notre Dame down inside the Stanford 10-yard line — and that's where the red-zone woes started. With fourth-and-1 coming from the 4-yard line, Kelly was set to go for it.

But a snap infraction on graduate student center Nick Martin forced the Irish to settle for a 26-yard Yoon field goal.

After a defensive stop, the next drive ended in the same way, with Yoon kicking his second field goal of the game from 25 yards out to cut Stanford's lead to 14-13.

Notre Dame avoided the red zone completely on its next drive.

Kizer hit junior receiver Will Fuller, who blew past his defender, for a 73-yard touchdown pass.

"I thought the throw to Will

Fuller was as good as it gets," Kelly said.

The score put Notre Dame ahead 20-14 late in the first half, but Hogan led a quick drive to put Stanford back in the driver's seat. A big completion to Cajuste got the Cardinal in range before Hogan threw his third touchdown pass of the day, a 14-yard completion to senior receiver Michael Rector, giving Stanford a 21-20 lead.

A 48-yard Kizer rush got Notre Dame inside the Stanford 25-yard line late before the half, but Kizer fumbled on the next play, committing the game's only turnover.

Yoon's third red-zone field goal of the day put the Irish back ahead coming out of the half, but another Stanford touchdown drive flipped the score once more when Wright carried it in from a yard out to put the Cardinal ahead 28-23 midway through the third quarter.

But for the second time on the night, the Irish used a big play to avoid the red zone, as freshman running back Josh Adams broke free for a 62-yard touchdown rush. After a failed 2-point conversion, Notre Dame led 29-28.

Adams finished with 168 of Notre Dame's 299 rushing yards Saturday and credited the success to the offensive line.

"The offensive line, they've been working great all season," Adams said. "That's always the key. Whenever we're having great games, they're running hard. You've just gotta do your job because they're doing their job ... [to] make their five-yard push into a 10-yard gain."

On the first play of the fourth quarter, Stanford regained the lead, 35-29, when Hogan tossed a 10-yard touchdown pass to junior tight end Austin Hooper.

That set the scene for the defenses to both string together a pair of stops, before Kizer and Hogan led their respective touchdown drives.

"I'm completely blank inside," Kizer said. "It's hard to really describe how you feel in a time like this. Obviously, I'm disappointed. Not in the fact that we lost, but more in the fact that some of the most amazing football players I've ever been around and leaders, just walked off their last regular season game and didn't have a W. And that's just, that's the hardest part about it all."

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Defense

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

quarter and scored on seven of its 10 possessions, the Notre Dame defense rarely capitalized on chances to get the ball to its offensive counterparts.

“We didn’t execute on third down. That’s the fact of the matter,” Irish graduate student Joe Schmidt said. “It wasn’t on game plan. We had a good game plan. I thought we had good calls. We just didn’t execute. It was something we knew we needed to do in this football game.

“Stanford’s a dang good football team, and they execute on third down. They had a good plan. They’re well-coached, and we just didn’t get it done on third down tonight.”

Stanford converted its first five third-down attempts, and the Irish handed the Cardinal a sixth first down with an off-side penalty against freshman defensive lineman Jerry Tillery as the home team marched down the field for touchdowns on its first two drives. Excluding freshman receiver C.J. Sanders’ 93-yard touchdown return following Stanford’s first score, Notre Dame didn’t have the ball in its possession until 1:54 remained in the first quarter.

Klonsinski

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

that had been in the works since spring football and seemingly added another major twist with every chapter.

In many ways, it might have been one of the great stories in recent college football history. Instead, it came to an end in the most merciful way possible: on the football field, not at the hands of a committee.

Notre Dame is a top-10 football team this season. Unfortunately for the Irish, there’s only a four-team playoff.

To say Notre Dame is one of the top four teams in the country at this moment in time is impossible, even had the Irish defense held the Cardinal on that fateful final possession or the offense capitalized on three of its red-zone trips with touchdowns instead of field goals.

I’ll take flak for it, but Notre Dame was at the mercy of the teams in front of it Saturday night had it done anything less than perform ‘Texas, Part II.’ None of the teams Notre Dame needed to lose lost though, so barring a Clemson or Alabama loss in their respective conference title games this weekend, the Irish weren’t going to make the playoff anyway.

Yet to discount this season as anything but a testament to the guts and drive of this year’s squad would be unfair, too. For 11 games, 59 minutes and 54 seconds, the Irish kept building

“They executed better than we did on those third-down situations,” Irish junior linebacker Jaylon Smith said. “And it’s something where it’s very crucial, and it’s hard to defeat them when it’s a lot of third-and-shorts, a lot of third-and-ones. So it’s just a matter of we were able to figure it out at the end, [but] it’s just sometimes things can be too late.”

The Irish defense finally forced a Cardinal punt with 9:21 remaining in the second quarter and got another stop on the next possession, a stretch in which the Irish controlled the line of scrimmage, Kelly said.

“I thought we were much better up front,” Kelly said. “We got pushed around a little bit in the first couple of drives and then we settled down and played much better. ... I think a lot of that was just we settled into our game plan and played just better football defensively. It starts with your front four.”

But in the final minutes of the first half the Cardinal broke through again with a four-play, 75-yard drive to regain the lead after the Irish scored on three consecutive possessions.

Stanford then converted on three third-down attempts during its first two drives of the second half, both of which

resulted in go-ahead touchdowns in a game so close that each of the final eight scoring drives resulted in a lead change.

The Irish defense forced Stanford to punt twice in the fourth quarter with its offense trailing, but just as in the first half, it couldn’t quite hold on after sophomore quarterback DeShone Kizer’s touchdown run and the subsequent extra point by freshman kicker Justin Yoon put Notre Dame ahead with just 30 seconds remaining in the game.

Hogan found Cajuste streaking down the middle of the field wide open and Ukropina ended the contest with a boot that split the uprights.

Cajuste stole the show on his senior day, hauling five receptions for 125 yards in his final game at Stanford Stadium with Notre Dame’s focus on sophomore running back and jack-of-all-trades Christian McCaffrey. The Irish managed to slow McCaffrey down, holding him under 100 yards rushing for the first time in his last ten games and limiting him to just 228 all-purpose yards.

In the end, though, it wasn’t enough to keep Notre Dame’s shot at the College Football Playoff alive.

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a plot line that had many across the nation hooked right until the end.

It started in May when Everett Golson transferred and gave way to renewed hope in the shape of junior quarterback Malik Zaire. Zaire continued breathing new life in the Irish and their faithful with a resounding, season-opening victory over Texas despite the loss of junior running back Tarean Folston. Still, aided by the rise of senior receiver-turned-running back C.J. Prosise, Zaire appeared set to write his name in all the storybooks.

Then Zaire went down in the season’s second game against Virginia, lost for the year with a broken ankle, and sophomore quarterback DeShone Kizer suddenly found himself captain of a ship that continued to fall apart around him: The length of Notre Dame’s injury list this season was eclipsed only by the number of starters it trotted out to combat them: 37.

Yet Kizer responded.

He steered his crew through troubled waters multiple times during the season, highlighted by a pair of game-winning touchdown throws to junior receiver Will Fuller against Virginia and Temple. He led a march through a hurricane late in the fourth quarter against Clemson, falling just a yard shy of tying a game in which he carried the team. And then again Saturday night, he led what was seemingly the game-winning touchdown drive, capping it himself by barreling

over a Cardinal defender at the goal line.

Prosise, for his part, shocked everyone coming to become the first Irish running back to eclipse the 1,000-yard mark since Cierre Wood accomplished the feat in 2011. And when Prosise ran into injury trouble late in the season, freshman running back Josh Adams proved he was more than ready to carry the load, amassing four 100-yard games this season and setting a program record with a 98-yard touchdown scamper against Wake Forest.



Junior linebacker Jaylon Smith, who will be the subject of much media scrutiny until he decides whether or not to declare for this spring’s NFL draft, continued to showcase his freakish abilities on the defensive side, and senior cornerback KeiVarae Russell made his return following his academic troubles last season to come up with game-sealing interceptions against USC and Temple. Even graduate student linebacker Jarrett Grace made his fair share of appearances after suffering a devastating leg injury in 2013.

So no, Notre Dame just didn’t have enough gas left in the tank to make the playoff this year. But it was still one hell of a ride.

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

SCORING SUMMARY

	1 ST	2 ND	3 RD	4 TH	TOTAL
	7	13	9	7	36
	14	7	7	10	38

1

STANFORD 7, NOTRE DAME 0

Remound Wright 1-yard pass from Kevin Hogan (Conrad Ukropina kick)

 **9:29** *remaining*

Drive: 11 plays, 75 yards, 5:31 elapsed

NOTRE DAME 7, STANFORD 7

C.J. Sanders 93-yard kickoff return (Justin Yoon kick)

 **9:18** *remaining*

STANFORD 14, NOTRE DAME 7

Devon Cajuste 6-yard pass from Hogan (Ukropina kick)

 **1:54** *remaining*

Drive: 12 plays, 78 yards, 7:24 elapsed

2

STANFORD 14, NOTRE DAME 10

Yoon 26-yard field goal

 **12:26** *remaining*

Drive: 10 plays, 70 yards, 4:28 elapsed

STANFORD 14, NOTRE DAME 13

Yoon 25-yard field goal

 **5:02** *remaining*

Drive: 11 plays, 84 yards, 4:19 elapsed

NOTRE DAME 20, STANFORD 14

Will Fuller 73-yard pass from Kizer (Yoon kick)

 **2:15** *remaining*

Drive: 1 play, 73 yards, 0:08 elapsed

STANFORD 21, NOTRE DAME 20

Michael Rector 14-yard pass from Hogan (Ukropina kick)

 **00:48** *remaining*

Drive: 4 plays, 75 yards, 1:27 elapsed

3

NOTRE DAME 23, STANFORD 21

Yoon 29-yard field goal

 **11:03** *remaining*

Drive: 11 plays, 73 yards, 3:57 elapsed

STANFORD 28, NOTRE DAME 23

Wright 1-yard rush (Ukropina kick)

 **6:58** *remaining*

Drive: 7 plays, 76 yards, 4:05 elapsed

NOTRE DAME 29, STANFORD 28

Josh Adams 62-yard rush (2-point conversion failed)

 **5:24** *remaining*

Drive: 5 plays, 86 yards, 1:34 elapsed

4

STANFORD 35, NOTRE DAME 29

Austin Hooper 10-yard pass from Hogan (Ukropina kick)

 **14:55** *remaining*

Drive: 9 plays, 74 yards, 5:29 elapsed

NOTRE DAME 36, STANFORD 35

Kizer 2-yard rush (Yoon kick)

 **0:30** *remaining*

Drive: 15 plays, 88 yards, 6:18 elapsed

STANFORD 38, NOTRE DAME 36

Ukropina 45-yard field goal

 **0:00** *remaining*

Drive: 5 plays, 45 yards, 0:30 elapsed

STATISTICS

	TOTAL YARDS	
	<div></div>	533
	<div></div>	422



ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

Irish sophomore quarterback DeShone Kizer prepares to take a snap in the final minute Saturday. Kizer scored on the play to lead the Irish comeback, but it was all for naught as Stanford rallied to win.

DOWN TO THE WIRE ON THE WEST COAST



ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

Irish junior receiver Will Fuller catches his 73-yard touchdown reception Saturday at Stanford.



ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

The Notre Dame special teams unit wraps up Stanford running back Christian McCaffrey.



ZACH LLORENS | The Observer

Irish freshman running back Josh Adams, who rushed for 168 yards on 18 carries, finds a seam during Notre Dame's 38-36 loss at Stanford on Saturday. Adams gained 9.3 yards per carry in his second start.

COMMENTARY

Irish, Cardinal building rivalry



Alex Carson
Associate Sports Editor

STANFORD, Calif. — That was unbelievably fun.

But it's also par for the course as far as these two teams are concerned.

For the third time in four years, Notre Dame and Stanford played an instant classic. Unlike the defensive slogs of the 2012 and 2014 games, where the Irish pulled out late wins, it was the No. 9 Cardinal winning in a brilliant display of offense Saturday, toppling No. 6 Notre Dame with a last-second, 45-yard field goal.

"Tradition" is a word used a lot — probably too much — around campus in South Bend. Be it the band, uniform or rivalries, it's the buzzword used to describe what makes Notre Dame football special.

And as far as rivalries are concerned, there's certainly more traditional ones: USC and Navy are obvious, while there's a ton of history between the Irish and Michigan, Michigan State, Purdue — even Pittsburgh and Boston College.

But amongst the litany of traditional rivals the Irish have, there's no annual game on Notre Dame's schedule that's been more meaningful than this one since Brian Kelly took over as Irish head coach prior to the 2010 season.

Take a look at Kelly's brightest moments at Notre Dame, and you'll find wins over Stanford near the center of two of them.

The 2012 Irish win is an obvious one. With ESPN's College GameDay in town, Notre Dame shot itself into the top five and the national championship discussion with a 20-13 overtime win over the Cardinal in a driving rainstorm, standing up the powerful Stanford offense at the goal line to win an all-time classic at Notre Dame Stadium.

Of course, when it comes to the Irish that season, you know the rest of the story.

But for Stanford, that overtime loss in South Bend was the difference between playing in the Rose Bowl and playing in the BCS National Championship, taking Notre Dame's spot.

And a year ago, when quarterback Everett Golson found tight end Ben Koyack for the winning touchdown with just over a minute to go, it moved the Irish to 5-0, once more at the center of the national conversation, though this time for a playoff berth.

So when these two played a brilliant game Saturday at Stanford Stadium, it shouldn't have been a surprise to anyone.

We were treated to a classic duel between two quarterbacks — Stanford senior Kevin Hogan

had as many touchdowns as incompletions, four, while Irish sophomore DeShone Kizer turned in one of his best performances yet.

When it looked like the defenses were finally bearing down to win the game in the fourth quarter, Kizer stepped up. He led a drive worthy of the win, taking Notre Dame 88 yards on 15 plays, running 6:18 off the clock.

On most nights, going ahead 36-35 with 30 seconds to go would've been enough for the win.

But Hogan wasn't having it. A 27-yard completion to fifth-year senior receiver Devon Cajuste got the Cardinal in field goal range, and senior kicker Conrad Ukropina, a former walk-on, drilled the 45-yard try to pull the upset.

With both Notre Dame slimming and Stanford's very slim playoff hopes hanging in the balance, these two teams — rivals — turned in one of the best games in either school's history.

"We've got to make up a name," Kelly said last week about the annual game. "I think it's up to you guys to come up with a name for this game so we can get in with the in-crowd, and then I think people will pay more attention to it."

He's right.

For years, Notre Dame and Stanford seemed like a forced rivalry at best. It was a convenient fit for the Irish, who saw the Cardinal as a chance to get to California every season. Sure, we were supposed to care because both schools have high graduation rates or fairly similar academic profiles, but at the end of the day, there wasn't much of a rivalry there.

They even introduced a trophy, the Legends Trophy, to try and a bit of meaning to the series.

There's only one true way to build a strong rivalry: through competitive, meaningful games on the field. And these two have certainly done that as of late.

A few days ago, Notre Dame's rivalry trophy collection stood complete. But today, the Legends Trophy sits in control of Stanford.

You think that's not going to irk Kelly until Oct. 15, 2016, when these teams renew this rivalry?

The much-maligned (at least in South Bend) Stanford band plays Free's "All Right Now" as its de facto fight song throughout the game.

But those three words may be an understatement for how good this rivalry has become.

Contact Alex Carson at acarson1@nd.edu

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Enhancing your core curriculum

Every 10 years, the University president and provost ask the faculty to review Notre Dame's core curriculum for undergraduates (your general education requirements) and make recommendations about if and how it could be improved. Since the beginning of the fall 2014 semester, a committee comprised of faculty from across campus and charged with leading our latest review has been doing just that.

Many of you as current students participated in this process last academic year when members of the Core Curriculum Review Committee (CCRC) consulted with students, alumni and fellow faculty to assess the core and consider possible revisions.

Our goal? To identify how our general education program might better fulfill its goal of identifying and developing "the knowledge, dispositions and skills every Notre Dame undergraduate student should possess upon graduation."

Yesterday, the CCRC presented a draft report to the faculty for comment, opening up another phase of conversation and deliberation that will last through the rest of this academic year.

We encourage you to read the report, too. (It is available for download on curriculumreview.nd.edu.) After all, this report is in large part the result of your questions and feedback.

More than any previous review, the process led by the CCRC included outreach and activities designed to engage the entire Notre Dame community. We surveyed all current undergraduate students (thank you for the impressive response rate of 45 percent) as well as a selection of alumni from various years. We invited a wide range of student groups, faculty and staff to participate in meetings, focus groups, open forums and information sessions. And we found this process of gathering responses both stimulating and inspiring.

The charge to the committee from President Jenkins and Provost Burish was wide-ranging, and the breadth of the committee recommendations in the just-released draft report reflect this.

That said, our recommendations are preliminary. We plan to invite the Notre Dame community to discuss the draft report in various venues and ways over the next semester. Following this period of formal faculty comment and broader

community discussion, the CCRC will gather all suggestions and decide what changes might be warranted in the draft report before presenting a final report to the University's Academic Council for approval.

Already, however, we think our findings are significant. We emerged from this initial period of reflection on the core curriculum convinced that the current structure has many strengths — but also contains opportunities for improvement and innovation.

In the draft report, we make a number of proposals for change intended to provide an even richer educational experience for all Notre Dame students. These proposals include:

Enhancing faculty ownership of the curriculum and increasing student flexibility by framing the core around "ways of knowing" and related learning goals, rather than by individual courses in a limited number of departments. For example, we propose that instead of simply setting a "math" requirement to be satisfied by faculty in one department, the requirement be reframed as "quantitative reasoning" so that courses from multiple departments that satisfy the learning goals associated with this way of knowing would be able to fulfill the requirement.

Recommending that a new type of "integration" course be allowed to count for core credit. Inspired by your request to have more of your classes connect across disciplines, these courses would be team-taught by faculty from two disciplines and would tackle pressing contemporary issues and enduring questions from a multidisciplinary vantage point. Already, faculty have come forward with ideas for course proposals covering topics and problems in both the present and the past, from human development to the environment to diversity.

Deepening our Catholic identity by cultivating a renewed appreciation of required courses in Theology and Philosophy, as well as introducing a second new type of course called Catholicism and the Disciplines. The new "CAD" course would explore how dimensions of Catholic thought are integrated into areas of study across the University.

Diminishing the number of core curriculum

requirements for many students. At the same time, we encourage departmental programs to place upper limits on major credit hour requirements. Our goal is that every student entering Notre Dame should have at least three free electives before graduation.

Ensuring that our most experienced faculty teach a much higher percentage of introductory courses in the core. Especially in the first year, taking classes from accomplished teachers can be a transformational experience for students.

Encouraging academic advisors across campus to work together in a more collaborative fashion. Increased coordination among advisors can also help students schedule core classes across their entire four years at Notre Dame, not simply their first year.

Eliminating the use of Advanced Placement credit to test out of core requirements altogether. We believe college courses typically do not and should not simply replicate a student's high school experience — but strongly encourage the use of Advanced Placement courses and high school records for appropriate placement.

The report contains other ideas and proposals, and we look forward to discussing any and all with the Notre Dame community as the core review process continues.

We leave the initial phase of this process impressed by the energy students and faculty have already put into this effort and heartened by what we saw as a campus consensus around the shared value of a Catholic liberal arts education. We are particularly proud of the idealism Notre Dame students display when discussing their highest intellectual aspirations.

In that spirit, we look forward to resuming the conversation next semester.

Michael Hildreth
professor of physics
College of Science

John McGreevy
I.A. O'Shaughnessy Dean
College of Arts and Letters
Nov. 30

Saint Mary's and Planned Parenthood

In response to Dr. Mooney's statement regarding the Planned Parenthood display on the Saint Mary's campus, I see it to be inadequate, hiding behind the secular "academic freedom." As Pope John Paul II said, "Freedom consists not in doing what we like, but in having the right to do what we ought." My family has had three young women (two of my sisters and myself) graduate from Saint Mary's, '04, '08, '10 and my brother who graduated from Notre Dame in '12. My parents gave us a wonderful gift by supporting us there. We have a true love and devotion for the school and have kept in close contact with other alumni, affiliated families and present employees. We hope to see future generations from our family attend Saint Mary's College and Notre Dame.

Unfortunately, in spite of Dr. Mooney's explanation of what occurred, I fear the bulk of those

who hear of this affair, which is now nationwide, will not respond in a positive way to what they "perceive" has occurred. Perception can be just as vital as the reality. Planned Parenthood was started by a woman who believed strongly in controlling population by contraceptive methods and abortion. She was a eugenicist. And while Planned Parenthood offers other services (services offered by many other organizations that are in line with Church policy), their mainstays, both philosophically and economically, are abortion and contraceptives — most significantly abortion, as it provide the greatest amount of financial return to the organization.

So, for those people "out there" who are strongly pro-life, in line with Catholic teaching, they are seeing this episode in a very unfavorable light towards the College. And, for those

who are seeing this demonstration in a positive light, they are apparently being deceived into thinking Saint Mary's is open to Planned Parenthood. A loss to Saint Mary's on both sides. It will be very hard to explain this to all those to whom we have previously spoken, with such affirmation, for Saint Mary's. I think that sometimes, even an educational institution, no, especially an educational institution, needs to take a stand against a few students and faculty members who desire to misrepresent to others a position that is opposed to a core foundation of the Catholic institution.

With great respect and admiration,

Francesca Morgan
Saint Mary's class of 2004
Nov. 18



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CROSSWORD | WILL SHORTZ

- Across**

1 Latin word on a cornerstone

5 ____-Saxon

10 Drafts may be served on it

13 Serves a draft, e.g.

15 Undomesticated

16 Org. for fillers and drillers

17 62-Across to a mathematician

19 Kith's companion

20 Like some inclement weather

21 Money V.I.P.

22 What nonparallel lines do eventually

23 62-Across to an astronomer

26 Elbow

28 Federal biomedical agcy.

29 Family member; Abbr.

30 Olive genus

32 ____-black
- 35 Usefulness

39 62-Across to a Yankees fan

42 Long-limbed

43 Video game manufacturer

44 "____ ain't broke ..."

45 Province on Hudson Bay; Abbr.

47 Princely inits.

49 Summer, in about one-sixth of Canada

50 62-Across to a student of Semitic languages

56 Elis' school

57 "____ the land of the free ..."

58 Drum kit components

61 Sense of self

62 Age at which Jim Morrison, Janis Joplin, Kurt Cobain and Amy Winehouse died
- 64 Prefix with con

65 Sexy woman in a Beatles song

66 Inscribed pillar

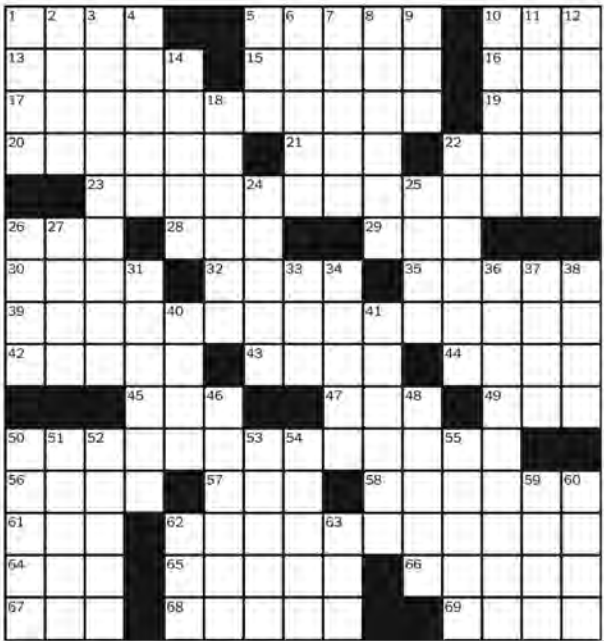
67 The law has a long one

68 Bandleader Kay

69 Extinct carnivore, familiarly

Down

- 1 iPad users' purchases
- 2 "Joy to the World," for one
- 3 German city noted for trials
- 4 Monteverdi opera hero
- 5 Helm location in a sloop
- 6 Candy wafer manufacturer
- 7 Stern and brusque
- 8 British party
- 9 Cry to a torero
- 10 Already occupied, as a seat
- 11 Closing bid?
- 12 Part of an outfit
- 14 Determined to accomplish
- 18 Jaded ones
- 22 Nyasaland, now
- 24 Parts of an outfit
- 25 Guns, as an engine
- 26 Prominent Nixon feature
- 27 Skin-care product ingredient



Puzzle by Barry Franklin and Sara Kaplan

- 31 Politico whose name is an anagram of GAOLER

33 "____ you O.K.?"

34 Miner's hat feature

36 Candy item that comes in five basic flavors

37 Metric ____
- 38 Sunrise direction in Spain

40 Bit of force

41 Ribald

46 Like most roads

48 Carol ____, five-time world figure-skating champion

50 Striped scavenger

51 Beaverlike
- 52 Come to fruition

53 Yorkshire city

54 Banks or Els

55 Love for Scarlett

59 TV component

60 Pretzels and chips, in adspeak

62 "For shame!"

63 Thrice, in prescriptions

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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

BALE ADDS PERMS
ELUL NWS AVAIL
BOXSCORES RIFLE
OHO RIAL SALTED
PARKINGLOTS
IST GOO TAE
FSTOP WORKLOADS
UTES TEPEE TRIP
JUNKHEAPS PHONY
INS INV RUE
BEERBARRELS
DEFEAT ORTS LEE
ISAAC QUITEAFEW
BATCH ETAL LICE
SUSHI DENY INHD

JUST ADD WATER | ERIC CARLSON & JOHN RODDY



"Day four in the wilderness. Equipped with only my wit and sheer determination..."

FLING BY SPRING | RILEY McCURRIE



Sledding down the highest hill in South Bend.

SUDOKU | THE MEPHAM GROUP

Level: **1** 2 3 4

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

SOLUTION TO MONDAY'S PUZZLE 12/4/12

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

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

HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

Happy Birthday: Keep everything in order. Preparation and organization, as well as moderation and sticking to a budget will be critical in reaching your goals. Stick to the facts or you will be blamed for being misleading. Bring about positive change that will have an impact on yourself and others. Update and expand your skills and qualifications. Make romance a priority. Your numbers are 7, 15, 21, 24, 33, 36, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Invest more time in yourself. Update your look and add more skills to your resume. Set up interviews or attend a networking function. Express your thoughts and bring about positive changes. Romance will improve your personal life. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Friends or relatives will offer information or suggestions that will help you make an important decision about your work. Send emails, make phone calls and engage in conversations that will allow you to present what you have to offer. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't take an unnecessary risk. The information you are given will be confusing or incomplete. Ask questions and be moderate if asked to make a donation. It's what you do, not what you say that will make a difference.

★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll have to balance your time between home, family and work responsibilities. Be careful how you handle demanding people. If you take on too much in order to please others, you will end up exhausted. Gauge your time carefully. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Step into the spotlight and take on the role of leader. Your take-charge attitude will bring about a favorable change that will help you attract help from your peers. Romance is on the rise, but overspending on entertainment is best avoided. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Problems at home will escalate. Listen to the problems being voiced, but don't buy into a plan that leaves you in a precarious position. Overreacting or giving in to demands will result in more problems than benefits. Don't share personal secrets. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Take care of personal responsibilities and you will find it easier to deal with work-related matters. Discuss your options, expectations and plans for the future. Love is highlighted, and planning a romantic getaway is encouraged. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Learn from past experiences and make adjustments that will help empower you to make better choices. Be creative in how you live. Work on improving your neighborhood and community facilities. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Uncertainty, inconsistency and overextending yourself must all be avoided. Focus on saving and cutting your overhead. Look for opportunities that will allow you to use your talents to bring in extra cash. A change in an important relationship will be beneficial. ★★★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Money matters look promising. Steer clear of individuals who are unpredictable or inconsistent. Take pride in what you do and opt to work alone in order to avoid taking care of other people's responsibilities and problems. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't let medical, financial or legal matters make you angry. Do what needs to be done and keep moving. A chance to make professional progress is apparent if you are willing to take the necessary steps to promote what you have to offer. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't be tempted to get involved in gossip or take action based on hearsay. Nothing will be as it appears, and closer consideration must be made before you make a move. Keeping your plans simple and moderate is favored. ★★

Birthday Baby: You are curious, unique and worldly. You are energetic and playful.

JUMBLE | DAVID HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

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

CHHUN

○ □ □ □ □

MOPTS

□ ○ □ □ □

GBREGI

○ ○ ○ □ □ □

WRENIN

□ ○ □ □ □

Print your answer here: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: UNWED YUCKY AFLOAT DEPICT
Answer: The parking enforcement officer was having — A FINE DAY

WORK AREA



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

Please recycle
The Observer.

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SPORTS AUTHORITY

Closing the chapter on an era



Miko Malbute
Sports Writer

“My heart can take the pounding / My mind can handle the grind / But my body knows it’s time to say goodbye.”

It really is tough to turn back, or even to maintain the status quo once that word is said: goodbye. Rather, one has to embrace the conclusion of the story and turn the page to the next chapter.

Kobe Bryant’s announcement Sunday night that he plans to retire after his 20th season marked the official confirmation of what everyone knew was inevitable and for the best, though many fans of the Los Angeles Lakers and the NBA in general also dreaded it. On the one hand, Bryant’s retirement announcement marks an official conclusion of the Kobe Bryant Reclamation Project, where head coach Byron Scott seemingly believed that if he played Bryant enough minutes, his legendary shooting guard would rediscover his pre-injury form. This would allow the forgotten team of Los Angeles to fully accept the rebuild, and — in theory at least — relinquish the reigns of the franchise to up-and-comers D’Angelo Russell, Jordan Clarkson and Julius Randle. On the other hand, however, the Lakers and the league are forced to say goodbye to the player many consider the closest thing the league has had (or possibly ever will have) to Michael Jordan, and a legend in his own right.

In a peculiar analogy, Bryant is similar to that significant other who you know you need to break up with for each other’s mutual benefit. And yet, each of you finds a reason to stay together for just a little bit longer — it’s hard to let go after such a glorious past. The Lakers and Bryant would benefit from moving on from each other, and with Bryant’s looming retirement now official, there can be a full commitment to the rebuild, especially with massive amounts of salary cap room opening up with Bryant’s contract off of the books.

With how poorly Bryant

has been playing to start the season, many have wondered why he is announcing his retirement now for the end of the season; he should simply retire today and walk out on a high note, while everyone still thinks of him fondly and before they are exposed to even more grimace-inducing air balls and bricks. Yet, there is something invaluable about having Bryant’s 20 years of experience on the court to close out the season.

For one, Bryant will get his farewell tour, something that has been generally accepted in the MLB for fading franchise icons, but not so much in the NBA (as a matter of fact, the lone player I can think of with a positive, well-publicized farewell tour in the NBA has been Michael Jordan himself). This is in spite of the fact that Bryant has admitted to feeling “uncomfortable” about such an unapologetic outpouring of love for the once-most-feared player in the league; this tour is less for him, and more for the fans and opposing players to say their last goodbyes and pay their final respects. For two, Bryant has also described the “beauty,” in a masochistic kind of way, in the struggle of finishing out the season — even if the legs are gone, the fire in the heart forever burns brightly. For three, Bryant’s influence on his young teammates is something that could last for the next decade and shape the impressionable youngsters’ careers.

But most importantly, the league will just need time to say goodbye to the sporting icon. While there will assuredly always be great players in the league, and there may even be someone who could go on and break Bryant’s 81-point record, there will simply never be another player like him. Even though he is only a shadow of the player he once was, his retirement announcement reminds us of his longevity and lasting endurance through the evolution of the game that occurred during his storied career.

Contact Miko Malabute at mmalabut@nd.edu

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

ND VOLLEYBALL | SYRACUSE 3, ND 1; BOSTON COLLEGE 3, ND 2

Notre Dame falls to ACC opponents to end season

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame wrapped up its season with a pair of road losses in the ACC, falling to both Syracuse and Boston College.

After grabbing just their second conference win last weekend in their home finale against Clemson, the Irish (7-25, 2-18 ACC) were unable to carry any momentum into the Thanksgiving stretch of games.

On Wednesday, Notre Dame took the first set from the Orange (23-8, 14-6 ACC), but fell in the next three sets to drop a 3-1 decision (27-29, 25-12, 25-17, 25-16).

Sophomore outside hitter Sam Fry led the Irish against Syracuse with 14 kills and a .357 attack percentage as well as two blocks. Meanwhile, sophomore setter Maddie Dilfer added a double-double on 45 assists

and 11 digs while sophomore outside hitter Maddie Plumlee led the team with 15 kills.

The Irish had one final chance to close the season on a high note, but they ended up dropping a close match to the Eagles (12-20, 4-16) in five sets (25-19, 14-25, 23-25, 25-18, 15-13).

After dropping the first set to Boston College, Notre Dame came roaring back to take the next two sets for a 2-1 lead in the match before the Eagles closed strong to take the 3-2 win.

Boston College and Notre Dame were virtually equal in every statistical category, as the Irish led in both blocks (10-8) and attack percentage (.259-236) but trailed slightly in kills, assists, aces and digs.

Fry again led the team, this time with 18 kills, eight blocks and a .571 attack percentage.

Dilfer posted another double-double with 51 assists and 14 digs, and this time she was joined in the double-double club by sophomore outside hitter Sydney Kuhn, who had 12 kills and 12 digs.

Before the final match of the season, both Fry and freshman middle blocker Meg Morningstar were honored by the ACC, as Fry was named a second team all-ACC member and Morningstar made the all-freshman team in the conference as well.

The two losses mark the end of the campaign for Notre Dame and the end of head coach Jim McLaughlin’s first season at the helm. McLaughlin and the young Irish, who started freshmen and sophomores throughout the majority of the year, will now begin looking toward next season.

NCAAW | UCONN 79, CHATTANOOGA 31

No. 1 Connecticut breezes past Chattanooga

Associated Press

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — In the moments after his team’s 79-31 blow-out victory, Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma gave Chattanooga’s Jim Foster a pat in the back as the two Hall of Famers briefly chatted at midcourt.

Auriemma understands all too well how it feels to get beaten soundly by a good friend.

“I remember when I was early in my career at Connecticut and Jim was at Vanderbilt,” Auriemma said. “Honest to God, it crossed my mind (that) we were in a game like this with them, but it was reversed. We couldn’t get any offense going, and they pretty much did whatever they wanted. I do remember it kind of flashed across my mind. I’ve been there. It’s not a fun place to be.”

Moriah Jefferson scored 15 points and didn’t miss a shot Monday night as the top-ranked Huskies breezed past Chattanooga for their 41st consecutive victory. The three-time defending national champions have beaten each of their first four opponents by at least 40 points and haven’t lost since falling 88-86 at Stanford on Nov. 17, 2014.

“The intensity and attention to detail that they play with, as a coach, it’s

refreshing to watch,” Foster said. “In this day and age of dribble-drive and ‘I want to get my own,’ it’s kind of refreshing, whether it’s the Golden State Warriors or Connecticut women’s basketball, there are some teams playing basketball the way you’d like to see it played.”

Jefferson made all five of her shots and four free throws. Breanna Stewart and Gabby Williams each added 14 points for the Huskies (4-0). Williams also had 12 rebounds.

Jasmine Joyner and Keiana Gilbert each scored eight for Chattanooga (5-3), which ended a 17-game home winning streak.

After Queen Alford’s 3-point shot in the first minute of the third quarter got Chattanooga within 37-26, Connecticut outscored the Mocs 42-5 the rest of the way. Chattanooga shot 3 of 23 in the second half.

“We were able to keep running - and they got tired,” Stewart said. “I think that just has to do with our stamina and endurance throughout the game.”

Connecticut scheduled the home-and-home series with Chattanooga due to the long friendship between the two coaches. Auriemma began his coaching career by working as an assistant on Foster’s staffs, first at Bishop McDevitt High School in the Philadelphia area and later

at St. Joseph’s.

This marked the seventh time the two good friends had faced off, and it was Auriemma’s fourth straight victory over his former mentor. Connecticut beat Foster’s Ohio State team in 2010 and knocked off Foster’s Vanderbilt squads in the 1996 NCAA Tournament and the 2001 Preseason WNIT. Foster beat Connecticut while at St. Joe’s in 1987 and while at Vanderbilt in the 1992 NCAA Tournament and in December 1992.

Connecticut is six victories away from matching the third-longest winning streak in school history. Connecticut won 90 consecutive games from November 2008 to December 2010, 70 straight from November 2001 to March 2003 and 47 in a row from March 2013 to November 2014.

Chattanooga had won 57 of its last 58 home games before Monday. That stretch included victories last season over a fourth-ranked Tennessee team and a seventh-ranked Stanford squad.

Having the top-ranked team in town attracted a boisterous crowd of 6,104 for Chattanooga’s seventh-largest home crowd ever — and its biggest since 8,468 watched the Mocs upset Tennessee 80-71 on Nov. 9, 2012, in the Lady Vols’ first game of the post-Pat Summitt era.

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W Bball

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junior forward Taya Reimer was limited to 11 minutes in her return from an Achilles injury, while graduate student guard Madison Cable and sophomore forward Kathryn Westbeld each collected three or more fouls in fewer than 20 minutes on the court.

In their place, Mabrey and fellow freshman guard Arike Ogunbowale both posted career highs in minutes, but it was Mabrey who stole the show. She collected 18 points, 10 assists and a team-record 12 steals for the program's fifth-ever triple-double and first by a freshman.

"Marina came off the [Valparaiso] game with a triple-double and really hasn't looked back since then," McGraw said. "She can score, she can rebound, she can defend, she can do a little bit of everything. I'm really pleased with where she's at right now."

The Crusaders never led the Irish at any point and were outscored in the paint, 72-10 and off turnovers, 51-5.

In the Bahamas, Notre Dame's injury woes continued, as sophomore forward Brianna Turner suffered a right shoulder injury in practice Tuesday that forced her to miss the team's matchups with Denver and UCLA. Her absence, combined with Reimer's slow start following three months on the sideline, meant Notre Dame suffered in the paint, McGraw said, which made the team's wins all the more satisfying.

"UCLA is a great team, they're a top-15 team," McGraw said. "They need to be getting more votes, because they are just so athletic in the post, they're just so talented. ... That was a huge win for us, to be



KATHRYNE ROBINSON | The Observer

Sophomore forward Kathryn Westbeld goes up for a shot during Notre Dame's 74-39 victory over Toledo on Nov. 18 at Purcell Pavilion. Westbeld had 12 points and nine rebounds in Saturday's win over UCLA that clinched the Junkanoo Jam tournament.

playing without [Turner] on such short notice, not really knowing what we're going to get from the rest of the team. So I was really, really pleased to come out of there with the championship."

The Bruins (3-2) topped the Irish in rebounds, 42-40, and points in the paint, 48-24, but still trailed for most of the game, until sophomore guard Jordin Canada collected a layup with 4.3 seconds left to tie things up.

Reimer scored two points and grabbed three rebounds in 24 minutes of play, but McGraw said that her mere presence in the lineup was a boost for the Irish.

"Without having [Turner], we really needed a big body

in there to guard UCLA, because they have such great post players," McGraw said. "And you're going to be a little rusty when you've been out for three months and haven't been able to really practice, so I think it was great having her back in the lineup, and that's all I can say about that."

Mostly, however, the Irish relied on Mabrey and Cable, who scored a career-high 22 points and pulled down nine rebounds to tie for the team lead, with 12 of her points coming in the second half. She also scored 13 points against Denver and was named tournament MVP.

"[Cable] came back really ready to take on a bigger role,

and I think that she has done it so well," McGraw said. "She's been playing great basketball, and she changed her mindset from being a role player to being a star player. She's the one who's taking the big shots, she's doing all the little things, and she's doing anything she can to help the team win. She's really shooting the ball, she's rebounding the ball well, she's really doing everything well."

Mabrey scored 18 points, nine in overtime, and added four rebounds and six steals. She was the benefactor of Allen's foul trouble, as the junior collected four personal fouls in 32 minutes. Allen has 14 fouls on the season, leading all starters and second

overall on the team.

"We need to keep [Allen] on the floor and she needs to stay out of foul trouble," McGraw said. "But it gave Marina Mabrey a chance to really run the team, which is something new for her. Michaela Mabrey is more the vocal leader, and Marina is going to handle the ball a little bit more. So between the two of them I think we're going to do it a little bit by committee."

The Irish return to Purcell Pavilion to face No. 10 Ohio State in the Big Ten/ACC Challenge on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Contact Greg Hadley at ghadley@nd.edu



MICHAEL YU | The Observer

Sophomore defenseman Luke Ripley shoots the puck during Notre Dame's 3-2 victory over Northeastern on Nov. 12. Ripley had one assist in Saturday's 3-1 victory over Western Michigan.

Hockey

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Tournament, was able to preserve their three-goal lead through the end of the game, taking the Irish down on Friday night.

The Irish returned to action Saturday against Western Michigan. The Broncos (4-8-1, 2-4-0 NCAC) were coming off of a 4-1 defeat against RPI on Friday night.

The Irish struck first against the Broncos, netting the first of their three goals in the second period. Irish sophomore center Dawson Cook scored his first goal of the season off of assists from senior defenseman Andy Ryan and freshman left wing Joe Wegwerth with under seven minutes to go in the second period.

Five minutes later, the

Broncos evened the score off of a goal by Western Michigan sophomore center Frederik Tiffels with a minute and thirty seconds left in the second period.

The score remained tied for much of the third period until Notre Dame senior left wing Sam Herr with under six minutes remaining in regulation, putting the Irish ahead by one goal. With less than one minute remaining, senior center Thomas DiPauli sealed the victory for the Irish by slipping past Broncos senior goaltender Lukas Hafner for his sixth goal of the season and sealing the 3-1 Irish victory.

Notre Dame returns to action this weekend as Hockey East rival Massachusetts comes to town for a two-game set. The puck will drop on Friday at 7:35 p.m.



KATHRYNE ROBINSON | The Observer

Junior guard Demetrius Jackson drives to the basket during Notre Dame's 86-78 victory over Milwaukee on Nov. 17 at Purcell Pavilion.

M Bball

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many drivers and their transition is so effective."

Notre Dame rebounded with a 68-62 victory over Iowa (4-2) on Friday with Bechem leading the team with 16 points and five rebounds. The Irish again held a halftime lead, but Iowa went on a 16-0 run in the middle of the second half to take the lead 47-46. The game remained neck-and-neck until two layups by Irish sophomore forward Bonzie Colson capped a 9-2 Notre Dame run to seal the game.

Sunday, the Irish came up short again in a 74-73 loss to Alabama as Jackson missed on a last-second layup. Unlike the first two games of the tournament, Notre Dame trailed at halftime, 43-39, but went on a 14-7 run to start the second half.

Senior guard Retin Obasohan led the Crimson Tide back with 19 points in the game, but with 1:29 left, the Irish held a 73-72 lead. Senior forward Zach Auguste missed two free throws with 28.6 seconds left to give Alabama a chance, and Obasohan took advantage, driving through Notre Dame's zone defense to make the game-winning layup with eight seconds remaining on the clock.

Auguste recorded his fourth double-double of the season with 16 points and 10 rebounds. Junior guard Steve Vasturia tallied 18 points and Jackson chipped in 16 as the Irish fell to

a 4-2 record.

The weekend was undoubtedly a setback for the Irish, who will travel to Illinois on Wednesday. However, the team remains confident, said Auguste.

"It's a long season," Auguste said. "There's going to be some bumps that we face; there's going to be some adversity. But we have to continue to work hard and have short memories."

Jackson echoed Auguste's comments and added that an important takeaway from the weekend was that the Irish were in every game at the end.

"Obviously [it is] disappointing losing; no one wants to lose," Jackson said. "But we gave ourselves a chance to win at the end of every game. That was something to take away from [the tournament] — we always gave ourselves a chance to win."

Going forward, Brey said the most important thing for the Irish to improve upon is the defense.

"Offensively, we've been pretty efficient," Brey said. "I've been disappointed with our defense. I thought we could be a little more consistent down there and certainly [Sunday], we just could never get a key stop to get it to two possessions or to win a game. And I think that's something we really have to talk about and address and hold guys accountable to."

Notre Dame's next contest is Wednesday against Illinois at 9:15 p.m.

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M Soccer

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of the game. When it flew past Notre Dame's static junior goalkeeper Chris Hubbard, it also proved to be the first goal.

Irish head coach Bobby Clark said giving away set pieces in dangerous areas against the Terrapins was always likely to be costly.

"That goal came off a free kick," Clark said. "If we don't foul, we don't give the free kick away. We talked about it before and we knew that they've got a few big weapons and very good delivery from their free kicks. Between the delivery and the big targets, set pieces were very important."

After the goal, Maryland pressed hard for a second. Freshman midfielder Amar Sejdic shot wide from the edge of the box, senior forward David Kabelik attempted an audacious back-heel flick that just narrowly sailed over the goal and junior midfielder Michael Sauers headed a cross wide before a dipping free kick from Corboz on the very edge of the box struck the top of the crossbar and bounced clear.

After the dominant spell, Maryland's second goal did eventually come in the 38th minute, as freshman forward Eryk Williamson brought down a header from Corboz and slotted the ball into the corner of the goal.

The Irish had few chances for most of the first half. Senior midfielder Patrick Hodan curled a free kick wide to the right in the best Irish opportunity of the

first 40 minutes. Barely two minutes after the Terrapins doubled their lead, though, a corner from senior midfielder Evan Panken found sophomore defender Patrick Berneski, whose low header sent the ball into the net.

It was the Terrapins who had the first chances of the second half, though. Sejdic had a chance to bring the difference back to two goals with an acrobatic volley, but Hubbard got down low to save the shot.

But after the 60th-minute re-introduction of sophomore forwards Jon Gallagher and Jeffrey Farina from the bench, the Irish looked hard for an equalizer. A powerful shot from sophomore midfielder Blake Townes, two shots from far out by graduate student defender Max Lachowecki, a close-range chance for Farina and a low cross by Gallagher all came close, but Notre Dame couldn't tie the game. Clark said he was impressed with how his team fought back in the second half.

"The second half, we obviously had to go for it, because you're a goal behind, so you've got to chase the game, and I thought we chased it really well," Clark said. "When Jon and Jeffrey came on in the second half, I thought they were superb. Jeffrey especially was tremendous, holding balls and linking with players. I thought our fullbacks were getting into wide areas; they were really auxiliary wingers in the first half, so that gave us a lot offensively. [Senior midfielder] Connor Klekota too, put in a fantastic shift — he's been

injured the past few weeks but he was fantastic."

With time running out, the Irish gained an advantage for the latter stages of the game, as the Terrapins were reduced to 10 men as the referee showed Magalhaes a second yellow card after a tangle with Gallagher. Clark said the red card gave his team a chance to equalize.

"Obviously they were just going to try to hang on for the last 12 minutes, so we knew we could push people higher forward," Clark said. "We kept playing and we kept taking chances, but we just couldn't make them."

The Irish worked hard to make the most of the extra man. Farina and Panken both headed over the bar, while the undermanned Maryland defense held firm against long spells of Irish possession. After an off-target header from junior defender Brandon Aubrey and a blocked shot from Gallagher, team captain Hodan had the final chance for the Irish with 15 seconds left, but his shot from an angle was too high.

Clark said failing to win is always a disappointment, but that he was proud of his team.

"Unless you win the whole thing, it's always going to be difficult — you're always going to be disappointed," Clark said. "This senior class has just been such a terrific group of young men. I wish we could have taken them a bit further, but they've won a lot and it's been a fun group of boys to coach."

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EMMET FARNAN | The Observer

Senior midfielder Evan Panken looks to pass during Notre Dame's 1-0 loss to Syracuse on Nov. 15 at Alumni Stadium. Panken had one assist in Sunday's loss to Maryland.

MEN'S SOCCER | MARYLAND 2, ND 1

Irish season ends with 2-1 loss to Terrapins

By **DANIEL O'BOYLE**
Sports Writer

Down 2-0 in the face of heavy pressure, a goal late in the first half kept No. 7 Notre Dame's tournament hopes alive for 45 more minutes. Still needing a goal, a red card for a Maryland defender raised those hopes for the final 12. But the season ended for the Irish on Sunday as they couldn't score again, losing 2-1 to the No. 10 Terrapins in the tournament's third round.

The rematch of the 2013 NCAA Championship Game started slowly, as neither the Irish (11-4-6, 4-2-2 ACC) nor the Terrapins (11-5-5, 3-2-3 Big Ten) could create anything resembling a serious chance for 20 minutes. When a free kick from Maryland senior midfielder Mael Corboz 30 yards from the goal met the head of junior defender Ivan Magalhaes in the 21st minute, it was the first shot

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EMMET FARNAN | The Observer

Junior defender Brandon Aubrey passes the ball during Notre Dame's 1-0 loss to Syracuse on Nov. 15 at Alumni Stadium.

HOCKEY | HARVARD 4, ND 1; ND 3, WESTERN MICHIGAN 1

Notre Dame fails to upset Harvard

Observer Staff Report

No. 20 Notre Dame took to the ice twice over Thanksgiving weekend in the Shillelagh Tournament against No. 8 Harvard and Western Michigan, finishing the weekend with a 1-1 split.

The Irish (6-4-4, 3-1-2 Hockey East) fell to the Crimson (6-1-1, 4-1-1 ECAC) Friday by a final score of 4-1 in the first meeting between Notre Dame and Harvard since December of 1978.

Senior left wing Mario Lucia was responsible for the lone Irish score on the night, which came halfway through the first period at the 10:30 mark. Lucia's shot came off of a pass from freshman defenseman Bobby Nardella and slipped past Crimson sophomore goaltender Merrick Madsen.

Just five minutes later, the Crimson answered the Irish with a goal from Harvard freshman forward Lewis Zerter-Gossage, the first of

his career. Notre Dame and Harvard entered the second period tied at 1-1, and for much of the second period the score remained the same as the Irish and Crimson were going back and forth for much of the time. However, at the 18:44 mark, senior forward Kyle Criscuolo netted a power play goal for the Crimson, and less than a minute later at 19:27, Criscuolo beat Irish sophomore goaltender Cal Peterson to once again score on a power play, giving the Crimson a 3-1 lead going into the third period.

The Irish struggled to keep up with the Crimson, falling further behind in the third period after Harvard senior forward Jimmy Vesey notched his sixth goal of the season, extending their lead to three goals, making the score 4-1.

Harvard, who went on to win the Shillelagh

see HOCKEY **PAGE 10**

MEN'S BASKETBALL | ADVOCARE INVITATIONAL

Team suffers pair of losses

By **MAREK MAZUREK**
Sports Writer

It was a tough weekend for Notre Dame as the Irish dropped two out of three games at the AdvoCare Invitational in Orlando, Florida.

The Irish headed into the tournament ranked No. 17 nationally but have fallen out of the rankings after losses to Monmouth and Alabama overshadowed a win against Iowa. Irish head coach Mike Brey said the weekend was a learning experience for the team.

"I've learned that we've got a lot of growing pains that we're working through," Brey said. "I thought we learned a lot about our group. I would have loved to learn it going 2-1 instead of 1-2. But I think for us, and I try to remind myself, this group is going to be a longer-term developing group."

The Irish (4-2) started their tournament against Monmouth (4-2) on Thanksgiving day but were upset by the Hawks, 70-68. Monmouth junior guard Justin Robinson scored 22 points,

including two free throws with 3.6 seconds left in the game, to seal the comeback victory.

Notre Dame led 37-29 at half-time, but were unable to finish the Hawks off as Monmouth went on a 12-4 run coming out of the half. A three-point play by Jackson tied the game at 68 with 30 seconds left, but Robinson made a jump shot on the ensuing possession and Jackson missed a half-court shot as the buzzer sounded.

Jackson led the Irish with 20 points, junior forward V.J. Beachem added 14 as junior guard Steve Vasturia and senior forward Zach Auguste each contributed 12. Brey said Monmouth's momentum early in the second half carried it to a win.

"We lost to a good team," Brey said. "I think our second-half start really hurt us. We were up 8; missed a couple of things around the bucket. [I'm] proud of how we battled back and gave ourselves a chance. They're really hard to deal with because they've got so

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL | ND 94, DENVER 52; ND 92, UCLA 84 (OT)

ND beats UCLA to take tourney title in Bahamas

By **GREG HADLEY**
Editor-in-Chief

In one week, two countries and three games, Marina Mabrey went from promising freshman to one of No. 3 Notre Dame's main offensive weapons.

Last Monday, Mabrey made history by recording a triple-double on the road at Valparaiso during a 110-54 Irish win. Then, the Irish (6-0) travelled to the Bahamas for the Junkanoo Jam over Thanksgiving break, and Mabrey posted 37 points over the course of Notre Dame's 94-52 win over Denver and 92-84 overtime victory against No. 24 UCLA en route to earning all-tournament honors.

Mabrey's outburst garnered her ACC Rookie of the Week recognition, but it only came as the result of injuries and foul trouble holding back several of her teammates, according to Irish head coach Muffet McGraw.

Against Valparaiso (0-4),

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KATHRYNE ROBINSON | The Observer

Sophomore forward Kathryn Westbeld looks toward the basket during Notre Dame's 74-39 win over Toledo on Nov. 18.