Leader fights for citizens’ freedoms

Sierra Leone’s President Koroma discusses efforts to improve life in his homeland

By DAN BROMBACH
News Writer

While delivering his lecture before a packed auditorium, President Ernest Bai Koroma of the Republic of Sierra Leone stated that his efforts to improve the average standard of living in his country will also serve to protect the most substantial threat to the freedom of its citizens.

Elected in 2007 on a platform promising drastic change, Koroma has undertaken numerous projects during his term to improve the nation’s food security, energy, healthcare, infrastructure and education.

“It has always been my belief that the greatest threat to freedom is the absence of props to support it,” Koroma said at his lecture “Faith, Toleration and Progress” on Tuesday. “We will face challenges in our agenda for change, but we are determined to sustain our freedom with strong mate-

Professor lectures on Carter’s 1977 address

By NICOLE MICHELS
News Writer

When University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh invited former President Jimmy Carter to give the 1977 Commencement Address, few were expecting a pivotal moment in human rights history to take place in its stead.

Columbia University Professor Samuel Moyn placed the address in context to the broader history of the human rights movement in a lecture at Geddes Hall Tuesday.

Moyn first traced the development of the primary idea behind the speech — the concept of human rights.

“The basic values in human rights seem old, if not eternal,” Moyn said, citing the value placed on dignity back to the Bible and others back to simi-
larly influential sources.

Though the values have been around for a while, he said that the increasingly popular concept of international human rights can be traced back to very recent years. Other “uni-
versalisms,” or doctrines with broad applicability beyond their original context, also served as precursors to the hu-
man rights concept. The most important were the concepts of natural law and of the rights of man.

“The [thoughts of the Catho-
lic Church] in this era rejected the human rights movement as solipsistic ... and looked warily on the exclusivist secular state,” Moyn said.

This was due, at least in part, to the origin of the natu-
ral rights concept and the sub-
sequent nationalist movement.

With the human rights con-
cept following from the natu-
ral rights concept, reception was initially frosty, he said. But as the Church began to see the secular state becoming all-powerful in its control of the person, it began to desig-
nate areas that the state can-
not infringe upon — including the rights owed to that person because of the shared status of basic humanity.

“In the late 1930s the Church began to change its thought and to embrace individual over state rights,” he said.

Students read banned books in the atium of the Hesburgh Library.

By AMANDA GRAY and
TABITHA RICKETTS
News Writers

Students gathered across Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s campuses to protest censor-
ship and read aloud from Banned Books during national Banned Books Week.

The Week, which runs from Sept. 24 to Oct. 1, is necessary to spark conversations about censorship and free speech, Notre Dame Librarian-In-Resi-
dence Naomi Bishop said.

“Banned Books Week is a big deal, and it needs to be celebrated,” she said at the Banned Books Read-Out in the Hesburgh Library Concourse on Monday.

Surrounded by student-
designed posters, nine read-
ers read from the 10 most-
challenged books of 2010. The readers were library staff mem-
bers and members of the Literacy Awareness Club of Notre Dame (LAND).

Saint Mary’s College has 6,600 flu shots ready for students, faculty and staff, after

St. Liam’s gives out flu shots

By TORI ROECK
News Writer

Receiving a flu shot can reduce the number of student trips to St. Liam’s this flu season, said Ruthann Heberle, assistant di-
rector of Medical Outreach Ser-
vices.

“The flu, even for healthy peo-
ple, can be a really serious ill-
ness,” Heberle said.

For this reason, the University gave out free flu shots to stu-
dents, faculty and staff yester-
day and will continue to do so today from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Thursday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. in StepCan Center, Heberle said. Individuals must bring a Notre Dame ID and be wearing short sleeves to receive the shot, she said.

Heberle said the University has 6,600 flu shots ready for students, faculty and staff, after
Question of the Day: Which countries border Sierra Leone?

Answer: Liberia and Guinea.
Carter continued from page 1

Hesburgh’s invitation to former President Carter marked a continuation of the Church’s change of opinion, to staunch support of human rights throughout the world. Fr. Hesburgh was thinking about human rights in a way that was going to make them equally important to civil rights,” Moy said. Carter’s speech gave Americans a new language of legitimacy with which they could address the pressing issues of the time, he said. At the time of this speech, the newly recognized frame of analysis for American action abroad.

Moyn will speak again in Professor Luc Reydamn’s “International Human Rights Movement” course today.

Contact Nicole Michels at nmichels@nd.edu

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Council discusses school spirit

By JOHN CAMERON
News Writer

Coming off the second Irish win of the football season, student body president Pat McCormick invited Notre Dame Leprechaun Mike George to Tuesday’s Council of Representatives meeting to discuss how student leaders can help raise school spirit on campus. “Mike’s been committed this year to try and reform not only pep rallies but also the whole school spirit portfolio in a way that should be really exciting and could engage students in new and powerful ways,” McCormick said. Student government has focused on reforming campus pep rallies lately, but George highlighted the need to maximize fan excitement surrounding away games as well. He said the departure of the football team on Thursdays could be an opportunity for a new student tradition.

“The team leaves Thursdays, and we actually have a small group from the band that plays them off onto the bus,” George said. “I think we could reach out to a new quad each away game (to join in the off). It’s easy, it’s quick, it shows a bit of support.” Undergraduate Experience in Leadership program chair Ricky Bevington said attendance would also raise morale for the band, citing its time spent as a member parading before the send-off. “It’s kind of awkward because the football players walk one-by-one to the bus … it takes about 20 minutes.”

Bevington said, “If people went, they’d make band members very happy.” Junior Class Council president Kevin Doherty said students might need incentives to go to the sendoff. “I think a school with a football tradition like ours would really benefit from this,” he said. “But in terms of students I don’t know what’s going to get them there.” George said he thinks the love of Notre Dame football should be enough to draw at least a portion of the selected quad. “If we ask a quad (to attend), we’re talking 800 people,” he said. “Can we get 20 of 800 people to show up just because they love football?” George urged students to attend the pep rally prior to it. “If we ask a quad (to attend), we’re talking 800 people,” he said. “Can we get 20 of 800 people to show up just because they love football?” George urged students to attend the pep rally prior to it.

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Flu
continued from page 1
administering 6,500 last year. Those who received flu shots last year are still at risk of contracting influenza and should return for a new vaccine, Heberle said.

“There are different flu viruses that they give the vaccine for each year,” she said. “The one that you got last year may not be effective for the virus that they tested and feel is the most predominant this year.

Experts expect fewer cases of influenza this year, Heberle said, but students must not rely on that prediction when choosing whether or not to get a flu shot.

“This year, they’re anticipating that it will be a milder flu year,” she said. “However, people still need to be conscientious about getting the flu vaccine if they’re able.”

Heberle said the peak of flu season is between December and April, but she recommends that students receive flu shots before fall break.

“It takes about two weeks for your immunities to build up from the vaccine,” she said. “That’s why we like to give it early.”

But Heberle also said students should be mindful of the flu year round—it can occur at any time of the year.

The flu shot is an important preventative measure for most students, but Heberle said it is not for everyone.

Heberle said those who are immune-suppressed, allergic to eggs, pregnant or have a fever greater than 101 degrees should not receive a flu shot.

Flu shots can also come with minor side effects.

“Usually it’s just soreness in your arm, if that,” Heberle said. “Maybe some mild, mild symptoms like a little bit of a sore throat, cough and fever, Heberle said they should be proactive in their recovery.

“Drink plenty of fluids and get plenty of rest,” she said. “Just do all the things your mother told you to do.”

Since the College has had a decrease in enrollment the past two years, the budget had to be minimized, she said. The monies for the budget comes directly from the money grossed by students, which is why the decrease was inevitable.

Technology commissioner Maureen Parsons explained how each section of SGA would receive their own portions of the new budget.

“We took the rovers from last year and took in the purpose of each board as well as events being planned for this year to determine what each group receives for the budget,” Parsons said.

Executive treasurer Liz Busam stressed the importance of passing the new budget before the end of the night when more than one question rose from the governing body.

“The longer we go without passing the budget, the more time goes by before we can give everyone everyone her own budget for the year,” Busam said.

After putting forth the motion to pass the new budget, 13 members of SGA agreed to pass it out of the required two-thirds majority.

In addition to the budget, SGA also approved the bylaws and amendments of the governing documents.

Contact Jill Barwick at jbarwi01@saintmarys.edu

Holly Dorson-King, a Saint Mary’s nursing student, administers a flu shot to another student in Stepan Center on Tuesday.

SCHILLER LIN/The Observer

Contact Tori Rook at vrooek@nd.edu

By JILL BARWICK
News Writer

Members passed the new budget for the 2011-2012 academic year during the weekly Saint Mary’s Student Government Association (SGA) meeting.

Student body president Nicole Gans opened the floor for the new budget by presenting the newest components.

“We have had an overall budget decrease from last year of 30 percent and therefore adjustments have been made throughout the budget to accommodate these changes,” said Gans.

Gans began the meeting by emphasizing its main goal was to pass the budget.

“We really did not have as much roover this year because of the decrease,” she said. “We did not have control over this. This cut just had to happen.”

Contact Tori Rook at vrooek@nd.edu

Brian Busam, Saint Mary’s student government, said the meeting summarized the changes that would be made to the budget.

The longer we go without passing the budget, the more time goes by before we can give everyone everyone her own budget for the year.”

Liz Busam executive treasurer

Contact Jill Barwick at jbarwi01@saintmarys.edu
Dr. Horst Koehler
FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY
AND FORMER MANAGING DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

NANOVIC FORUM
cosponsored with the Notre Dame Institute for Advanced Study

“The Whole is at Stake”
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28 AT 7:00 PM
Carey Auditorium, Hesburgh Library
This lecture focuses on essential lessons to be learned from the international financial crisis with a particular emphasis on ethical questions and the German and European experiences. A public reception will follow the lecture.

“Understanding Africa: A View from Europe”
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29 AT 2:15 PM
Main Auditorium, Hesburgh Center for International Studies
A talk based on experience in key international positions and in public service working for improvements in Africa.
Professor James Brockmole can answer these two questions:

"What do you open your eyes, how do you understand what is in front of you?" he said. "When you close your eyes, do you remember what you saw?"

Brockmole, along with post-doctoral fellow Christopher Davoli, recently completed a collaborative project that explores how people use their attention and memory to recognize visual objects. Their research shows that people's meanings of interactions with the outside environment can alter the way they recognize those objects.

The hypothesis of the experiment tested the idea of the evolution of the memory system based on necessity, Brockmole said. Undergraduate students were tested on how good they were at recognizing patterns they had and hadn't seen before.

The experiment, conducted through showing students images of, while allowing or not allowing them to hold the screen, Brockmole said the students did not notice specific details as much when they were not allowed to touch the screen.

When things are far away we don't need to be detail-oriented because we have more time to react," he said. "You wouldn't care if a poisonous snake was on the other side of the building. But if the snake was in front of you, you need to know if you will be able to handle the situation."

The memory system is influenced by the way someone controls his or her body, he said. Someone is experiencing something hands-on, or he or she notices more details and differences between two objects. Davoli said these findings may be extended for use in education.

"We don't have enough data to say how exactly we can treat these results in an education system but there is enough information to say that it is important," Davoli said. "Besides, learning is situational, it depends on what you are trying to learn."

One possibility may include the visual effects of learning, he said. So many interactions, whole books, television, screens or iPads, influence learning, but they don't have the same impact. The results of this experiment could be used to analyze the effectiveness of different technological mediums.

Contact Charitha Isanaka at cissanaka@nd.edu

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**Sierra**

continued from page 1

Koroma began the lecture on a lighter note by congratulating the Notre Dame football team on its victory over Pittsburg, but quickly moved into a discussion of the current state of religious tolerance in Sierra Leone.

"Sierra Leone has become a model of religious tolerance in Sierra Leone," Koroma said. "People here of different faiths, whether Muslim, Catholic or Protestant, have striven over time to emphasize their commonalities and now have equal opportunities to succeed in life."

As important in Koroma's mind as religious tolerance is the existence of true freedom, which he recognized has not always been a reality in Sierra Leone. He argued that, although human rights and security are crucial to the development of a nation, they should not be used as excuses to suppress individual freedoms.

"Freedom and security are not exclusive to one another," Koroma said. "Freedom is an inalienable right, and it must remain a centerpiece of Sierra Leone, and thus security should not be used without negating the advance of freedom."

"We are here to strengthen links and build a bridge for the exchange of knowledge and faith between Notre Dame and the universities of Sierra Leone," he said.

To conclude his lecture, Koroma encouraged the audience to act as ambassadors to help spread the word in America that Sierra Leone is now a free and democratic nation on the world stage.

"Help us tell the world that the civil war in Sierra Leone ended 13 years ago, that we are democracy that saw a peaceful transition of power to the opposition party, that документы для пропуска [documents for immigration] and the people of diamond are not accurate portraits of what is happening in our land, that we have a history of freedom and tolerance and, most importantly, that we have a bright future for our young people."
**Doctor tried in Jackson death**

 LOS ANGELES — First, prosecu- tors showed a photo of Mi- chael Jackson’s pale and life- less body lying on a gurney. Then, they played a recording of his voice, just weeks before his death.

 Slow and slurred, his words echoed Tuesday through a Los Angeles courtroom at the start of the trial of the doctor accused of killing him. As a worldwide audience watched on TV and Jackson’s family looked on from inside the courtroom, a drugged Jackson said: “We have to be phenomenal. When people leave this show, when people leave my show, I want them to say, ‘I’ve never seen nothing like this in my life. Go. Go. I’ve never seen nothing like this. Go. It’s amazing. He’s the greatest entertainer in the world.”

 Prosecutors played the audio for the first time during opening statements as they por- trayed Dr. Conrad Murray, 58, as an incompetent physician who used a dangerous anes- thetic without adequate safe- guards and whose neglect left the superstar abandoned as he lay dying.

 Defense attorneys countered that Jackson caused his own death by taking a drug dose, in- cluding propofol, after Murray left the room.

 Nothing the cardiologist could have done would have saved the King of Pop, defense attorney Ed Chernoff told ju- rors.

 A number of Jackson’s fam- ily members were in the court- room, including his father Jo- seph, mother Katherine, sisters LaToya and Janet, and broth- ers Jermaine, Randy and Tito. LaToya Jackson carried a sun- flower, her brother’s favorite flower.

 The family’s most emotional moment came when the pros- ecutor played a video excerpt from Jackson’s “This Is It” rehearsal in which he sang “Earth Song,” a plea for better treatment of the environment.

 As Jackson sang the words, “I used to dream. I used to glance beyond the stars,” his mother, Katherine, dabbed at her eyes with a tissue.

 Prosecutor David Walgren noted it was Jackson’s last per- formance.

 Murray, who arrived at court holding hands with his mother, Katherine, dabbed at her eyes as she watched on TV.

 Walgren showed a photo of a lifeless Jackson on a hos- pital gurney. He juxtaposed the image with those of Jack- son performing. Walgren also played the recording of Jackson speaking to Murray while, the prosecutor said, the singer was under the influence of an un- known substance roughly six weeks before his death.

 Jackson trusted Murray as his physician, and “that mis- placed trust in Conrad Murray cost Michael Jackson his life,” Walgren said.

 The recurring theme was Jackson’s never-ending quest for sleep and propofol, the po- tation he called his “milk” and that he believed was the an- swer.

 Jurors were told that it was a powerful aesthetic, not a sleep aid, and the prosecutor said Murray severely misused it.

 “I’m not too happy about that,” said Helen Wekony, 84. “Some people’s voices are very strid- en.”

 Other passengers greeted the prospect of added chatter with a complex solid fuhgeddaboutit.

 “Deal with it,” said George Perez, 44. “That’s New York.”

 Other passengers greeted the move as other com- muter railroads in the region are cracking down on such Chatty Kathies. The Metro North Rail- road to suburban points is des- ignating phone-free “quiet cars” and corridors at six stations in the Chelsea section of Manhat- tan. The service will expand to 271 other stations over the next five years.

 City officials say the service was long overdue, since trav- ersing in other cities have been making calls underground for years. But in a city that never sleeps, or uses its “sleep” mode, reaction among passengers was mixed.

 “It disrupts a lot of that social contact that you can have with people, that face contact or a smile,” Lawrence said.

 Some passengers liked the idea. “I’m not too happy about that,” said William Bayne, chief execu- tive of Transit Wireless LLC, the company building the network. “Deal with it,” said George Perez, 44. “That’s New York.”

 The move comes as other com- muter railroads in the region are cracking down on such Chatty Kathies. The Metro North Rail- road to suburban points is designating phone-free “quiet cars” on 31 rush-hour trains next month, and New Jersey Transit has two quiet cars per train.

 But officials say the subway is different. The signal covers only subway stations, not train tunnels, so it’s unlikely that riders will be phoned against their 5.2 million fellow weekday passengers while they ramble on about their foot problems or love lives.

 And with train brakes screeching, express trains roaring and the occasional street- dramedy maker a ruckus, most callers on the platforms won’t want to talk long anyway, they said.

 “In this environment there will certainly be some calls, but on a platform it’ll really be tweets and texts and emails,” said William Bayne, chief execu- tive of Transit Wireless LLC, the company building the service. “So really, the noise pollution will not increase.”

 Some riders worried how the arrival of the Internet would af- fect the subway experience. Part of the fun of New York is people- watching in the subway, and it’s harder when everyone is bent over their BlackBerries, said Edith Lawrence, a pediatrician. “It disrupts a lot of that social contact that you can have with people, that face contact or a smile,” Lawrence said.

 Officials with the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which runs the subway, say such intan- gibles are outweighed by the se- curity benefits.

 For years posters in the sub- way have been urging passen- gers to call police if they see anything suspicious — but with- out cell service, they couldn’t ac- tually do it. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security launched a service this year to alert trav- ers of terror threats via text mes- sages, but subway riders could not receive them.

 Expanding cellphone service might enable terrorists to use cell- phones to detonate bombs — as the terrorists did in the Madrid train attacks of 2004 — but planners felt it was a gamble worth taking, said Carmen Ben- anco, vice president of subways for the MTA.

 Extending cellphone service to the subways was “very, very complicated,” said Bayne.

 Most New York’s subway stations were built 100 years ago out of heavy steel girders and concrete. But in the steps are covered in steel for safety.

 Crews had to route fiber op- tical cables along city streets and corridors at six stations. One of the trickiest tasks was ensur- ing the handoff between under- ground and aboveground anten- nas as a caller walks out of a station, Bayne said.

 The business side was equally tricky, said Mark Bienstock, a planner in the transportation authority’s systems office. Rather than let several cellphone companies compete in the subway, MTA officials de- cided to contract with New York- based Transit Wireless to build the system and rent bandwidth to cell providers. The company is majority owned by Broadcast Australia of Chatswood, Austra- lia.

 Building the system will cost Transit Wireless and the cell carriers between $100 million and $200 million, officials said. The $100 million comes from the profits, a minimum $3.3 million annually, once the network is in all stations.

 Transit Wireless said it plans to expand service to 30 other stations within a year, including the busy hubs at Times Square, Herald Square and Columbus Circle.
Inside Column

The life of a true fan

As of this writing, the Boston Red Sox and the Tampa Bay Rays are tied atop the American League Wild Card standings and, with two games to play, the outlook is bleak for a Red Sox fan.

At the beginning of September, the Sox held a seemingly insurmountable eight-game lead. Calling to mind the collapse of the 2007 New York Mets, Boston has gone 16-26 in the month of the season. At this point, only the most ardent Boston optimist would hope that the team can overturn Tampa in the season’s final two games.

This is by no means a column本着 my fane as a Red Sox fan. I’ll be the first to admit that as a Boston sports fan I have been utterly spoiled this decade. Two World Series rings, three consecutive World Series appearances. As of this writing we are a year into a new century burdened with success. I can no more claim the 96-year “Curse of the Bambino” as my own than I can claim Notre Dame football’s success when players still wore leather helmets. One has to look back to the 2003 ALCS and Aaran Boone’s extra-inning home run off of the New York Yankees to the World Series to find a moment that truly epitomized what it had meant to be a Sox fan for most of the last 95 or so years.

The Red Sox have a history of winning with the best of them, with outstanding performance. The Sox have turned to a team of experts at snatching defeat from the jaws of victory, at building hopes to a fervent crowd and then dashin...
A walk in their shoes

One week ago today the U.S. government killed a man named Troy Davis. Now in the scheme of things, the U.S. was likely involved in the deaths of many other people that same day and thousands of other unnamed individuals died by hunger or disease within the same 24 hours. So amidst this sea of death, why worry about this man? We worry for the same reason that doctors worry about victims of disease. We worry because we could have saved his life.

But why save the life of a criminal? Sister Helen Prejean, the author of “Dead Man Walking” argues that the answer lies in the dignity of human life. The church agrees with her and upholds all life, innocent or guilty, no exceptions.

But what if this argument doesn’t satisfy you? What if this solution doesn’t suit your understanding of crime and punishment? Well, then we can point out that the death penalty doesn’t deter crime — it just doesn’t. We could also argue that the process is expensive, that the whole system is racist, killing a hugely disproportionate amount of black men. We could even point out that the system is actually far more subjective than we ever care to admit and numerous innocent people are executed regularly, possibly as recently as last Wednesday. But the response to these could still be, “These people were criminals; they were human beings who deserved justice.” But do they deserve to die? Can we ever say that? After all, what if we had been born into broken homes, drugs, gangs and death? Would we have done any differently? Of course from where we stand today, we all like to believe so. But then we look at every horrible moment in history and we find the awful, uncomfortable truth that good people do horrible things under the right circumstances. To acknowledge the full humanity of these criminals would be to confront the evils in ourselves. Can we do that? Until we do, we pray for Troy Davis, a man who shouldn’t have died.

Irony in the paper

In flipping through yesterday’s paper, I happened to discover that the question poll of the day was rather selective. The question, “What is your favorite Pokemon and why?” was asked mostly to people of a certain age, and in a very chosen context — would we have done any differently? Of course from where we stand today, we all like to believe so. But then we look at every horrible moment in history and we find the awful, uncomfortable truth that good people do horrible things under the right circumstances. To acknowledge the full humanity of these criminals would be to confront the evils in ourselves. Can we do that? Until we do, we pray for Troy Davis, a man who shouldn’t have died.

Prank or vandalism?

It is undoubtedly fun to hide a friend’s iPhone and enjoy the next few minutes watching him frantically overturn his couch cushions and empty his backpack looking for it. It would not be so amusing, however, if you took that friend’s iPhone and threw it against the wall, smashing it and rendering it useless.

The matter of pranks is that they put the victim in an embarrassing and inconvenient position, but are ultimately harmless. This is not true for the common vandalism of bikes. Students who forget to lock their bikes, or who only lock the wheel, or who leave the bike key free because they are just running into the library for two minutes to print a paper, often come back to find their bikes gone, thrown across the quad. This might be amusing if not for the fact that this often bends the wheel beyond repair or otherwise damages the bike. This past week we have observed at least three cases of bike vandalism where not only was the bike moved from its original location (harmless in itself) but the wheels were bent in such a way as to render the bike unusable. One bike in a tree had the tire stripped off of the wheel, and another’s back wheel no longer resembled a circle.

Some of you reading this might think that the owners of these bikes are at fault for not taking the necessary measures to secure them. This may be true. We agree that it is better to be safe than sorry, but at the same time we think it is telling that this happens so often at a school that prides itself on integrity.

So next time you are in a rush to make it to class on time, take the extra few minutes to lock your bike, not just to the wheel. But if you have some free time after class and want a cheap laugh at the expense of a freshman, handle his bike with care as you hoist it into the nearest tree.
Dear Netflix Instant Watch,
I thought we had something special. I really did. Granted, it was a household account, so we weren’t exclusive, but I was fine with just being on the side.
But then you went and broke my heart. You raised your price, and my household realized it was in a loveless relationship and broke it off. They'll survive; the rest of my family has “jobs” and “lives” and stuff like that to invest themselves in and get over this.
What about me though? How am I supposed to move on? Hulu? Don’t even.
Once upon a time, I tried to make it work with Hulu. It went okay for a while. But a handful of reruns of NBC shows could only get me so far.
And then I found you and I thought I was set, so I left Hulu out to dry. But since I left, they’ve gotten too cool for school just like you. And I’m not going to pay them the same and get less than I would from you.
And I’ve been on withdrawal. It’s rough. I’m getting sleep at night. I have time to do my homework. I haven’t seen an episode of “Psych” in weeks. I’m going to start getting the shakes pretty soon.
But it’s given me time to think. It’s given me time to reflect on our relationship. I’ll admit, I wasn’t completely fair with you. I wasn’t technically the one “paying” for your service, but all relations are based on irrationalities aren’t they?
Anyways though, I’ve been thinking back on our time together. And I’ve come to this conclusion — you kind of suck. Suck might not be the right word. But you definitely weren’t good enough to get all cool on me and start upping your asking price.
Sure, we had some good times. There was “Psych,” the best show currently on television. And, of course, how could I forget “Arrested Development,” the greatest comedy show of all time? How about “Pineapple Express,” the movie for which James Franco should’ve won an Oscar? And then maybe my favorite of yours, “Memento.” Oh Chris Nolan and your mind games, you so silly. Plus who doesn’t love Guy Pearce? Why is that guy not more famous?
But then I kept thinking. I wanted to watch “Pineapple Express” again recently. It was a wonderful film, but not a movie you can just watch once if you want to pick up on all of the subtle and highbrow humor.
So I went to look it up. But it wasn’t there. I looked a little deeper.
It simply wasn’t there anymore. No explanation, no excuse. Just pulled.
Maybe you have a perfectly good reason why you did it. Or maybe you just did it because it was getting popular and the people who made “Step Up 3” got jealous. I don’t know. I just wish we could have talked about it.
And I kept reflecting. Your attributes really weren’t that great. Yeah, you got lots of new stuff every few weeks. But the best part about your “Newly Added” section was that it gave my friends and I the chance to play everyone’s favorite game, “Japanese Anime Sit-Com or Japanese Anime Porn?” You thought you were going to keep me interested by tossing me “First Sunday” and “Titanic 2?” You were incorrect.
And if you thought that a lackluster facelift is going to make me want to stick around, think again. Now you’re going to call your DVD service Qwikster? Really? Who came up with that? My bet is on the same guys who came up with “Sudden Valley” for the name of the housing development in “Arrested Development.” I cannot believe somebody got paid for that.
Remember when you talked my ear off about that big Miramax deal, and how it was going to be so great? Yeah, it got me “Pulp Fiction,” but what about all the other ones I wanted to see? Where was “Rounders?” How can I act like an elitist snob around my friends if I haven’t seen “No Country for Old Men” or “There Will Be Blood?” And, heaven forbid I give praise to a Ben Affleck film but gosh darn it all, the guy can direct movies, where was “Gone Baby Gone?”
Look, I get it. You’re thinking, “What’s eight dollars a month for this kid? That’s half a 30 rack of bottled water.” That’s a reason-able thought I guess. But like I said, relationships are all about irrational behavior. All’s fair in love and war, but don’t ask me to pay more for your service without giving me anything in return. That’s not love, that’s borderline prostitution.
Let’s be honest with each other here for once, if you were really that important to me, if you were really great, I could make it work. But you’re not. And you’re not. It’s not me Netflix, it’s you.
And why am I breaking up with you in a letter? Because I’m not in high school anymore, a text wouldn’t cut it.
Don’t let the front door hit you on the way out.
Kevin

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Scene Writer

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The views in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
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The theme from “Ghostbusters” began playing Monday night in Moreau Theater as the crowd filtered in, and the audience began immediately, not led by the students in attendance, but mostly by a more “mature” crowd — even a few of the Sisters of the Holy Cross were in the audience. It was more than obvious the sold-out theater was psyched for Sigourney Weaver.

Weaver revealed herself to be an inspirational woman who attacked roles both on and off the stage by letting loose the “thunderbolt of [her] education” when working on scripts and stories. However, her stories described first forays into the world of acting that were not always so prolific. The self-proclaimed “super dork” from early childhood summed up her missteps and criticism in the beginning of her acting career with some wisdom. “When someone asks you how you got somewhere, it’s never a nice path,” she said.

Weaver was once fired from a production of “You Can’t Take It With You” after a week for being “too tall.” She was told by not many of the crowd to “hang in it with You” after a week for being “too tall.” Weaver revealed her as “ravishingly beautiful, but unphotogenic.” She threw the audience into laughter when describing one of her father’s events, which featured Milton Berle, describing him as “the Will Ferrell of his day.”

The Margaret Hill Series is a fantastic event by Saint Mary’s that really should be getting as much attention and credit as possible. Stunningly arranged and put together, it is an inviable intimate encounter with consistently esteemed and inspiring personas at the top of their craft. Not only is it a source of perpetual entertainment, it is hard to know exactly how many celebrities are on Twitter, what with fake accounts and how one defines “celebrity.” By one count, there are 258 celebrities on Twitter. Many of those accounts are not very active, however, and many more are British television personalities that no one is really interested in.

Twitter offers unprecedented opportunities for famous people to communicate with the general public, but how do they take advantage of those opportunities? Of course, it varies depending on who one follows. Some celebrity tweets are like to go on long political rants flowing the 140-character limit. They tweet many times in quick succession, clogging the timeline of anyone unfortunate enough to be following them. Archetypical example of this type of tweeting: Alex Baldwin, I followed him because “30 Rock” and “The Departed” are awesome, not because I care what he thinks about Troy Davis or protests in New York.

If celebrity is passionate about a cause, it is fine to express it and direct followers to where they can donate or something. Ashton Kutcher — a must-follow for anyone who wants to consider themselves hip — embodies that kind of Internet altruism, but the political rant of Mr. Baldwin is not appreciated. Baldwin is notable, though, for responding frequently when followers tweet at him with questions, which is probably why I still follow him.

Other celebrities tweet only when they have something to promote. Like Louis C.K., he is an extremely funny stand-up comedian, but you wouldn’t know it from anything he tweets. It’s only worth fol-

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Welcome to Atlanta, where the players play.

It’s a great time that is widely recognized as any, although it is most notably rectified to a beat that some might call a little ludicrous. As an Atlanta native, I find that the audience is of extreme excitement and pride, a celebration of the place that I will always call home. Do I have one request? Can we please change the lyrics?

Maybe it could be “Welcome to Atlanta, where the champions play” to “Welcome to Atlanta, where the players win.” Basti-cal, the saying that could place some importance on winning. A championship.

In the music video to “Welcome to Atlanta,” Ludacris and Jermaine Dupri dance in front of Phillips Arena, home to the Hawks. Matt Ryan, Mattaub, recently, the Threshers of the NHL. Landa dons an Atlanta Flames jersey, a team that failed, at least financially, in Georgia’s capital, while Jermaine wears a throwback Falcons jersey. It is great to see such civic pride from two rappers who grew up fast in Atlanta. Sports teams, cheering for the home team isn’t always so easy. Do you get nervous about the possibility to celebrate in Atlanta sports teams? The Hawks and the Braves all have been playoff teams in recent years, and it does make some other cities, Atlanta may look like a successful, flourishing sports mecca, but is it a possibility true? It is just not enough.

I often speak of Atlanta in the 1990’s when “Atlanta had a love affair with the Braves,” etc., etc., and it makes others a little or me jealous. After earning the worst record in all of baseball in 1990, the Braves captured the National League Division Title. Without a doubt, 1991 would be a string of 14 straight NL East titles, highlighted by the 1995 World Series. But I was born in 1991, and by the time I was old enough to start appreciating sports, the Braves’ reign of dominance was over. But do you know? Some might think that the former success of sports in the A-Town has returned, or even risen to its highest level ever. With three winning seasons, have we heard an Atlanta native complain?

Well, I tell you. To start with, for the second consecutive year I have been fed predictions about how the Falcons are going to win the Super Bowl. With Matt Ryan at quarterback, the Falcons are one of the few teams with multiple weapons, the Dirty Birds look to be one of the best offenses in the league. And the defense, although young, will benefit from the addition of the Falcons on my whole. Certainly, the team’s future looks bright and I am excited by the possibilities, but do the chances Super Bowl XLVII? I wouldn’t bet on it.

As for the Hawks, still struggling to determining the NBA resumes playing sometime in the next five years, we will have a not quite as great of a front in Johnson, a fantastic young player in Al Horford, and will probably finish 5th or 6th in the East before being bounced from the playoffs no later than the second round. Exciting, huh?

Now for the sad part: the Braves or Hawks, or the Falcons, are my team. Just a month ago, I was beginning to get excited about playoff baseball. The Braves were comfortably situated in the NL Wild Card standings, only kept out of the NL East race by the (grrrr) Phillies. But as of Tuesday, the Braves clung to a one-game lead over the Cardinals and the Padres for 2nd place in the National League standings, and the Braves all have been playoff teams in recent years, and it does make some other cities, Atlanta may look like a successful, flourishing sports mecca, but is it a possibility true? It is just not enough.

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Guillen looks forward to fresh start with Marlins

Associated Press

MIAMI — Ozzie Guillen tweeted Tuesday that he was in town "ready to go" with the Florida Marlins, and the clubhouse buzz was all about the new manager.

One minor holdup: The Marlins had yet to confirm a deal, saving some suspense for the final day of the regular season Wednesday. But Guillen’s website eliminated much of the drama by leaking the news he has agreed to become the Marlins’ manager.

A post Monday night quoted Guillen announcing he was Florida bound. The blog was taken down a short time later and replaced by a post that discussed Guillen’s departure from the Chicago White Sox, while making no mention of the Marlins.

On Tuesday afternoon Guillen tweeted: “Weird to be in miami in this time but very happy ready to go”. That sounded fine to Marlins players.

“This should be a good thing,” catcher John Buck said. “This is a step forward. It’s a commitment by the team showing we want to win. Part of that is getting a manager who has proven that.”

Guillen’s briefly posted blog item said he had hoped to spend his entire managerial career with the White Sox, where he won a World Series title in 2005.

“But there comes a point when you need to move on, and that point has come,” he was quoted as saying. “The Florida Marlins believe I am the right man for the job to bring another World Series to South Florida. I can’t tell you how thrilled I am to be a part of the Marlins organization. I have an unbelievable amount of respect for the Marlins, owner Jeffrey Loria, president Larry Beinfest, and general manager Michael Hill. I can’t thank them enough for this opportunity and look forward to the future. I can’t wait to get started!”

Florida manager Jack McKeon said Monday he planned to retire at the end of the season. Guillen announced his departure with the White Sox hours later, but said nothing about taking another job. Florida officials declined to comment.

The Marlins, who move into a new ballpark next spring, plan a big ceremony in conjunction with the final game at their current stadium Wednesday. There’s speculation they want to cap the occasion by introducing Guillen as manager, or they may do it at the new ballpark Thursday.

“All the pieces are coming together,”slugger Mike Stanton said. “We got the stadium, and we got the manager.”

The buzz began more than a year ago that Guillen might be reunited with Loria in Miami, where he was McKeon’s third base coach with the 2003 World Series champions.

Guillen became the White Sox manager that November, and in eight season he had a record of 678-617. It was a sometimes stormy tenure, and when his recent quest for a contract extension was denied, he received permission to be released from his current deal.

The Marlins are staggering to a last-place finish in the NL East. With the team moving to a new home and making a push to become a contender, Loria has said he wants an experienced manager.

The outspoken, sometimes outrageous Guillen would be the Marlins’ fourth manager since early 2010, and his relationship with management could create some off-the-field excitement. Strong-willed Joe Girardi lasted only one season with Florida in 2006, clashed with Loria and others in the organization, and was fired shortly before being chosen NL manager of the year.

Several Marlins players said the tell-it-like-it-is skipper would be a good fit for the team.

“That’s probably something we need around here,” Stanton said. “Let us know, and don’t beat around the bush. It’s better than doing it behind your back. He’s going to come right to you.”

Left fielder and Twitter sensation Logan Morrison was impressed to hear Guillen blogs along with tweeting, and does so in two languages. “Now I need a blog, probably two,” Morrison said. “And I’ve got to learn a foreign language in the offseason. I’ll have to follow him. If I don’t, I might get fined.”
NBA

Stern puts positive spin on situation

NEW YORK — Smiling widely but even resorting to a memorable NBA cliche to avoid specifics, David Stern provided little insight into the direction of the league’s labor situation.

That, he hinted, could come Wednesday.

Negotiators for the NBA and its players met for only about two hours Tuesday and plan to resume the talks early Wednesday. Stern said that meeting will determine how soon it’s worth sitting down again.

And if it’s not later this week, more cancellations are likely next week.

It’s been expected there would be no talks Thursday because members of both bargaining teams will be observing the Jewish holiday, but they could resume before the weekend if progress is being made.

“They and we have both agreed that so long as there is reason to keep discussing, we will keep discussing, undeterred by the calendar or weekends or things like that,” Stern said. “We will know more after tomorrow’s session.”

Both sides said neither concern nor optimism should be read into the brevity of the meeting. They simply needed time to think about what had been discussed.

“We’ve talked extensively in ideas and concepts, these are things that if we can get into the range of, get into the zone of, then maybe we can put a deal together,” players’ association president Derek Fisher of the Lakers said.

Unlike last week, Stern grinned often while speaking to reporters, but he said that was “only because when I didn’t smile the last time I was described as something between dour and surly, so this is my smiling face. And we’re looking forward to reconvening tomorrow.”

He repeatedly said the sides discussed “concepts,” but wouldn’t get into any of them. And when asked if more exhibition games would be scrapped without a breakthrough this week, he borrowed a line from Rashad Wallace in answering.

“Both teams played hard,” he said. “And the calendar is not our friend.”

Training camps were postponed and all 43 preseason games scheduled for Oct. 9-15 were canceled Friday. With the lockout nearly three months complete, players and owners are trying to agree on a labor deal in time to avoid any further damage to the NBA calendar. The regular season begins Nov. 1.

The format was again with small groups, and that will remain the case Wednesday. However, Deputy Commissioner Adam Silver said the owners’ labor relations committee would be prepared to return to the table this week if necessary.

“They stand ready to come to New York, or wherever else, if there’s a reason to continue on Friday,” he said. “So the groups may expand.”

Stern and Silver were joined by Spurs owner Peter Holt, who leads the labor relations committee, and NBA senior vice president and deputy general counsel Dan Rube.

Fisher and union executive director Billy Hunter had attorneys Jeffrey Kessler and Ron Klempner with them, and economist Kevin Murphy will return Wednesday.

Neither side would say if there were any new proposals, with Fisher also using the word concepts.

“We’re not holding anybody accountable to ideas being thrown out in the room,” he said. “It’s really just a process that we’re trying to go through to see if we can get a deal done.”

Stern and Fisher said there was discussion of both major obstacles to a deal, the salary cap system and the split of revenues. Players were guaranteed 57 percent under the previous collective bargaining agreement, but have said the owners’ proposals would have them in the 40s.

Stern was asked if the sides would continue to meet often if this wasn’t headed somewhere. Though he assumed they would, a clearer idea could emerge Wednesday.

“We won’t really be able to answer that question fully until after tomorrow’s session,” he said.
Boston holds on to narrow victory over Orioles

Associated Press

BALTIMORE — The Baltimore Orioles are playing significant games in September only because that’s how the schedule turned out.

The hope is that one of these years, these late-season games will be meaningful to the Orioles because they will be the ones hunting down a playoff spot.

Stuck in the middle of Boston’s late-season swoon, Baltimore is hunting down a playoff spot.

Rookie Ryan Lavarnway said, “It feels good, but the job’s not done. We still got to go out [Wednesday] and win another ballgame.”

Orioles third baseman Mark Reynolds whiffs on a pitch during Baltimore’s 8-7 loss to the Red Sox on Tuesday night.

Bedard retired the first two batters without difficulty, then walked Nick Markakis and yielded three hits in 3 1-3 innings. The left-hander struck out six but needed 84 pitches to get 10 outs.

Baltimore had the potential tying run at second with two outs before Jones grounded out on a 3-2 pitch.

“Everybody’s been watching the scoreboard and knowing that we need to win tonight so we can come back [Wednesday] and fight through it again,” Boston slugger David Ortiz said. “I hope if I’m still here next year we can make it easier. We’re playing like this is a playoff already.”

Lavarnway, a Yale philosophy major who never played a big league game before August, hit a three-run drive in the fourth inning and added a solo shot for an 8-4 lead in the eighth.

We’ve seen a lot of interesting things here over the years, but that was right near the top,” Francona said. Lavarnway said, “It feels good, but the job’s not done. We still got to go out [Wednesday] and win another ballgame.”

Jacoby Ellsbury and Marco Scutaro also connected for Boston, which scored all its runs on home runs.

Alfredo Aceves (10-2) pitched 3 2-3 innings of three-hit relief for Baltimore’s Matt Wieters and Jones.

After the Orioles scored twice in the bottom half with a homer off the bottom half with a homer off Aceves. Boston took the lead in the bottom half with his 22nd home run, the second in two nights, to make it 5-3.

Guerrero to fall behind 1-0. Wieters drove in an RBI double to Vladimir Guerrero to fall behind 1-0. Wieters drove in an RBI double to Vladimir Guerrero to fall behind 1-0.

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Rookie Ryan Lavarnway became the unlikeliest of heroes for Boston, hitting his first two major league homers after being thrust into the lineup because of injuries to catchers Jarrod Saltalamacchia (sore collarbone) and Jason Varitek (knee).

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The Brewer’s slug way to win over Pirates

Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Prince Fielder remembers the last time he hit three home runs in a game. It was in high school, during an intra squad scrimmage.

For all his baseball-bashing exploits, Fielder had never homered three times in a game in the majors — until Tuesday.

After missing a home run in the third and fifth inning, Fielder hit a two-run shot in the seventh that lifted the Milwaukee Brewers to a 6-4 victory over the Pittsburgh Pirates.

“You guys know me,” Fielder said. “If I see it, I’m swinging hard.”

Milwaukee star Ryan Braun went 1 for 2 with a pair of walks, and remains locked in a tight race with the New York Mets’ Jose Reyes for the NL batting title going into the final six games of the season.

Brewers first baseman Prince Fielder watches his third homerun sail out of the park during Milwaukee’s 6-4 win Tuesday.

Associated Press

DETROIT — With one swing, Wilson Betemit helped ease at least one of his manager’s postseason concerns.

Betemit hit a 423-foot home run in his first at-bat from left knee soreness, and the Detroit Tigers beat the Cleveland Indians 9-6 on Tuesday night.

Betemit hadn’t played since Sept. 16, and manager Jim Leyland said Monday he was concerned about the third baseman. But Betemit was in the lineup Tuesday, and he gave AL Central champion Detroit a 4-0 lead in the second inning with the towering homer to right field.

Betemit also drew a walk, and he scored twice before being pulled after five innings.

“It worked out pretty good,” Leyland said. “Wilson came back and played a few innings, went up and got treated right afterward. He’ll play tomorrow again.”

The Tigers remained one game behind AL West champion Texas, which cruised to a 10-2 victory at the Los Angeles Angels.

Detroit needs to finish at least even with the Rangers to have home-field advantage in the first round of the playoffs. If not, the Tigers will start on the road against the New York Yankees.

“You just embrace it,” Detroit right-hander Max Scherzer said. “Who knows what happens? But that’s the beauty of postseason baseball. We’re just excited to be in it.”

Scherzer (15-9) allowed four runs and seven hits in 5 2-3 innings, striking out seven in his final tuneup for the postseason. Jose Valverde pitched the ninth, earning his 48th save in as many chances.

Jeanmar Gomez (5-3) allowed eight runs and 10 hits in 4 2-3 innings. He had won his previous five starts.

Delmon Young had three hits for Detroit, including a two-run homer.

Miguel Cabrera homered and doubled, and his AL-leading batting average remained at .343.

“He’s locked in pretty good, obviously. That’s good news,” Leyland said. “He’s swinging really good. His concentration level is tremendous right now, so hopefully that’ll keep up.”

Detroit has left no doubt about which team is the class of the division. The Tigers have won their last 15 games against second-place Cleveland and third-place Chicago. They have won nine in a row against the Indians, who trail Detroit by 14 games.

“There’s a team that is going into the playoffs in better shape than almost any other team,” Cleveland manager Manny Acta said.

The Tigers took the first game of five straight games against the Indians, who trail Detroit.

Detroit needs to finish at least even with the Rangers to have home-field advantage in the first round of the playoffs. If not, the Tigers will start on the road against the New York Yankees.

“Hopefully that’ll keep up,” Leyland added. “We’re just excited about which team is the class of the division. The Tigers have won their last 15 games against second-place Cleveland and third-place Chicago. They have won nine in a row against the Indians, who trail Detroit by 14 games.

“There’s a team that is going into the playoffs in better shape than almost any other team,” Cleveland manager Manny Acta said.

The Tigers took the first game of five straight games against the Indians, who trail Detroit.
Lions continued from page 20

...the game. After the Pyros’ first possession, the Lyons defense clamped down and made some big defensive plays, including three second-half interceptions—one of which was returned for a touchdown.

Senior quarterback Ka’Rodriguez paced the offense with a balanced, dual-threat presence by passing for a touchdown, completing a two-point conversion, and had an amazing run after the catch,” Miller said. “We were able to time the play perfectly.”

After missing the two-point conversion, McGlinn’s defense came up with a huge stop to hand the ball back to the Shamrocks offense with less than 30 seconds remaining.

“A 29-yard touchdown pass from junior quarterback Kat Leach late in the first half put Walsh on the scoreboard first,”

Meanwhile, the Lyons defense honest as a rushing threat.

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“The Observer • SPORTS

Belles await matchup with MIAA champs

Observer Staff Report

A victory against 2010 MIAA Champion Calvin on Wednesday would mark the first time since 2006 that the Belles won two conference matchups in a row.

The 2010 conference champions, No. 3 Calvin will fight to bring back the glory of last year Wednesday on their home field against the No. 6 Belles. The Knights have yet to beat a non-MIAA opponent this season.

The Belles (6-2, 2-2 MIAA) snapped a two-game losing streak Saturday after junior midfielder Ashley Morfin scored two goals in the second half to lift Saint Mary’s to a 2-1 victory over Albion (0-8, 0-4).

Although the Knights (3-5, 3-1) have yet to earn a victory outside of the conference this season, they have nine points in conference play, putting them just four points behind league leaders Alma and Kalamazoo. The Knights also have the second largest goal differential in the league. Their 12-5 margin sits only behind Alma’s mark of 19-7.

Calvin shut out Olivet (0-9, 0-5) 2-0 on Saturday. Calvin was the third game in five days for the Knights, but fatigue was not an issue for junior midfielder Francesca Smith, who scored two of the team’s three goals.

The Belles and Knights will face off on Calvin’s home field in Grand Rapids, Mich., at 4 p.m. Wednesday.

MLB

Fox sues Dodgers over sale of television rights

Associated Press

DOVER, Del. — Fox Sports sued the Los Angeles Dodgers late Tuesday over the proposed television rights sale that owner Frank McCourt has been counting on to keep the troubled franchise afloat.

In the filing, Fox Sports Net West asked a Delaware bankruptcy judge to reject any proposed sale of the Dodgers’ television rights that does not abide by the terms of the current contract.

The filing was first reported by the Los Angeles Times and comes as Major League Baseball aims to force a sale of the team with a request for an October hearing on its motion. The Dodgers earlier Tuesday asked a judge to postpone that hearing.

Fox retains exclusive negotiating rights through November, 2012, as well as the right to match any other offer under that contract.

The complaint also seeks unspecified damages in circuit courts that the Dodgers already have violated the current Fox contract in part by sharing confidential broadcast rights information—“even after direct and explicit warnings” according to the filing.

A phone message seeking comment from Dodgers attorney Brian Bennett was not immediately returned after business hours Tuesday. An email also was sent to Dodgers spokesman Robert Siegfried.
Usher
continued from page 20

tied for the tournament championship after the Gaels came from behind to clip Houston for a share of the title at 30-over-par. Meanwhile, Texas-Arlington junior Paul McConnell finished first in the individual competition for the third-place Mavericks.

“It’s interesting because Houston was such an up-and-down team, but they really played well last year and showed it today,” Kubinski said. “A lot of the same applies for St. Mary’s, and they each had four really good scores consistently that helped them to pull away.”

After finishing the first round tied for third, things looked promising for Notre Dame. But the Irish struggled in the later rounds with high scores that put them out of title contention, something that Kubinski partially attributes to the harsh conditions as rain poured down throughout the tournament.

“We played in the worst of [the rain], for sure,” he said. “But even with the rain it didn’t really change where we finished. If we can eliminate some of the big numbers we are going to start winning tournaments.”

Notre Dame has a three-week break before heading to South Carolina for The Invitational at Kiawah Island on Oct. 17.

Contact a
ndrew Gastelum at agaste11@nd.edu

Ashley Dacy/The Observer

Irish senior Ryan Coughlin looks on during the Fighting Irish Gridiron Golf Classic on Monday at The Warren Golf Course.

Albion
continued from page 20

lied on the leadership of Bodien to direct the Belles, a commodity that she has increased exponentially through the beginning of the season.

“Bodien’s vocal leadership has really emerged over the last few weeks,” Kuschel said. “People are buying into what we want to do here. We’re motivated to play at a high level of volleyball. We’re getting contributions through our whole lineup, through all classes. We didn’t necessarily have that last year.”

Saint Mary’s will host Albion at 7 p.m. tonight.

Contact Conor Kelly at ckelley17@nd.edu

Ashley Dacy/The Observer

Senior wide receiver Michael Floyd, left, celebrates junior tight end Tyler Eifert’s catch for a two-point conversion Saturday at Pittsburgh.

Usher
continued from page 20

continued from page 20

a spread offense, Kelly identified specific features that could be incorporated into the offense moving forward. The coach said stretching the field vertically with the long ball and more touches for senior wide receiver Michael Floyd, who tallied 27 yards on just four catches in Saturday’s contest, would be looked at moving forward.

“I think there’s going to be some games as it unfolds that [Floyd]’s not going to get 10 passes — it’s just the nature of the game,” he said. “I think there’s a number of ways that we can continue to make sure that he gets the appropriate amount of touches, but we just don’t want that to be a consistent kind of scenario more than anything else.”

After completing the first leg of the season, Kelly stressed the importance of keeping his players healthy heading into the heart of the season. After playing three consecutive teams currently ranked in the USA Today top-25 to start the season, Notre Dame does not face a currently top-ranked opponent until the season finale against No. 4 Stanford.

“Going into week five, the most important thing is that our guys are taking care of themselves and making sure that we’re able to get all of our players at 100 percent on Saturday,” Kelly said. “because when you play the kind of schedule that we have in the first five weeks, you’ve got to make sure that your guys are ready to play every week physically.”

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The Observer • SPORTS

Wednesday, September 28, 2011

page 18 | ndsmcobserver.com
Crossword

Across
1. Holiday, etc., in ads
5. Detection device
8. One way to stand
5. Bunk bed feature
3. Fester and Vars
4. Shipment to a smelter
7. Physical therapist’s assignment?
10. Gossip, to an Ausie
11. Friend of François
12. Engaged
13. The Forbidden City
14. Blackened seaweed?
18. Some small power supplies

1. Facilities, informally
7. La Tar Pits
2. Kind of unrest
8. Castlebay’s day in court
9. Enter slowly
4. Special selection
3. Mete out
4. It may come in a blanket
48. Bionic part of the Bionic Woman
69. Lure for Pappey’sfavorite
58. 53 ___, Kea
55. After midnight, say
50. “Do on…”
53. Maliciously done
56. CPR pro
48. Choosing between pounds and kilos?
60. Funny Charlotte

Down
1. Medical dept. room
2. Excite dancer executed in 1917
3. Homes for drones
4. Food-stains-on-shirt sort
5. River to the Rhine
6. Whatever
7. 1963 Mr. T cameo
8. 1986 siege site
9. Frankincense or myrrh
10. GPS heading
11. Wife of Brutus
12. Tennis search category
13. Chew on a baby’s toy
14. Thunder sound
22. Result of a 55
25. Undergoer
24. Dance around
25. Information for an oenologist
26. Reuse to learn
31. Dirniet spot
33. Union
34. Hiccup for a snow sower

WILL SHORTZ

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Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s Community.

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Horoscope

EUGENIA LAST

CLERGY: BORN ON THIS DAY: Charles Mikan, 36; Serena Williams, 33; Lauren Conrad, 32; Olivia Newton-John, 63.

HAPPY BIRTHDAYS: Don’t limit yourself when all that’s required is a little hard work. A key effort will work wonders for you. You can make financial gains, but you must invest great effort. Use your skills to take on two challenging business assets. Focus on home, family and comfort. You number cards are 2, 9, 16, 23, 40, 42.

ARES (March 21-April 19): Yes, you have a darauf end of the scale. Genevieve is found in challenging activities which help to stimulate you. Ask for advice, acquire what you do or when you are needed, and you will expect plenty of interest and accolades.

TARUS (April 20-May 20): Stand up for yourself. If you allow intimidation, you will have regrets. Your proposal must be kept hidden before you offer it in sequence of importance. Initiate not weak links and you will gain confidence. If you vacillate, take time to think. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don’t let the decisions before you add to your confusion. Prioritize your time. If you take too much, you will not fulfill. Focus on what’s really important and do everything else in. Someone young will have a positive influence on you. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don’t worry of things which aren’t moving smoothly. Work for an opportunity to take charge. Take your mind and personal role with a flexible and creative approach. Accept change and you will find a way to turn an adversity into a positive. ***

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Prepare to get a much closer look. You will make a lifelong change depending on the people you associate with and when you leave the home. Spot the spotlight with a steady candidate and you will be rewarded for your efforts. ***

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Think about your opinions and untamed orbit with new Toes to cure up with solutions for your current situation. New foundations bring you positive knowledge and motivate you towards your goal. Don’t let an uncooperative leader hold you back.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Uncertainty regarding your position or your health will cause worry if you don’t keep busy working toward your objective. Don’t worry about what others do in your life. The human ties in your performance and what you continue to grow seems.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Don’t feel pressured to make a forceful decision. A minor opportunity will come through so those who have worked for this period. In time. In your own time. Even if you are going to otherwise. Use the information you always need. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Push for what you want, right away. Don’t let esoteric read in your way. If you want change, implement it. It’s too easy to get what you want, even if you are being led otherwise. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep your opinions if you are honest. Focus on home and self improvement. If you act on the truth, rather than demand, you will have greater success. Don’t make impulsive decisions without regard for friends or family. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Hit the things you want to be using, inspire and be the parent. Don’t push things to be well, contracts to be signed and foundation to be solid. Focus on what you can.

PICTURES (Feb. 19-March 20): Weight the pros and cons of the situation. A change of plans may ease each step you take, but slow down conclusions will work your position. Respond with strength and prepare troubles on a responsibility that will eventually find to promote fitness.

Birthday Bailey: You are accommodating, dedicated and generous. You are wise, you do, you accomplish.
Women’s Interhall
Lions Blow by Pyros defense
By James Southard
Sports Writer

Lyons won its first game of the year over Pasque-
rilia East on Monday night thanks to some timely
forced turnovers and a fluid offensive tempo.

The Pyros (0-2-1) came out of the gate hot after freshman receiver Alex
Good hauled in a 30-yard touchdown on the team’s first possession of the
game. However, they made several key mistakes that changed the tide of the
game, including penal-
ties and three second-half
turnovers. “Our defense was sol-
id,” senior captain Nneka
Ekechukwu said. “We just needed to carry that inten-
sity throughout the rest of the game.”

Ekechukwu said that the team has promise to build
upon.

“I loved how we came out strong from the beginning, scoring in the first ten sec-
onds of our first posses-
sion,” she said.

The Lions (1-2) rallied after a slow start in which
they surrendered a touch-
down on the team’s first possession of the day.

A gritty 15-12 victory over Pittsburgh on Saturday restored
confidence in Notre Dame’s abil-
ity to close out games. After eight penalties in 85 yards, two un-
timely turnovers and a missed field goal, Irish coach Brian
Kelly said, “You can put together an in-
credible highlight reel with
Tommy Rees this year,” Kelly
said. “And you could also put to-
together a blooper film. So it’s re-
ally being able to gain that con-
fidence in Rees’ ability to im-
prove as the season progresses,
downplaying the possibility of a
potential switch back to senior
quarterback Dayne Crist as the
starter.

“We better not be talking about
this stuff next year or there will
be another quarterback play-
ing,” Kelly said. “But [Rees] is
learning. Some of the body of his
work is really good and some of
it needs great improvement, and
he knows that. I know that, and
we believe that he’s capable of
being more consistent for a lon-
ger period of time.”

Although Rees’ inability to scramble and his limited “escap-
ability” pose potential threats to
the teams’ hitters like junior
Stephanie Bodien and fresh-
man Kati Schneider.

“Our hitters are going to have to step up and hit around their
blocks,” Kuschel said. “Albion is a very good defensive team.”

The Britons (3-7, 0-5 MIAA) turned in a number of gritty
performances against tough MIAA opponents in recent
weeks, and the Belles will have
to turn in a strong performance
of their own to take this match as
they cling to the fourth spot
in the conference.

Only the top four advance to the conference tournament, with a first-round match-
up against defending national
champion Calvin likely await-
ing the fourth seed.

“We have to continue to get
better, and that starts with Al-
bion, and it starts in practice,”
Kuschel said. “Albion is a very
tough team. They have a couple
impact freshmen up front, and
they play a very sound defen-
sive style of volleyball.”

Increasingly, Kuschel has re-
Suzanna Pratt/The Observer

Irish endure tough day at Warren
By Andrew Gaste lum
Sports Writer

The Irish jumped up one spot to fifth place after Tuesday’s third and final round of Notre
Dame’s sixth annual Fighting Irish Gridiron Classic at the
Warren Golf Course.

“It was a tough day,” Irish coach Jim Kubinski said. “In
every tournament we have had two
or three guys who didn’t re-
ally play as well as they could,
and it hurt us again.”

Senior Max Scodro led the Irish with a fourth-place indi-
vidual standing after shooting a 69 (-1) in Tuesday’s final round.
The Chicago native opened the third round with back-to-back bobbles and never looked back
during his commanding perf-
formance.

“Max was solid throughout the tournament, but he was just outstanding,” [Tuesday],”
Kubinski said. “I think he had just one bad swing [Tuesday]. On
Monday, he had a few men-
tal mistakes and some issues with course management that cost him, but he definitely came
back strong.”

Senior Tom Usber sat in ninth place after a solid open-
ning two rounds Monday with a plus-3. The British interna-
tional’s score brought him back into the individual rankings after
he shot an 81 (+11) on the final
day.

“It was just a few rounds that
unraveled on him,” Kubinski
said. “It looked like he was back
to where he was at the end of
last year. But I think we have
to take a lot of the good things
Tom showed in this tourna-
manship and get him back to the
position he was in.”

St. Mary’s (Calif.) and Hous-
see USHER/page 18

SMC Volleyball
Belles enter conference
matchup riding streak
By Conor Kelly
Sports Writer

Busyed by their back-to-back
wins, the Belles will take on
Albion at home Wednesday in
an MIAA conference matchup.

Saint Mary’s (5-7, 3-4 MIAA)
will need to rely heavily on
its offensive strategy to bring
its win streak to three games,
Belles coach Toni Kuschel said.

“Our middle hitters have
blocked and hit very well over
the last few weeks,” Kuschel
said. “And that’s a direct result
of our passing and defense. We
have to defend and pass well in
order to run our offense.”

Belles junior setter Danie
Brink leads the team in de-
fending and passing with 344
assists this season and an av-
erage of 8.19 assists per set.
Brink earned the MIAA Spe-
cialty Player of the Week award
after reaching her 2,000th ca-
reer assist against Manchester
on Saturday.

The Belles will depend on
Brink to set the offense for the
teams’ hitters like junior

see ALBION/page 18

Football
Getting it done
By Chris Masoud
Assistant Managing Editor

A gritty 15-12 victory over Pittsburgh on Saturday restored
confidence in Notre Dame’s abil-
ty to close out games. After eight penalties in 85 yards, two un-
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