‘I just want to be home so bad’

Hurricane Sandy destroys East Coast hometowns and property of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students

By JILL BARRICK AND MEGAN DOYLE
Saint Mary’s Editor and Managing Editor

Notre Dame senior Luke Heneghan’s hometown of Point Lookout, N.Y., sits on a barrier island with the Atlantic Ocean on one side and the Raymonds Channel on the other side. On Monday, the ocean and the channel waters met in the middle of the island.

“The house is flooded real bad,” Heneghan said. “The basement is completely flooded, like above the waist.”

Heneghan’s home was just one of thousands affected by Superstorm Sandy, which slammed into the East Coast on Monday. Sandy began as a hurricane-level storm and had downgraded to a tropical storm by the time it hit land, but its power has wreaked havoc on the northeastern coastline since Sunday night.

“I just want to be home so bad,” Heneghan said. “My dad was there for 30 years, and it’s the worst he’s ever seen. ... He was standing, saying, like everybody in town, it looks like a war zone.”

Heneghan’s parents stayed in their home through Sandy’s storm and have safely come through the worst. Their town, however, has seen significant damage. He described cars flooded in driveways and lost kayaks floating through the streets. The family will be without power for at least a week, he said.

“It’s just amazing that everyone’s alive,” he said.

Saint Mary’s senior Tara Fulton, whose family resides in Sickleville, N.J., about 30 minutes from Atlantic City, frequently checked in with her parents and news reports throughout the day Monday.

“My parents prepared for the storm by buying extra water and food that did not need to be kept cold in case of power outages,” Fulton said. “They took in all of the lawn furniture and anything that was in our yard that might blow away from the high winds the hurricane caused. My dad also went and bought a generator in case of power outages.”

Fulton’s father, who works at a UPS in Philadelphia International Airport, was shocked to find out that the store was closed and the airport was shut down.

“No one is allowed to drive on the roads at home because there is a state emergency in New Jersey,” Fulton said. “All of the bridges in and out of New Jersey and Pennsylvania were closed down until the early morning.”

Notre Dame senior Jamie Murray and Saint Mary’s senior Tara Fulton’s parents stayed in their houses, “my dad’s house and my brother’s house,” Gallagher said. “my town has been okay so far, however, there are tons of electric lines down and everyone has been on a ‘curfew’ since Monday at noon. Almost everyone lost power, but by some miracle, my mom has not yet.”

Gallagher, who spent her Monday in her home with her parents, said, “I just want to be home so bad.”

“a tree hit my dad’s house and also blocked the driveway so that my family could not leave their house,” Gallagher said. “My town has been okay so far, however, there are tons of electric lines down and everyone has been on a ‘curfew’ since Monday at noon. Almost everyone lost power, but by some miracle, my mom has not yet.”

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By KRISTEN DURBIN
News Editor

Duty, honor, country.
As a West Point graduate, Democratic congressional candidate Brendan Mullen abides by those three words, which “reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you will be and what you can be,” according to a famous quote from Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

Mullen said that quote and his personal connection to it also drive his campaign to become Indiana’s next representative for the 2nd Congressional District, which includes South Bend.

“(Duty, honor and country) are your rallying points when you’re a military man,” Mullen said. “I think that’s a great thing.”

Brendan Mullen
By KRISTEN DURBIN
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What are you going to be for Halloween?

Michael Thompson
junior
“T.J. Dean.”

Claire Wiley
freshman
Pasquaerilla-East
“Barney Stinson...Suit up!”

Lindsay McSweeney
junior
Breen-Phillips
“Joe Dirt.”

Ariel Etienne
freshman
Pasquaerilla-East
“My entire section is going as 50 Shades of Grey. We are all wearing different shades of grey.”

Niall Platt
junior
Keenan
“Myself.”

Zack Cox
freshman
Stanford
“The Avengers.”

Undergraduate students created this altar, or “Ofrenda,” located in the Great Hall of the Hesburgh Center for International Studies. This altar follows the traditional form of Ofrendas with its three tiers. The students dedicated this altar to innocent victims of the U.S.-Mexico drug trade. The altar features newspaper clippings, toys, bullets and candles.

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

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

Wednesday

Jewish Religious Expression in Byzantine Palestine
McKeenna Hall
2 p.m. - 7 p.m.
Register online.

“Know Your Rights as an Author”
Geddes Hall
4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Lecture by Nick Shockey.

Thursday

A Time to Heal Dinner
ND Stadium
5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Foster community healing against sexual violence.

El Dia de los Muertos
Hesburgh Center
6 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Day of the Dead festivities. Free and open to the public.

Friday

Readings from Dante’s “Divine Comedy”
Campus-wide
2 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Public performance.

Saturday

Nuclear Accelerator Tours
124 Newland Hall
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Tours leave every 15 minutes.

Sunday

U.S. Army Field Band and Soldier’s Chorus
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center
2 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Free concert.

Ice Hockey Game
Compton Family Ice Arena
5:05 p.m. - 7:05 p.m.
ND vs. Western Michigan

ALLISON D’AMBROSIA | The Observer

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Professor analyzes NGOs in Kenya

By DAN BROMBACH
News Writer

With their works “Making Democracy Work” and “Democracy in America,” political scientists Robert Putnam and Alexis de Tocqueville respectively laid out theories on the positive relationship between civil society and more efficient, democratic governance within developed nations.

In her lecture Tuesday titled “NGOs, Civil Society and Democratic Participation in Kenya,” Indiana University professor Jennifer Brass argued these theories from Putnam and Tocqueville are equally applicable to the world’s less-established nations.

Brass said the increase of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Kenya has resulted in a bolstering of civil society and a rise in democratic participation in the areas in which these organizations are concentrated. She used the Kenyan definition of an NGO as a “private voluntary grouping of individuals or associations not operated for profit or for other commercial purposes but which have organized themselves nationally or internationally for the benefit of the public at large.”

Brass backed up her positive findings with the results of a survey she administered to 501 adults across three districts in Kenya, asking questions about their interactions with NGOs as well as about their recent political behavior.

The survey revealed respondents in areas where NGOs visited twice or more times were 27 percent more likely to participate in a political protest or demonstration than those without NGO exposure.

Brass said this significant effect of NGOs on the likelihood of protesting in Kenya shows established theories about the relationship between NGOs, civil society and democratic participation are valid in the case of developing nations.

“It shows NGOs can be considered to be civil society actors … that participatory development does have spill-over effects into the political realm,” Brass said.

Despite the correlation between NGOs and greater political and democratic participation, not all NGOs are mainly concerned with issues of general development and of improving standards of living. “Looking at Kenya, what’s interesting is most NGOs are not doing explicitly political work,” Brass said.

Brass said NGOs are steadily gaining more control over areas in Kenya traditionally thought to be the responsibilities of local and national governments.

“Looking at core policy services that we think states provide, we have NGOs either by themselves or jointly providing about 40 percent of services in education, 12 percent in healthcare and about 20 percent in security,” Brass said.

Brass concluded the lecture by saying that the newly emerging NGOs in Kenya reflects the broader trend of donors favoring these organizations over governments when it comes to aid provision. Brass said donors view NGOs as more accountable, cost-effective, participatory and in touch with grassroots communities.

Contact Dan Brombach at dbrombach@nd.edu

Speaker gives five-step plan for success

By MADDIE DALY
News Writer

Future businesswomen and businessmen flocked to Jordan Auditorium on Tuesday to listen to New Zealander Sarah Robb talk about her ultra-successful career in entrepreneurial insights. She organized her talk around five specific steps that helped her to where she is today: the president of Equinox Fitness.

Robb’s first point was to “know who you are and who you are not.” She emphasized following passions and finding niches. “You cannot start your career without knowing who you are as a person,” Robb said. “I began working at Atari when video games were coming up and popular, but I didn’t think about the fact that I hated video games. I had never played them and had a tough time fitting in and getting ideas across. Got fired. It’s just an awesome, awesome moment in your late 20s when you think you know what’s going on and you lose your job.”

Shortly after this low point, Robb went to Nike, which she said ended up being a much better fit for her. “Nike was a place I had dreamed of working at, and not surprisingly went from being a massive failure at Atari to quite successful, surrounded by people with similar values and passion,” Robb said.

Robb said she admired Nike’s courage to say no, even when under extreme pressure. “For example, when the toning-shoes industry became a billion-dollar industry about two years ago, according to Robb, Nike refused to join in because of the fake technology.”

“Nike follows one of the best examples in the world of knowing who you are, which is being inspiration and innovation for athletes,” Robb said. “The whole toning-shoe business has imploded and Nike has avoided it because of their courage.”

Secondly, Robb said she believes in understanding the consumer better than anyone else. She emphasized the idea of focusing on micro-communities instead of always equating large-scale with success.

“Knowing your consumer and micro-communities ultimately can drive innovation and growth,” Robb said. “Virgin Airlines, for example, focused on a very specific, creative customer and only flew to places they knew these people lived. This consumer focus enabled Virgin to redefine themselves into the entertainment business.”

Having worked for Virgin Airlines early in her career, Robb said she noticed how successful they were even with such a small consumer base. However, having such a specific audience allowed them to tailor their services to these people, making the flying experience one of entertainment rather than stressful tedium.

“Do something spectacular for a few, instead of something average for many,” Robb said. “I’m so super passionate about this I can’t even describe to you. There are so many companies out there that focus completely on scale that they’re not really offering anything useful to their customers.”

Robb piggybacked onto this idea the topic of social media. She said she believes that social media has been around forever and is just now taking on a new form. “We’ve always been influenced by the people around us, the people we trust and the people whose opinions we care most about. Social media is the same as that behavior just on a really giant scale,” Robb said. “And I think it’s the most exciting economic era we could be going into.”

Robb then told the audience to not be afraid to change things up. She used her experience with Gatorade to highlight this point. “Gatorade was started for football players. It was purely created to make athletes better,” Robb said. “So after Gatorade spread to all the other sports, it eventually spread to places like Wal-Mart. This massive growth was not a good thing, especially with the economic crisis of 2008, which of course is exactly when I joined the company.”

Robb explained that although the economy severely hurt sales, it was the non-athletes that were cutting back, which is actually what Gatorade wanted.

“Instead of focusing on the economy, we turned to places they knew these people lived. This consumer focus enabled Virgin to redefine themselves into the entertainment business.”
Dining halls aim to reduce food waste

By MEL FLANAGAN
News Writer

If you’re reading this while eating a meal at North or South Dining Hall, stop for a moment and check your plate. How many ounces of food are on it? And how many ounces will still be on it when you place your tray on one of the tray returns?

Waste Free Wednesdays, a semi-annual campaign to decrease food waste sponsored by the Office of Sustainability, Food Services and GreenND, was started in the hopes that the answer to the latter question will shrink each time a student leaves the dining hall.

“Our overall goal is to reduce waste,” campaign co-chair Anna Gorman said. “Basically we want to get it as small as possible. Ideally it would be zero but that’s obviously not plausible.”

For one month each semester, volunteers stand at the dining hall tray returns each Wednesday between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m. If a student walks up with no leftover food on his or her tray, the individual is given a raffle ticket. Each campaign, one winner from the pool of raffle tickets is selected to win $100 in flex points.

“Waste weigh-ins,” to ascertain the average amount of food a student wastes, occur once during the week before the campaign begins as well as after it ends, Gorman said, in order to judge the effectiveness of the project.

“I think people do make an extra concentrated effort (during the campaign),” she said. “It’s not necessarily as lasting as I think we’re aiming for just in terms of how they bring it into when they’re not eating at the dining hall or things like that … But it definitely has a little bit of a following that knows what it is and is glad to reduce waste.”

Waste Free Wednesdays began in the fall of 2010 after research showed the large amounts of food being thrown away by students in the dining halls, Gorman said.

In the fall of 2011, Food Services took the campaign one step further when it shrunk the size of the dining hall trays.

“When the trays were replaced, that was also part of the campaign to stop waste,” Gorman said. “Before the trays [were shrunk], 4.64 ounces per person was the average waste from both dining halls. After, it went to 4.22 ounces.”

Gorman said Notre Dame ought to become more conscious of the amount of food it wastes as a Catholic university. “I think it’s about one in six Americans struggle with hunger, and we as a University waste a total of about 1.2 tons of food each day,” she said. “It’s just something that hit home for me, and I think it’s more relevant to people than they realize.”

For students to participate in the effort to decrease Notre Dame’s food waste, they simply need to think for a second before they place an item on their dining hall trays, Gorman said. “It’s mainly just being conscious of what you’re picking up,” she said. “It’s all about making a conscious effort to reduce waste.”

Contact Mel Flanagan at mflanag3@nd.edu
**Sandy**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

summer in New York City at her apartment on East 34th Street in Manhattan. She has never seen anything like it. Tremendous flooding has occurred since the hurricane hit the coast, and was also nervous about what would happen to that neighborhood. "I could not find out any information other than what was being broadcasted on the TV on Monday," she said. "All I could think about was my family and friends during the day. There are so many people that have been directly impacted by the storm and at different severities."

Murray said her father is unsure when he will be able to return to work in his New York City office. "The train lines are shut down, the city is shut down," she said. Murray's family in Connecticut will be without power for between 10 to 14 days, she said.

"It's important to remember that it's still an island, and this was definitely a reminder of that," Murray said. "(New York City) is still susceptible to the ocean and its storms. It's such a heart of the East Coast for our area, and when it's under stress everyone can feel it."

Christina Grasso, a Saint Mary's graduate, now lives in Lower Manhattan and was part of Zone A, the areas in which Mayor Bloomberg ordered a mandatory evacuation for residents. "I was cautious but truly did not expect it to be quite so disastrous having lived through Hurricane Irene here last year," Grasso said. "As a result, I just stocked up on water and candles and made sure all of my electronics were fully charged as the power is out indefinitely."

Grasso, as well as others in her neighborhood, did not follow the mandatory evacuation for Zone A, as she said it has been through so much, get hit by such a destructive storm. "Throughout the day Monday, it was windy and rainy," Grasso said. "Everything came to an end around 7 p.m., and before I knew it, the trains had to go to flood severely. There were cars fully submerged and floating around surrounding streets in what looked almost like 10 feet of water."

As of Monday night, Grasso was stranded in her apartment building having to stay under at least a foot of seawater. "I am hoping to regain power and have the ability to venture outside of my apartment building having without having to swim to get to the nearest location," she said. "The sooner I can get out, the better."

Grasso noted how extremely lucky she was to have lived through Hurricane Irene last year. "I was definitely a reminder of that," she said. "All of my thoughts were my family and being broadcasted on the TV on Monday. I am thankful for my family and the people who want to make donations for hurricane relief. Fane added that Campus Ministry will take up a collection at Masses on Nov. 4. Notre Dame senior Mara Catlaw said she had to leave her family back in Interlaken, NJ, as the flood waters in her town were rising quickly. "I didn't know what to do," she said. "The whole county is pretty much just a wreck," she said. "Our house is about a mile from the ocean, the whole boardwalk is gone."

Catlaw will be able to see the damage for herself when she re- turns from her fall break. Her family might still be out of power then, she said. "(My mom) walked around a little and said it's just too horrific, it is," she said. "I don't think this is the only island that is affected."

Contact Jill Barbick with jbarw01@stmarys.edu and Megan Doyle at mdoyle11@nd.edu

**Mullen**

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"I as a soldier know full well your faith is forlorn and you've lost hope," Mullen said. "This is a case where I apply those words to why I'm doing this for the community that gave me more blessings than I deserve."

A South Bend native, Mullen dreamed of playing football for the Irish, but his collegiate athletic career took a different path when he chose to attend the U.S. Military Academy. "When you grow up a mile away all you wanted to do was run through the tunnel (in Notre Dame Stadium)," Mullen said. "(Former Irish coach Lou) Holtz didn't call, but the Army team did ... and before I knew it I had a shaved head and was shining boots at 2 a.m. behind the walls of the Academy."

After graduating from West Point, Mullen served in South Korea and Iraq. He said his Army service forced him to come to terms with aspects of his personality and political views that encouraged America on behalf of their country. "I as a soldier know full well that when you command young men and women in stressful environments, stateside or overseas, you all don't really agree 100 percent on everything," he said. "I have to take my experiences from serving with companies and apply them to my work in the halls of Congress."

Mullen said the collaborative nature of his military experience gives him a greater understanding of the significance of working together in Congress than many of his current members. "In Congress today, we have professional politicians that have spent years litigating issues, and sure we don't have business, nor do we have folks who have stroched who have stroched and served honorably," Mullen said. "Having only 20 percent of elected officials who have worn that uniform is unacceptable, because they don't know how to work together in stressful environments from different walks of life."

As a moderate Democrat, Mullen said he hopes to continue to build a tradition of moderate representation from his district established by former representatives John Roemer, Chris Chocola and Joe Donnelly. He said his primary opponent, Republican Jackie Walorski, has not espoused the same moderate mindset in her campaign.

"A formidable Jackie Walorski will not represent that moderate voice because she's wrapped herself around that Tea Party flag so tightly that it's difficult to move beyond that record and the finger-in-your-face legislati- tive manner she's had," Mullen said.

But as a moderate Democrat, Mullen said he understands his moderation will frustrate con- servatives and radicals but is motivated by the political spectrum.

"When I launched my bid to run 18 months ago at WNDU, I stopped myself at the glass doors and definitively said, 'What am I getting myself into?'" Mullen said. "The day I walk into this, 50 percent of folks are going to dislike me because I put a 'D' next to my name. Meanwhile, I'm trying to get into the conversation that eight percent of Americans approve of, (Congress,) so I'm going from 100 percent down to dirt."

That notwithstanding, Mullen received a low approval rating for Congress, Mullen said, is rooted in the failure of legislators from both the right and the left to collaborate to act on behalf of the people and move the country forward.

"By championing myself as a moderate, I am trying to thread a needle. But it's difficult to thread that needle from 50 yards away," Mullen said. "I know full well I'll make my Republican and Democrat friends mad at me, but there's no monopoly on good ideas, so we need to be able to come to the middle and get things done."

Improving the economy and job creation are priorities for Mullen, but he said achieving those goals will require more equality of opportunity for middle-class workers and small business owners so they can "continue to have success in chasing the American dream and reinvesting in themselves, their families and their employers.""We need to stay laser-focused on the economy and jobs, but the only way to do so is to make sure we level the playing field for middle- and working-class Americans," Mullen said. "Big Oil and Wall Street have had it tilted in their favor, but that isn't going to continue to stimu- late the economy. The only way to stimulate Main Street economies is to elect people who are willing to work together."

Mullen is one of only 15 or 20 House freshmen representing the area in Congress. "Knowing the University is a bridge to South Bend ... if we can continue to bridge that gap and there's a possibility for federal help with doing so, I'll be absolutely the first to do it," Mullen said. "Mayor Pete Buttigieg is a dear friend of mine, and he has a red phone in his office. When he needs to call Washington I'll be on the other end of it, and he's on the other red phone for the Senate, (Democratic candidate for Senate) Joe Donnelly will be on the other end of it."

Although South Bend is the metropolitan center of the dis- trict, Mullen said both he and Donnelly must strive to con- nect with the region's other communities.

"We're both South Bend guys, but while South Bend and Notre Dame are extraordinarily im- portant, our work transcends to 10 other counties in the dis- trict," Mullen said. "We need to trust everyone that we have bonds to the outside areas of the district."

Contact Kristen Durbin at kdurbin@nd.edu

**Haunted**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"There are things in this world that cannot be explained," Kovach said.

Kovach noted how extremely lucky she was to have lived through Hurricane Irene last year. "I was definitely a reminder of that," she said. "I don't think this is the only island that is affected."

Lisa Schmidt-Goessling, hall di- rector for Le Mans Hall, has lived below the south end of Lake Marian, "Now, on a foggy night, if you look closely at the rippling water, you can see the re- flection of a Victorian woman."

"There are things in this world that cannot be explained," Kovach said."

"There are things in this world that cannot be explained," Kovach said."

Contact Hayley Miller at hmille01@stmarys.edu

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**POTD**

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Contact Hayley Miller at hmille01@stmarys.edu

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**POTD**

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**POTD**

"There are things in this world that cannot be explained," Kovach said.
Today is one of my favorite holidays of the year (behind St. Patrick’s Day and the first football game of the season, of course.) Halloween is a time of candy, horror and humor, and sometimes it’s tough coming up with the right costume. So you don’t pull a Cady Heron from “Mean Girls” and show up in a completely socially unacceptable costume, here is my list of the top 10 costumes of the year.

2. Hurricane Sandy. The winds and rain have been terrifying even in the Midwest, a thousand miles away from the hurricane’s epicenter. Too soon?
3. Romney/Obama. Politics are always a frightful sight, and it’s always easy to poke fun at the two presidential candidates. Just as young voters proclaimed “I Like Ike” in 1956 and others made themselves “Clean for Gene” in ’68, I looked forward to the day when I would campaign with similar enthusiasm.
4. The moment of enlightenment never came. Maybe the external environment of this election has made things different from the elections of the past, or maybe I was expecting too much. In either case, each candidate left me wanting something more.
5. Still, we have two choices of who has the best chance of putting the country back on track in a time of unparalleled uncertainty. And that’s why I’m voting for Mitt Romney. This won’t be the strongest endorsement he receives, but in a time when white-hot political blustering seems to be the norm, I’ve chosen measured, lukewarm support instead.
6. From day one this election has been about the economy. Nothing else will matter as long as Americans are discontent and out of work. And as a young American in particular, I’m voting for the person who is going to reduce the mounting and potentially debilitating burden of debt.
7. I’m not an expert on economic policy or job creation, but I do know much of Romney’s time in the private sector was spent on getting struggling businesses up and running again. And from what I understand, he was very good at it.
8. America is in need of a problem-solver. I don’t resent President Obama, but I do think it’s time for a change. When it comes to fixing unemployment and reducing wasteful spending, Mitt’s my man.
9. Romney’s lack of foreign policy experience cannot be ignored. And I wish Romney shared Obama’s commitment to clean energy and the environment.
10. Even more so than leading the country, I’m concerned about Romney leading a party that seems to be more extreme every day. I’m all in favor of lean government and low taxes but today’s Republican Party is more about uncompromising government and no taxes. That’s simply not leadership, and I hope Romney realizes it.

David Brooks wrote Tuesday in the New York Times that, if elected, Romney is more likely than Obama to get “big stuff done” by compromising with Democrats in Congress and pulling radically-right Republicans to the center with him. Reluctant as they may be, none of the most conservative members of Congress will want to destroy a Republican president.

The core lesson of Romney’s campaign, Brooks wrote, has been: “conservation; loses; moderation wins.”

I can only hope that proves true in a Romney White House.

As for some of the more popular criticisms of Romney the person — I’m not buying them. He is a man of sound personal values, uncommon intelligence and work ethic and deep appreciation for his country. I’m well aware of some of Romney’s poorly-worded remarks throughout the campaign, but far too much has been made of his wealth and supposed inability to empathize with average Americans.

No, I don’t love Mitt Romney. But in Washington these days, where we’re all just looking for someone to get things accomplished, I don’t need someone to love. I don’t need someone to have a beer with or sit next to at a ballgame — I need a president.

And in Mitt Romney I believe I’ve found one.

John Sandberg is a junior political science major at Littleton, Colo. He can be reached at jandsbe@nd.edu

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

Dear Notre Dame Family,

As you know, this past weekend the Notre Dame football team played the Oklahoma Sooners in Norman, Okla. On the Friday before the game, the Band of the Fighting Irish, along with the cheerleaders and the support staff, made a special stop at the Children’s Center in Bethany.

Founded in 1898, the Children’s Center is a private, nonprofit hospital serving children with complex medical and physical disabilities from the entire state of Oklahoma and surrounding states. The band and the cheerleaders invited several of our patients to march with them around the hospital before performing a special concert. More than 500 patients, family members and employees of the Center watched in awe. One of those patients was seven-year-old Fletcher Burns. Fletcher had the awesome opportunity of marching alongside the Irish Guard. Born with epidermal nevus syndrome, a rare skin disorder, Fletcher’s appearance is very different from most children. He requires a ventilator to breathe and his body is much smaller than typically-developing children who are of his same age.

None of this kept Fletcher and the Irish Guard from having an unforgettable time together.

They treated Fletcher with the respect and kindness all children with a disability should receive. The interaction with everyone involved was truly emotional. This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience for Fletcher and our other patients. They would never have been able to travel to see a marching band with such tradition and grace.

As the chief financial officer of the Children’s Center and a 2005 Domer, my heart was filled with pride, admiration and humility for the sacrifices the band and the cheerleaders made to perform for the children. For a short video of the visit, please go to http://youtu.be/ynI1sNAIPv4.

The Band of the Fighting Irish and the entire Notre Dame community has left an indelible mark on the patients, their families and the staff at the Children’s Center.

Students and alumni everywhere should feel proud. We are humbled and grateful for this magnificent experience. May God continue to bless all of you in your endeavors.

Michael Milligan
Chief Financial Officer
The Children’s Center
Class of 2005
Oct. 30

Hypocrisy of Obama

Leila Green wrote in her Oct. 30 article, “The Morality of Mitt,” that “Obama is by no means perfect.” This concluded her criticism of the president’s morality, as she took the president at his word regarding his support for freedom, equal rights and dedication to alleviating poverty.

However, a thorough analysis requires less attention to rhetoric and more attention to reality.

President Obama promised in 2008 that within the first 100 days of his presidency he would close the Guantanamo Bay detention camp, notorious for torture of alleged terrorists. As of Sept. 2012, 167 detainees remain there.

President Obama pledged to close the wage gap between men and women by signing the Lilly Ledbetter Act. Yet President Obama pays his own female staff 17 percent less than he pays his male staff.

President Obama pledged his support for equal rights for women. Yet President Obama opposed the Pre-Natal Nondiscrimination Act, which would have protected thousands of girls from being killed in utero because of their sex.

President Obama declared this May that he supports gay rights. Yet last Friday, he said in an MTV interview that “it would be up to future generations of Americans to implement meaningful reform,” rather than his administration.

President Obama declares that he tolerates the beliefs of all people. Yet President Obama is forcing religious institutions to violate their consciences by paying for contraceptives and abortifacient drugs.

President Obama says as Commander in Chief he supports the troops. Yet President Obama denied security to the US consulate in Benghazi and furthermore denied support when it was attacked, resulting in the deaths of four Americans, including Ambassador Christopher Stevens.

President Obama says he cares for the plight of the poor and unemployed. Yet under President Obama, the poverty rate has risen by 1.8 percentage points.

Ms. Green’s article displayed a shallow, fallacious and naïve understanding of both morality and the candidates’ policies. Yes, Governor Romney tempers his morality to appeal to a broader base of people, but President Obama has no morality — only plenty of hypocrisy.

Caroline Jansen
sophomore
Cavanaugh Hall
Oct. 30

Popularity pays

A recent study conducted by the National Bureau of Economic Research found that students who are popular in high school are more financially successful later in life, according to an article in The Wall Street Journal on Tuesday.

Popularity helps because “those who learn to play the game in high school are figuring out what they need to know to succeed when they enter the workplace,” according to The Wall Street Journal.

Popular students are typically strong communicators, which is a skill that would benefit them in the workplace. In order to enter certain fields nowadays, jobseekers must be able to network. Someone with strong interpersonal skills would probably be more successful at forming relationships with experts in his or her field than someone who does not have those skills. Strong communicators might also form better working relationships with their bosses and coworkers.

Those relationships could lead to job promotions or simply a better work environment. Popular kids also tend to have high self-esteem, which is another trait employers find attractive. Someone who is confident in his or her skills comes across as more knowledgeable and professional than someone who lacks confidence. Confident employees would probably be rewarded with better job offers than timid employees.

However, popularity is fleeting. Just because someone was popular among his or her high school peers does not mean he or she will be popular among adults. Perhaps he or she lacks the composure or maturity that adult conversations require. Popularity also depends on factors other than personality — physical appearance and socio-economic status for instance. How can researchers make a statement about something so variable as popularity? The results of this study seem less convincing because there are so many factors that affect popularity and even more factors that affect success.

Not everyone who was popular in high school is going to be financially successful, just as not everyone who was unpopular is going to live a life of financial ruin. While it makes sense that someone with strong interpersonal skills would be more successful in or her career, those skills can be possessed by both popular and unpopular high schoolers.

This column originally ran in the Oct. 24 edition of the The Daily Free Press, serving Boston University.

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

Please recycle.

The Observer.
By SEAN FITZGERALD
Scene Writer

Secret Service Agent

It’s time to take that suit out of your closet and use it for something other than interviews. Put an earbud in one ear and talk into your wrist. Make sure to keep people away from any presidents walking around, especially those ninjas.

50 Shades of Grey

If you have a plethora of grey clothes lying around, this one might be for you. You might need to explain yourself once or twice, but if you brought some handcuffs along, the costume would be complete. You can manage.

Greek God/Goddess

This is a great way to recycle that bed sheet you used from the last toga party you went to. If you’re a goddess, put on some flashy jewelry to complete the look. If you want to be the almighty Zeus, find some flashy jewelry to complete the look. You can take your pick. The easiest one would be to obtain dark sunglasses, a dark suit with a black shirt and an untied white bowtie. If you can’t obtain a bowtie, cut out some paper in the shape of a bow tie. Dance moves are optional, but highly encouraged.

Contact Sean Fitzgerald at sfitzge3@nd.edu

By CLAIRE STEPHENS
Scene Writer

Cloud Nine

Want something that will last longer than a candy dress but will be just as much fun to make? Grab the same products, but instead of candy, try grabbing some cotton stuffing from your local art supply store like Michael’s. Add some different colored wash-out hair dye canisters to your shopping bag and you’re all set. Use your duct tape platform, whether it is a dress or some other creative piece of duct tape clothing, and begin gluing the stuffing to the dress. In less than an hour you’ll have yourself a wispy white piece of wonderland and a variety of possibilities for how you can use it. Try tearing out your hair, adding some soft makeup, incorporating the number nine somewhere into the look, and going as “Cloud Nine.” If you want to be even more creative, take individual pieces of cotton stuffing and dye them with the hair dye. Use colorful makeup and accessories and go as Cotton Candy (bonus points if your name is Candace). Not feeling it? Try buying a colorful wig to go with your dress and going as the Katy Perry from the “California Gurls” video. The list of possibilities is endless, so try it out and have some fun!

Contact Claire Stephens at cstephe4@nd.edu

By JES CHRISTIAN
Scene Writer

Rip a page from the book of “Project Runway” challenges and make your costume yourself. Don’t be afraid to step out on a limb and try some of these cool suggestions — you’ll end up with a unique look that’s fun and shows off your creative side.

Project Fun Way

Ladies, you’ve seen them appear as a growing trend for various dorm dances and themed events around campus. You’re talking about duct-tape dresses. They’re awesome ways to create a custom look that no one else can get their hands on. But how about adding even more individuality? Want a cool Halloween project that you and all of your friends can do together? Try using duct-tape dresses as a foundation to lay candy on. All you need for this DIY project is duct tape, whatever types of candy you want to use and strong glue (I would suggest trying to get your hands on a glue gun if possible). Once you have those things, glue away! Need some inspiration? Try looking at fabric dresses with cool designs and mimic them with the candy that you choose. The end result will be nothing short of fabulous, and you’ll have tons of flexibility when it comes to choosing what you actually want to be. Team up with your friends, and you’re sure to be the best Candy Land collaboration on the streets this Halloween.

Contact Jes Christian at jchrist7@nd.edu

By CLAIRE STEPHENS
Scene Writer

Last-minute Costume Ideas

If you have a beautiful gown in your closet and are willing to brave the elements in heels (this might be a very hard task), then all you need is the sash and a crown. If you’re really daring, you could try to compete in the swimsuit part of the competition. Remember to limit your “ums” and “likes” when speaking.

Psy in “Gangnam Style”

He wore so many different outfits, so you can take your pick. The easiest one would be to obtain dark sunglasses, a dark suit with a black shirt and an untied white bowtie. If you can’t obtain a bowtie, cut out some paper in the shape of a bow tie. Dance moves are optional, but highly encouraged.

Contact Sean Fitzgerald at sfitzge3@nd.edu

By CLAIRE STEPHENS
Scene Writer

Ke$ha

Girls, wear a less-classy version of what you were going to wear out, with a lot of glitter and all the gaudy accessories you can manage.

Life

Write “LIFE” on a shirt or hat, and hand out lemons all night. The dining hall might only have limes, so paint them yellow if you don’t want to leave campus.

The Black Eyed Peas

Write a “P” on your shirt and paint one of your eyes black. This costume works best in groups of at least two.

Cereal killer

Tape empty cereal boxes to yourself and splatter red paint on them. Attach butter knives or forks for an extra effect.

Contact Claire Stephens at cstephe4@nd.edu
Scene Selects:

Your Halloween Movie List

9:08 AM

Paranormal Activity (2007)

This truly creepy film follows a family after their young son falls into an unexplainable coma. It soon becomes apparent that something is wrong with the boy and the house, and the boy’s mother and father (Patrick Wilson and Rose Byrne) bring in a team that specializes in paranormal activity to find out what’s going on. It turns out the boy has the ability to “astralproject” into “The Further,” and the film turns down a creepy, freaky path before concluding in horror.

Psycho (1960)

This Hitchcock classic was initially rejected by some critics, some even calling it a black spot on Hitchcock’s career, but the general public loved it from its opening and it has proven a lasting classic. The story of Norman Bates, motel owner and crazed killer, is probably well-known to most at this point in history, as is the infamous shower scene, but the film still proves eerie and disturbing, even if you know what’s coming.

Carrie (1976)

This adapted Stephen King novel follows Carrie White, a friendless and shy teenage girl who suffers at the hands of her religious fanatic mother. Carrie also grapples with the fact that she possesses unexplained, supernatural powers. So yeah, Carrie’s got some issues. In classic high-school movie fashion, the plot comes to its climax at the prom, which is one of the most memorable scenes in scary-movie history. Carrie is the story of high-school angst gone murderously astray, and it is not to be missed this Halloween season.

Halloween (1978)

“Halloween” is a low-budget horror flick that spawned a host of scary movie plot clichés and ten sequels (and counting). When a psychotic murderer escapes from the mental hospital, no one in the sleepy town of Haddonfield, Ill., is safe. The film is Jamie Lee Curtis’ breakout role, as she stars as the bookish babysitter who comes face-to-face with Michael Myers. The movie lacks the over-the-top gore of modern horror films, and is campy fun perfect for a seasonal viewing.

The Shining (1980)

Another adapted Stephen King novel, “The Shining” is a lesson in how to create creepy suspense. Jack Torrance (Jack Nicholson) is the caretaker of The Overlook Hotel, a super-secluded hotel in the mountains, during its off-season. The family is alone, that is, except for the eerie apparitions and supernatural beings that reside in the hotel. As the seclusion sets in, Jack gradually becomes mentally unhinged. After experiencing this film, the phrase “here’s Johnny!” will never be the same again.

The Exorcist (1973)

This movie represents one of the first, and creepiest, of the woman-possessed-by-a-demon horror movie genre. When 12-year-old Regan (Linda Blair) exhibits strange symptoms, her mother (Ellen Burstyn) has doctors perform a litany of tests to diagnose her illness. When nothing works, and paranormal occurrences persist, doctors recommend an exorcism. The rest is scary-movie legend. The child verbally assaults priests, projectile-vomits its vile green substance and speaks in demonic tones. “The Exorcist” is a necessary addition to your Halloween movie shortlist.

Halloween episodes on television have always been more successful with a little humor involved. Looking back on shows both old and new, I want to highlight some of my personal favorite Halloween specials. They may not be considered by all to be the best, but they’re definitely entertaining.

Community

Oh, “Community,” you’re always delivering on the laughs, but rarely on the ratings. This isn’t the time to tell you why you should watch this hilarious NBC cult comedy, but for now I’ll say their Halloween special “Epidemic” is a series highlight. Greendale Community College’s loveable gang of misfits attends a Halloween dance where a batch of government-issued taco meat causes a zombie-like outbreak among the students. Between rapid-fire pop culture gags, flying cats and a zombie smash down to the tunes of ABBA, what more could a reasonable person ask for in a Halloween special? Especially when George Takis is narrating.

The Simpsons

Ok, so the annual “Treehouse of Horror” special episode of “The Simpsons” has brought a lot of hits and misses over the years (what do you expect from a show in its 24th season?). Still, their Halloween episodes have delivered some of the show’s most memorable moments. If you haven’t experienced an army of dolphins taking over Springfield, Homer selling his soul for a doughnut or shooting down the zombie Ned Flanders (“He was a zombie!”), then I highly recommend putting some of these episodes on your pre-Halloween watch list. If there’s a standout, it’s the show’s “The Shining” spoof from the Season 6 “Tree House of Horror” segment “The Shining.” Trust me, it’s worth eight minutes of your time.

Boy Meets World

“Dun, dun, dun!” In the episode “And Then There was Shawn,” Cory Matthews and the crew are stuck in detention after disrupting Mr. Feeny’s class (nobody disrespects Feeny). Detention soon takes a frightening turn as the gang finds itself in a horror-movie-like scenario. With masked murderers, creepy janitors, blood-writ ten messages on the chalkboard and a student named Kenny being implied by a pencil (“Oh my gosh, they killed Kenny!”), this is sitcom horror done right — minus a pretty stupid ending.

How I Met Your Mother

It’s “The Sluffy Pumpkin,” Ted Mosby! See what I did there? In the first season of HIMYM, the show takes on the classic Charlie Brown special as we learn how Ted waits every Halloween for a mysterious girl dressed as a sexy pumpkin whose number he lost years ago (“pumpkins can be sexy!”). The episode is filled with plenty of funny moments, from effeminate pirates and rooftop ivy League a cappella groups to Barney’s various costume changes, which enable him to hit on the same girl. There’s even a follow-up to the episode in Season 7 where Katie Holmes plays the Slutty Pumpkin (good grie!

Hey Arnold!

Remember the good old days of mischievous and prank-filled Halloween nights — like fooling your town about an alien invasion and nearly getting your friends dressed as aliens killed? No? Then Arnold and his friends clearly have way too much free time on their hands. More importantly, it makes for a great episode from everyone’s favorite football-headed cartoon. Paying tribute to Orson Welles’ “War of the Worlds” radio drama, Arnold and his odd friends scare the pants off their neighbors to prove they can be as frightening as the adults. If only my friends and I were that creative back in 4th grade.

Modern Family

“Modern Family” is one of the funniest shows currently on television (and it has the Emmys to back it up). However, the episode “Halloween,” delivers a well-written and well-acted installment, even by the show’s own very high standards. The episode revolves around three storylines: Claire setting up a haunted house, Mitchell stuck at work as Spiderman (when no one else is in costume) and Gloria attempting to lose her accent to avoid ridicule (unsuccessfully). In traditional “Modern Family” style, the three storylines merge in the end and everyone learns a valuable lesson (including why you should dress as a sexy cat for Halloween). The family even manages to put together a pretty stellar haunted house. I can’t do justice in this article, but trust me, it’s worth your time.

Contact Will Neal at wneal@nd.edu

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

In sports, like with any product, the packaging is important. We don’t just want to see our team win, we want to see them do it in our new field. Yes, we eat a quality hot dog and drink a cold beer from our great seats (or, at the very least, on a comfortable couch in front of an HD TV). But the most important container for any sports franchise is the arena itself, the communal cathedral where not just you, but tens of thousands of the faithful all come together to watch, cheer, suffer and complain about Martinez losing a step. At its best, the stadium can be an identity and a teammate to the players on the field, a favorite star that never graduates or retires.

Sometimes, the venue can convey the immersive on-field experience than the play on the field itself — as anyone who has experienced than the play on the Field and the new yankee stadium advantages, the new parks are straight out of the modern cookie-cutter.

Stadiums in sports, like with any product, have different packaging. The cubs stadium is the perfect minor-league ballpark, replete with both a Jumbotron and a hill in right field to picnic on. And the brand new Compton Family Ice Arena is a world-class facility, but every seat in the house is about one thing and one thing only: a great view of the game.

So building a modern, high-tech arena that creates an instant connection and is beloved by patrons isn’t easy, but some shining examples have shown they can hold a candle to the likes of Fenway and Madison Square Garden.

But instead of building on the traditions of their franchises and their legendary home-field advantages, the new parks are straight out of the modern cookie-cutter.
Belles face stern test in final game at Kalamazoo

By MIKE MONACO
Sports Writer

The Belles will make a last-ditch effort to clinch a playoff berth in the regular season finale against Kalamazoo on Tuesday.

The top four teams in the MIAA advance to the postseason conference tournament, the winner of which automatically qualifies for the NCAA tournament. Saint Mary's (12-5-2, 9-5-1 MIAA) enters the game in sixth place with 28 points, just one point behind Hope, Alma and the Hornets (11-5-2, 9-4-2), who are tied for second. Hope and Alma each square off against teams — Albion and Trine — which are winless in conference play, while the Belles battle Kalamazoo.

"We are very excited and pumped for this game," Belles sophomore goalie Chanler Rosenbaum said. "It comes down to this one and we are all very prepared and eager to win."

But a win doesn’t necessarily clinch a playoff spot for Saint Mary’s. The Belles would need to defeat Kalamazoo, have Calvin (31 points) defeat Adrian (31 points) and have both Hope and Alma win their matchups. In this scenario, the Belles would tie with Adrian with 31 points, and Saint Mary’s would win the tiebreaker for the final playoff spot.

"I think we have a very good chance," Rosenbaum said. "We have beaten Kalamazoo before and are playing on our own field. We just have to win this game and Calvin has to beat Adrian, which is very possible."

Yet before the Belles can think about receiving help from other teams and advancing to the four-team conference playoff, they need to take care of their own business.

"We are just going to go out there to do our best and not worry about everyone else," Rosenbaum said. "We have to play our game and worry about winning before we can even think about how the other teams are playing."

In the two teams’ first meeting, Saint Mary’s defeated Kalamazoo on Sept. 29 on the road when junior captain and midfielder Mollie Valencia broke a scoreless tie with just 2:30 remaining in regulation to give the Belles a 1-0 victory.

Rosenbaum said the final score does not indicate just how well Saint Mary’s played in that game, a performance it will be looking to duplicate Tuesday.

"When we played Kalamazoo, we dominated the majority of the game but just couldn’t make a goal until the last minutes," Rosenbaum said. "We know it’s not going to be easy, but if we play as hard as we did before, we can make it happen."

The win against the Hornets jump-started a stretch in which the Belles won six of seven games. But Saint Mary’s is just 1-2-1 since that streak ended. Rosenbaum said during recent practices the Belles have been focused on improving their offense.

"The main focuses [in practice] have been possession, connecting more passes, and ripping more shots," Rosenbaum said.

Belles face stern test in final game at Kalamazoo

Alabama hopes for offensive success against LSU

Associated Press

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Maybe the force-field that has shielded the end zone the past two times Alabama and LSU have tangled won’t be quite so powerful Saturday night.

The top-ranked Crimson Tide and No. 5 Tigers have snacked right into it the past two meetings at various points on the field, reaching the end zone only once between them. Alabama (8-0, 5-0 Southeastern Conference) especially has been forced to attempt a cascade of field goals after promising drives screeched to a halt, making either goats or heroes of the kickers.

The good news for the Tide: Al McCarron and the offense have been far more successful this season in getting points out of trips inside the opponents’ 20-yard line, or the red zone. Nearly perfect, in fact. And LSU has struggled both offensively and defensively within that portion of the field.

The bad news: LSU (7-1, 3-1) has a Top 10 defense and easily the most formidable group of running backs Alabama has faced, so neither of those trends are guaranteed to hold up.

Bama kickers Cade Foster (three misses) and Jeremy Shelley (a 49-yarder blocked) became infamous for their troubles in last November’s 9-6 overtime loss to the Tigers. Shelley got redemption with five field goals in the national title game.

The offense shared the blame in that regular-season meeting — or LSU’s defense the credit.

Alabama had four drives inside the Tigers’ 30-yard line and was pushed back with two penalties, two sacks and three negative rushing yards.

Call that the Crimson zone.

"Oh, we missed a lot of opportunities and that’s one thing that we’ve got to focus on this week, most definitely," Tide wide receiver Kevin Norwood said. "Scoring when we should and scoring when we have to and making every opportunity count."

Alabama coach Nick Saban looks on during the Crimson Tide’s warmups before their game against Tennessee on Oct. 20. LSU has managed to overcome rankings of No. 72 offensively in the red zone and 115th defensively — with one exception. Those deficiencies were costly in the lone loss to No. 8 Florida, which scored touchdowns on both its trips while the Tigers settled for field goals in a 14-6 defeat.

"It’s execution when we get in the red zone," LSU quarterback Zach Mettenberger said. "It’s not like we don’t want to score down there, we just screw up. We have to get seven when we get down there. Alabama has a very good defense. That’s what they do. That’s what Nick Saban wants. They have a very sound defense. The opportunity is going to be there for me and my receivers to make a big play. We have to capitalize on these opportunities."
Freshman Kiefer acclimates to ND

By AARON SANT-MILLER
Sports Writer

Despite being a Division I women’s fencer and the youngest player on the 2012 United States Olympic fencing team, freshman Lee Kiefer is going through the same struggles as most college freshmen.

“I’m one of those people who needs to have my own space,” Kiefer said. “So, I’m struggling having to share a room. At the end of the day, it’s okay and I don’t mind it that much.”

Despite facing the usual speed bumps encountering an 18-year-old moving into a college dorm, Kiefer’s first collegiate season with team has begun with some success. On Saturday, Kiefer helped the Irish beat the reigning national champions, Ohio State, in an exhibition match, while winning both of her matches in the foil division.

Kiefer recently returned from the North American Cup in St. Louis, where she won the Division I Women’s Foil tournament on Oct. 14. The freshman said she has enjoyed the beginning of her first year at Notre Dame.

“So far, I just really like the team. That was one of the major reasons I was drawn to Notre Dame,” Kiefer said. “I have a good mentality about fencing. It’s all for fun but we work hard. It’s a good balance that allows us to do well both in fencing and outside of fencing.”

For Kiefer, an aspiring pre-med major, this balance is helping academics not go by the wayside, she said.

“Academically, I missed 65 days of school (for fencing) my senior year of high school,” Kiefer said. “So, I’m used to doing a lot of work and getting things done under pressure. That hasn’t been that much of a challenge.”

Kiefer is currently ranked atop the women’s foil rankings in the U.S. in both the senior and junior division. Kiefer is also the No. 4 foilist in the world at the senior level this season. This summer Kiefer made the trip with the American fencing team to London for the Olympic Games. While there, she battled her way to the quarterfinals, losing to the eventual silver medalist, Italy’s Arianna Errigo.

“It was a great experience,” Kiefer said. “I felt like a real athlete. I know that’s a weird thing to say, but at the Olympics they treat fencing like an actual sport, which is really nice.”

This summer, Kiefer was the youngest member on the Olympic squad, but she said it wasn’t an entirely new experience.

“I’ve been the youngest player on the national team for the last year now, so at this point it’s pretty regular,” Kiefer said. “Everyone is just really nice and accepting. I heard that in past years the older people weren’t very nice to the younger fencers. I was really happy to see it wasn’t that way at all.”

For Kiefer, skill with the foil runs in the family. Her father was a fencer and team captain at Duke. Her sister Alex is a fencer at Harvard and helped Harvard win the 2011 NCAA title her freshman year. Even Kiefer’s younger brother, Axel, is gifted in the art of fencing, as he is the nation’s top-ranked 12-year-old fencer.

“When I was little, my dad made me and my siblings fence,” Kiefer said. “We thought it was cool when we first started, but then we realized how hard it was. It takes a lot of work to become good when you first start. So, because my dad made us fence against each other, it was proud.”

Still, what draws Kiefer to the sport is the blend of skills it requires, she said.

“Fencing is a great sport if you want to be both physically and mentally challenged,” Kiefer said. “I never gets boring and there is always something to work on.”

Kiefer has gotten a taste of the friendliness of the school through her own teammates she said.

“Notre Dame had everything I wanted in academics and fencing,” Kiefer said. “Everyone here is just so nice. That’s weird to say, but it’s definitely true. It’s also just really like the fencing team. It seems like I should branch out, but I don’t really feel like I have the need. I like a lot of things, but I’m just really close to the fencing team and I like spending time with them, so that’s how I spend the majority of my time.”

Not surprisingly, what little free time Kiefer has, she spends resting. When things are a little bit slower in the summer, the Kentucky native said she enjoys reading.

“I’m always sleeping when I have the time,” Kiefer said. “Over the summer, when I actually had free time, I read a lot. This summer I was really hooked on ‘Game of Thrones.’ I just love to read. I haven’t really read in a few months though, which is sad.”

Despite being one of the nation’s top athletes in her sport and thriving on and off the strip, Kiefer continues to struggle with some of the same challenges other Notre Dame freshman face.

“Obviously, I knew there were going to be parietals when I came to Notre Dame, but I’m used to my parents just being more trusting,” Kiefer said. “It’s definitely taking some getting used to.”

Contact Aaron Sant-Miller at asantmil@nd.edu

NFL

Rams deny trade rumors

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The St. Louis Rams say running back Steven Jackson is not available in a trade.

Coach Jeff Fisher did his best to quash persistent rumors, saying Tuesday that the Rams aren’t shopping Jackson and have not been getting calls about him, either.

The Steven Jackson rumors are rumors,” Fisher said. “He’s our running back and we’re not calling around, nor are we getting calls for that matter.”

Jackson, who entered the season with a franchise-record seven consecutive 1,000-yard seasons, is carrying on an extensive basis for the first time in his career.

Jackson is 11th in the NFC with 403 yards on 108 carries with a 3.7-yard average and one touchdown and rookie Daryl Richardson is 12th in the conference with 335 yards and a 5.4-yard average.

Richardson, a seventh-round pick out of Abilene Christian, jumped ahead of second-round pick Isaiah Pead in training camp.

Fisher also said that rookie defensive back Matt Daniels was placed on injured reserve with a knee injury sustained in the Rams’ 45-7 loss to the Patriots in London on Sunday. Daniels made the team as an undrafted free agent and played on special teams in four games.

The Rams (3-5) have a bye this week and will practice Wednesday and Thursday before getting four days off. They return to action Nov. 11 at San Francisco.

Fisher said the practices this week will emphasize opportunistic play.

“We have a lot of work to do in all areas halfway through the season,” Fisher said. “Right now we’re not scoring touchdowns and we’re not getting takeaways, and that’s going to be our focus during the bye week.”

Rams running back Steven Jackson stiff arms a Patriots defender during New England’s 45-7 victory over St. Louis on Sunday in London.
**Focus**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 13**

“The passing game still needs to improve,” Kelly said. “You know, we had where we consider four, maybe five opportunities that we left out there in terms of throwing the ball. So we want to see a higher passing efficiency in that respect.

“What we need now is to put together a string of games back to back.”

Kelly said the coaching staff will be asking more out of Golson following a good outing in a hostile environment against a top-10 opponent.

“Any time you go on the road and you play with confidence and real good communication, you would hope that that — okay, we’re going to move to that next level,” Kelly said. “But we’ll see, you know, and what we’ll see is consistency of performance will be the next step.”

**Goalie**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18**

of 8-0-0. Summerhays had a 2.43 goals-against average and a .910 save percentage and earned Notre Dame’s most improved player award as a sophomore.

This season Summerhays has established himself as the starting first-stringer and as a dominant force between the pipes. In the five games he has started this season, he has a record of 4-1 and has amassed 122 saves with one shutout. In the 4-1 win over Minnesota-Duluth on Oct. 19, Summerhays saved 33 of the 34 shots on goal.

Summerhays said he credits Irish coach Jeff Jackson with his development over the years.

“I have developed into a more positional goalie since I’ve been here,” Summerhays said. “Coach Jackson has been working with me, helping me become a positional goalie and not to be all over the place.”

Summerhays said he has learned better ways to prepare himself for games and that this readiness has contributed to his success this year.

“I think I have improved most with game preparation,” Summerhays said. “Towards the end of last year, I took away some things that have helped me prepare for games and I have carried those over to this season and it has really helped.”

In preparation to take on No. 11 Western Michigan on Friday, Summerhays has already begun to develop a game plan, he said.

“We haven’t watched too much tape this week, but from playing [the Broncos] in the past, they are a very well coached team,” Summerhays said. “They like to get all kinds of pucks to the net, so I have to be ready for shots from all kinds of different angles. I need to really work on rebound control. [Northern Michigan] scored a couple of rebound goals on me last weekend … those are goals that I would like to have back, so I need to emphasize rebound control this weekend.”

Overall, Summerhays said he is pleased with how he and his teammates are playing this year, especially in that they are placing an emphasis on winning at home. “All the guys are up in the locker room,” Summerhays said. “When you are winning it’s obviously easy to have high spirits, but it was big to show that success we’ve had on the road this year at Northern (Michigan) and in Kansas City [for the Ice Breaker Tournament on Oct. 12 and 13]. We want to have an emphasis this year on taking care of this building and winning home games. We definitely want to start the weekend off a win here and set the tone for the games in this building.”

Under the leadership of Summerhays, the Irish will face off with the Broncos this Friday at 7:35 p.m. at the Compton Family Ice Arena.

Contact Isaac Lorton at ilorton@nd.edu

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**Irish senior running back Cierre Wood breaks away from the Oklahoma defense en route to a 62-yard touchdown run during Notre Dame’s 30-13 victory over the Sooners on Saturday in Norman, Okla. Wood is second on the team with 473 rushing yards this season, after senior Theo Riddick, who has 541 yards.**

**Tandem**

**CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18**

and sophomore until he seized the starting job over the final month of last season, with a .954 save percentage in the final five games he started. He proceeded to start the first five games this season, allowing only eight goals, as the Irish (5-1-0, 2-0-0 CCHA) won four of those contests.

The man he replaced, senior Mike Johnson, was Notre Dame’s No. 1 goalie for most of his first three years in South Bend, including the Irish run to the Frozen Four in 2010-2011.

Unfortunately, despite moments of stellar play, Johnson’s inconsistency allowed Summerhays to take over the starting position in February, a position he never let go.

Unlike a backup quarterback in football, however, a backup hockey goalie is not used solely when the starter is hurt or plays poorly. He still has to start some games, both to rest the starter and keep himself fresh should the starter get injured later in the season.

And so Johnson played for the first time all year Saturday, putting forth a solid effort by notching 26 saves in a 3-2 win at Northern Michigan.

Johnson’s performance is not a surprise if you look at both his past play and the attitude he’s shown throughout the season. Rather than mope after his demotion, he has embraced the challenge to both mentor and push Summerhays.

“We’re rooting for each other and we’re working hard against each other in practice, so it’s still a really healthy relationship and we’re getting along great,” Johnson said.

Summerhays also said he has benefited from Johnson’s presence.

“His someone I look up to,” Summerhays said. “He led this team to a Frozen Four, so everyone knows that he can play well. So that was good that he got an opportunity to play this week. And everyone has just as much confidence in him as they do in me, so I don’t think that’s a question. It’s nice to have a day off here, and no matter who’s playing either night, he’s always supporting me and I’m supporting him.”

Ultimately, Irish coach Jeff Jackson made the right move going with Summerhays, based on the ability he showed late last year. Notre Dame’s fate – a potential CCHA championship or Frozen Four berth – will be largely determined by how the new starter performs. But the Irish also have an experienced, capable backup ready to play should they need him. And both have helped push the Irish to a red-hot start.

Sound familiar?

Contact Sam Gans at sgans@nd.edu

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**The passing game still needs to improve.**

Brian Kelly Irish coach for him … I think we demand more. Our expectations are high.”

**No BCS politics**

Notre Dame is just one spot in the rankings away from a potential date in the national championship game, but Kelly said he will steer clear of campaigning for Notre Dame.

“I’ve got great people that can fill me in on all those things, and that’s their job to feed you all that information as it relates to the politics,” Kelly said. “I got out of politics once. I’m not getting back in it.”

Notre Dame is one of four undefeated teams at the top of the BCS rankings. The Irish are behind No. 1 Alabama and No. 2 Kansas State, and No. 4 Oregon trails the Irish by just .0011 points.

Contact Matthew DeFranks at mddefrank@nd.edu
Hansbrough hoping to make it at the next level

By MIKE MONACO
Sports Writer

On a cold February night in 2011, former Irish and current Indiana Pacers guard Ben Hansbrough heated up Purcell Pavilion on Senior Night.

The then-senior closed out his home career in red-hot fashion against Villanova, as he connected on seven of 10 three-pointers and finished with 30 points. Hansbrough, who was later named the 2011 Big East player of the year, teamed with then-senior forward Tim Abromaitis for a total of 16 three-pointers.

“That was my Senior Night,” Hansbrough said. “I was so mentally ready for that game that I don’t think anybody was going to be ready to come in and have a chance to beat us, especially the way [Abromaitis] helped me out too.”

Eighteen months later, Hansbrough returned to Notre Dame when the Pacers battled the Chicago Bulls on Friday night in an NBA pre-season contest.

“It’s been great,” Hansbrough said. “Every time you have an opportunity to step on this court and come back and play at Purcell Pavilion it’s a thrill. Especially to do it at this level is just another dream to come back and play at Notre Dame.”

A self-described long shot to make the team, Hansbrough survived a recent round of roster cuts to play another game at Purcell. On Monday, Hansbrough remained on the trimmed-down 15-man roster while fellow guards Blake Ahearn and Sundiata Gaines were released.

“I came in as an underdog but with hard work I was able to show people what I was able to do and it helped me out,” Hansbrough said.

Known for his never-ending practice sessions in “The Pit” and insatiable work ethic during his time at Notre Dame, Hansbrough carried that same approach to the NBA and caught the eye of Pacers head coach Frank Vogel.

“[His work ethic] is not just on the court competing in practice, but coming in early and staying late,” Vogel said. “He’s been the first guy in our gym every day since we’ve been in camp. You kind of expect that for a guy that’s making a team but I don’t think it’s just because he’s trying to make the team. I think that’s who he is.”

Vogel added that Hansbrough is a well-rounded player who impacts the game in a variety of ways.

“His toughness, his feistiness is all very positive and helps contribute to winning basketball,” Vogel said. “He’s a good three-point shooter and he makes solid decisions with the basketball running the point guard spot.”

But Hansbrough, who led the Irish in scoring as a senior and was a second-team All-American, the stud of the Irish in scoring as a senior, was hamstrung by an ankle injury in his rookie season.

“Almost everybody in here was an All-American, the stud of their college team, and you go to the NBA where your role completely changes. So it’s different. But this is the NBA, you have to try to get better and better every day and worry about what you control.”

The 24-year old took control of his training regimen this summer, Hansbrough said his older brother Tyler, a role model of mine in that role completely changes. so it’s different. But this is the NBA, you have to try to get better and better every day and worry about what you control.”

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For all the progress he has already made, Hansbrough said he knows he needs to stay the course and keep elevating his game.

“The next step is just continuing to improve, become a better basketball player, work on my game every day and try to help this team in ways that I can,” Hansbrough said. “Right now I’m a rookie and just trying to improve and improve.”

Contact Mike Monaco at jmonaco@nd.edu

Friday night in an NBA pre-season game. The 6-foot-3, 203-pound point guard played for the Pacers in the Orlando Summer League and earned a spot on the pre-season roster. Hansbrough entered the game Friday off the bench in the first quarter to raucous cheers and played nearly five minutes as he ran the Pacers offense.

But for Hansbrough, playing on the Purcell hardwood in front of a sold-out arena wasn’t as familiar as you might expect.

“I’m not really used to the game starting off and I’m being on the bench at Notre Dame,” Hansbrough said. “So I got to see the crowd and I’ve never really noticed the crowd I just go out there and play (when I was at Notre Dame).”

Despite the differences between his swan song against Villanova and his relatively quiet appearance Friday, Hansbrough said he was thrilled to be back at Notre Dame, this time as part of an NBA contest.

“Those were the first guys in my gym every day since we’ve been in camp. You kind of expect that for a guy that’s making a team but I don’t think it’s just because he’s trying to make the team. I think that’s who he is.”

Frank Vogel
Pacers coach

Former Notre Dame guard Ben Hansbrough attempts a lay-up against Marquette on Jan. 22, 2011. Hansbrough returned to the Purcell Pavilion last Friday as a member of the Indiana Pacers.

“I was so mentally ready for that game that I don’t anybody was going to be ready to come in and have a chance to beat us, especially the way [Abromaitis] helped me out too.”

Ben Hansbrough
Pacers guard

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HOROSCOPE | EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Matthew Morrison, 34; Greta Rosenthal, 47; Barry Harris, 63; Henry Winkler, 67.

Happy Birthday! Partnerships will be intense, but if you are careful, they can turn out to be beneficial. Social, financial and creative alterations should be embraced since you are already ready for change. Be aware that others may try to stop you, but try to remain focused and block their efforts. Your numbers are 7, 16, 22, 24, 28, 32, 41.

ARIES (March 21–April 19): Follow your instincts, not what others push on you. Love is highlighted, but you must be the one in charge. Make suggestions based on what you find entertaining. A creative idea you have should be developed for future use.

TAURUS (April 20–May 20): Don’t make any hasty decisions regarding financial matters. You will end up being more, and partnerships will turn out to be wise choices. Partnerships can be re-established. Show your strengths, not your weaknesses.

GEMINI (May 21–June 20): Talk things through and come to decisions based on honesty and what works for the majority. Problems will arise if anyone refuses to compromise. A change of plans will lead to a turning point in a relationship you have with someone.

CANCER (June 21–July 22): Respond to what’s being done and said. It’s staying on top of situations that will make you look good. Your skills coupled with your innovative ideas will bring you greater recognition. Don’t worry about the changes others make. Do your own thing.

LEO (July 23–Aug. 22): Keep a low profile. Let others make the first move. Stability is what you should be striving to maintain. A change in the way you do things or the way you portray your image will help to spice up your personal life.

VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): Being upfront may cause a scene, but it will get you what you want. Seek answers from outside your immediate family and you will get a better understanding of how your personal situation is perceived and how to make it better.

LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): Talk matters through and come to decisions based on honesty and what works for the majority. Problems will arise if anyone refuses to compromise. A change of plans will lead to a turning point in a relationship you have with someone.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): Stick to an idea or project that you feel can alter your financial future. Exploring new ways of using your ideas or talents to generate more cash flow will lead to an interesting partnership and a better personal life.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): Make choices based on what you require to feel happy and fulfilled with your life. A change at home will give you new hope for a brighter future. Approach business deals striving for equality and long-term benefits.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): You’ve got all the right moves. Make interesting alterations to your home and family life that will bring you greater prosperity and control over the future. Don’t let someone’s change of heart bother you. Let it go and keep moving.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): Be decisive in what you want to get. Talk over financial plans with someone you want to spend more time with. Collaboration will help you determine what your next move should be. Take control when it comes to love and commitment.

PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20): Listen carefully to what’s being offered. Make momentous decisions to suit your needs. A change at home can make you feel happy and fulfilled with your life. A change at home will give you new hope for a brighter future. Approach business deals striving for equality and long-term benefits.

Birthday Baby: You are strong-willed and in control. You are original, creative and competitive.
Irish stay focused and prepared

Kelly says he does not use ‘history lessons’; Golson continues to grow as first-year starter

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS
Associate Sports Editor

Following a program-defining 30-13 win at then-No. 8 Oklahoma, the No. 3 Irish will now play with realistic national championship hopes in front of them when they take on Pittsburgh at home Saturday.

Notre Dame (8-0) is off to its best start since 2002, but a win would push it to 9-0 for the first time since 1993. In 2002, Notre Dame returned from a victory over Florida State to drop a game to Boston College. Irish coach Brian Kelly said the past will have no impact on the current team.

“I really focus strictly on the guys that are in the room and how we prepare them,” Kelly said. “I do not use history lessons as much as I want them to realize what it takes to win week in and week out.

“What will affect how this team plays is how they prepare during the week and that is what I can control and that’s what our players can control.”

Kelly said the hot start to the season can be attributed to the team’s preparation and focus.

“They have handled success early in the season, and they have shown that they understand that if they don’t prepare the right way, that they’ll lose. We’re not good enough to not prepare properly, and I think they know that,” Kelly said. “For us, more than anything else is that you can prepare well, but if you’re not going to play a tough brand of football mentally and physically, then you can lose every week that you play.”

Golson still improving

In the win over Oklahoma, sophomore quarterback Everett Golson completed 13 of 25 passes for 177 yards while also running the ball 11 times for 64 yards. Despite a solid, mistake-free performance from Golson, Kelly said some aspects of his game need improvement.

Experienced goalies lead Notre Dame

As the No. 7 Irish enter a tough stretch in their schedule — seven straight games against four different ranked opponents, including three top-10 teams — the man in the net will become especially important. Junior goaltender Steven Summerhays will be called upon to anchor the Irish as they traverse the dangerous waters.

Summerhays has come a long way in his three years at Notre Dame. As a freshman during the 2010-11 season, Summerhays played in 12 games, starting 10 games, with a record of 5-4-1. Although the rookie saw substantial time in net during the season, senior goaltender Mike Johnson, then a sophomore, was in charge of the net.

In the 2011-2012 season, Summerhays played in 20 games, starting 17, and compiled a record