Jenkins, ND representatives travel to Uganda

Trip results from full forum on global health

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Associate News Editor

Four months after he listened to three speakers discuss the global health crisis at the Notre Dame Forum, University President Father John Jenkins led a group of delegates to Uganda to see firsthand the village the University will partner with through the Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative (NDMDI).

Notre Dame's commitment to helping the poor in Uganda grows directly out of its mission as a Catholic university, Jenkins wrote in an online journal entry.

The University delegation spent a week in Uganda meeting with city leaders, village officials and volunteers in the Millennium Village and the University's project partner village Nindye.

Jenkins led a group of the Notre Dame Forum, University President Father John Jenkins - arrived in the small village of Nindye on Jan. 9 to meet with local leaders and villagers about their participation in the Millennium Village Project. Nindye and its 5,000 villagers will serve as the geographic area that Nkata and Uganda Martyrs University will work with to help extreme poverty and to learn from the Millennium Development Initiative, on the fourth day of their visit to Uganda earlier this month.

Volunteers aid during holidays

Students, alumni help rebuild New Orleans

By ROHAN ANAND
News Writer

It's been nearly 18 months since Hurricane Katrina wicked havoc on the Gulf Coast and New Orleans, but Notre Dame students who traveled to aid victims of Social process still encountered the remnants of destruction in the ravaged city.

The University's Gulf Coast Task Force, founded by junior Caity Schneeman, led a group of approximately 15 students to get three homes and one school in two suburbs of the city, Lakeview and East New Orleans, from Dec. 29-Jan. 3.

Sophomore Sege Hoskins returned to New Orleans this winter for his third time volunteering for the task force and said he still felt that a great deal of restoration was needed.

"After seeing so many homes, you finally get the full effects of what's happening," he said, "and you feel compelled to return and see the damage and how much work needs to be done."

The Gulf Coast Task Force has sent hundreds of student volunteers to the Big Easy during the past year to help revive the city. But this time its trip did not receive any sponsorship from the Center of Social Studies.

Preventive action deters burglary

By KELLY MEEHAN
Saint Mary's Editor

While several break-ins occurred at student residences over the month-long winter break, it's not just luck that deterred more burglars, police said Tuesday.

Sergeant Lee Ross of the South Bend Police Department Crime Prevention Unit said students' preventative measures caused a drop in burglaries at student residences from eight during the 2005-06 winter break to only three this year.

Ross said a record number of residents took part in the home watch program by alerting SBPD as to when their home or apartment would be vacant.

"When students alert us that they will be gone ... they should get at least three [officer] patrol drive-bys each day," Ross said.

Ross said it was crucial for students to inform the SBPD of their absence, because if they do not know the house is empty officers "might not go by the houses at all."

Although Ross linked locked doors, closed blinds and functioning alarm systems to the decreased burglaries, not all students were immune to theft.

Two of the three break-ins at student residences from eight complexes did not get hit by burglars during the break.

Students enjoy New Orleans despite loss

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

The Big Easy Sugar Bowl matchup against LSU was anything but easy for the Fighting Irish, who struggled against the No. 4 Tigers in a 41-14 loss.

Despite doubts about how Notre Dame would perform on Jan. 3, students flocked to New Orleans to cheer on the Irish and take in the spirit of the city.

"I think a lot of us were leery about how we were going to play just because [LSU] was such a highly ranked team," said junior Holly Christianson. "I was hoping we were going to be able to pull through."

The defeat was an NCAA-record ninth straight bowl game loss for the
INSIDE COLUMN

Beckham in the U.S.

What’s the first thing that comes to your mind when you hear the term “MLS”? The acronym for a medieval language studies program? An abbreviation for miles? Hopefully.

Last week’s signing of David Beckham by the Los Angeles Galaxy for the sum of $250 million over five years will enlighten the average American that “MLS” is in fact stands for Major League Soccer.

The English professional league is, and has been doing quite all right for itself without spending the GDP of some countries on a global superstar. Expansion, soccer-specific stadiums and stadium deals for eight of the league’s 13 franchises and a new $100 million advertising deal with Adidas all point toward an economically stable and growing sporting league. But those signs are not nearly enough to indicate that MLS will even become relevant in the overcrowded American sporting market. Enter Beckham.

Let’s get one thing straight from the beginning. Signing David Beckham will not instantly turn MLS into a mainstream American sport competing with the likes of MLB, the NBA or the NFL. Nor will it unleash a migration of top European footballing talent towards America. Beckham will, however, give MLS the type of public profile boost it has never previously enjoyed.

Perhaps the most recognizable athlete in the world, Beckham’s arrival on Headlines wherever he goes. After the Beckham signing was announced on Thursday, it became the headline story on ESPN.com in addition to a top story discussed on prominent shows such as Around the Horn and Pardon the Interruption. Even CNN felt compelled to cover the story, conducting a live interview with Beckham from Madrid.

The attention countries on a global superstar. Expansion, soccer-specific stadiums and stadium deals for eight of the league’s 13 franchises and a new $100 million advertising deal with Adidas all point toward an economically stable and growing sporting league. But those signs are not nearly enough to indicate that MLS will even become relevant in the overcrowded American sporting market. Enter Beckham.

The attention Beckham garners will manifest itself in many ways, including increased attendance, corporate investment, merchandise sales, TV ratings and an international following. For a man who has reportedly been asked by Brad Pitt to give his son soccer lessons, Galaxy games may even become an A-list event. The most crucial effect of Beckham’s signing, however, will be the increased interest in MLS of the common American soccer fan.

There is a market for soccer in America. This past summer, the World Cup between the U.S. and Italy drew a 5.2 overnight rating. To put that in perspective, the NFL finals averaged around 1.5 while the NBA finals averaged an 8.0 rating. The prospects for the current American soccer market demands such changes, and MLS’s product is by no means first-rate.

The increased interest of the common American sporting fan, like every other effect of the Beckham signing, will be short-term, and if MLS players truly capitalize on the Beckham signing—to make itself relevant in the American sporting world— it must partake in the Beckham signing into a consistent improvement of MLS’s on-field product.

What Beckham has given MLS is an opportunity—an opportunity for a soccer to finally become relevant in America. And MLS has 250 million reasons not to mess this up.

Greg Arbogast

Sports Production Editor

Gas@nd.edu

1.5 hours.

"My favorite part of break was baking a cake."

"Waking up to my golden retriever.

"Eating American food after being abroad."

"Grand Challenges in Environmental Science and Engineering" will be held Thursday from 4 p.m. - 5 in 102 DeBartolo.

Sophomore Emerson Spurz, the author and founder of the mugglenet.com and Ben Schoen, co-author and webmaster of mugglenet.com, will be at Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore today at 4:30 p.m. to discuss and make predictions about J.K. Rowling’s seventh Harry Potter Book, “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows.”

The Notre Dame Track and Field Indoor Opener will be held Friday at 5:30 p.m. at the Loftus Sports Center.

The Notre Dame women’s basketball team will play Syracuse Saturday at 2 a.m. in the Joyce Center Arena.

The Notre Dame men’s basketball team will play South Florida Sunday at 1 p.m. in the Joyce Center Arena.

To submit information to be included in this section of The Observer, e-mail detailed information about an event to obsnews@nd.edu.

TODAY TONIGHT THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY SUNDAY

LOCAL WEATHER

Atlanta 45/31 Boston 23/12 Chicago 29/23 Denver 34/14 Houston 39/37 Los Angeles 69/43 Minneapolis 27/18 New York 31/24 Philadelphia 33/24 Phoenix 60/39 Seattle 36/29 St. Louis 37/28 Tampa 72/60 Washington 36/26
ND mourns economics professor

Special to The Observer

Denis A. Goulet, professor emeritus of economics and policy studies and William and Dorothy O'Neill Chair in Education for Justice at Notre Dame, died Dec. 26 at St. Joseph Regional Medical Center in South Bend. He was 75 years old.

Goulet, a native of Fall River, Mass., joined the Notre Dame faculty in 1979. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in philosophy from St. Paul's College in 1960 and Ph.D. in economics and policy studies from the University of Sao Paulo, Brazil, in 1963. He married AnaMaria Reynaldo of Recife, Brazil, the following year.

A pioneer in the interdisciplinary study of development ethics, Goulet, who often described himself as a “philosopher of development,” was an expert in the areas of social ethics, religious French intellectuals as., Jean-Louis Goulet of New Champaign, Ill., and Andrea and Sinane; sons-in-law, AnaMaria, their daughters; Shappell presented three main discussion points for the Community Summit, which include creating “freshman initiatives” to get students involved in the community early, promoting student investment in the community as a place for internships and job opportunities. Members of the Mishawaka community have said they wished Notre Dame students knew there was “more to Mishawaka than just Grape Road,” and that areas such as downtown Mishawaka would be explored more by students, said student body vice president Bill Andricht.

In other COR news:

• Steve Cartwright, a member of VOICE, a student advisory board at the Center of Social Concerns (CSC), discussed the board's happenings and goals as part of the organization spotlight of the week. The organization acts as a liaison between staff and students and tries to “better inform staff decisions as it constrains student opinion,” be said.

In addition, Cartwright said VOICE is focusing on marketing goals, including how to attract underrepresented students to the CSC.

“The most underrepresented student is the white male business student,” he said.

Contact Sonia Rao at srao1@nd.edu

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Project to improve ND-town relations

By SONIA RAO

Improving town-gown relationships was the focus of the Council of Representatives (COR) meeting Tuesday night, as student body president Lizzi Shappell shared developments in the upcoming Community Summit project. The Community Summit is an event that aims to provoke thought and discussion about how to better foster a positive relationship between University students and members of the surrounding community. Set to take place in late February, it will include students from surrounding colleges and universities along with local government officials, Shappell said.

Basically the goal is to share ideas under the umbrella theme of how to better integrate college students into the South Bend and Mishawaka communities, she said.

Shappell presented three main discussion points for the Community Summit, which include creating “freshman initiatives” to get students involved in the community early, promoting student investment in the community and looking to the outside community as a place for internships and job opportunities. Members of the Mishawaka community have said they wished Notre Dame students knew there was “more to Mishawaka than just Grape Road,” and that areas such as downtown Mishawaka would be explored more by students, said student body vice president Bill Andricht.

Several COR members put forth ideas about improving the relationship between college students and their surroundings, including making information available to freshmen students about some of the restaurant and entertainment options in the surrounding area.

In other COR news:

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Contact Sonia Rao at srao1@nd.edu
The Observer  •  CAMPUS NEWS

Wednesday, January 17, 2007

Service

page 4

Concerns (CSC). Because Notre Dame also has a relationship with LSU in the Sugar Bowl, the CSC felt that it was important for the group to coordinate with the Alumni Office instead, said Bill Purcell, the CSC’s alumni specialist for the CSC.

"We wanted to present to the student volunteers to organize themselves," he said. "But since the Alumni office was left to handle most of the logistics of organizing the event, we made sense for the task force to allow them to organize themselves.

The task force works with Catholic Charities, a subdivision of the Millennium Village Project, in order to get the villagers assisting uninsured, elderly or disabili- 

teens. Catholic Charities assigns approximately 15 individuals per house, and provides them with work clothes, gloves, masks and boots to get them for the homeowners.

More than 30 alumni volunteers, students and faculty members worked with the task force to clear out St. Mary’s of the Angels school in East New Orleans, a Catholic school for impoverished girls. Dowd said it was a lot of fun getting to work with the alumni," said Father Kyle Becker, Father John’s assistant at the Catholic school for impoverished girls.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Israel army chief of staff resigns

JERUSALEM, Israel — Israeli army commander Lt. Gen. Dan Halutz, under fire for losses in Lebanon, has submitted his resignation, the Defense Ministry said early Wednesday.

Halutz has been under pressure to step down since the end of the 34-day war, which failed in its goals of defeating the anti-Israel militant group Hezbollah and bringing home two captured Israeli soldiers.

Israel had suffered a full-scale attack on Lebanese Hezbollah guerrillas after they seized the two men and killed three other soldiers in a cross-border raid, July 12.

Army Radio reported that Halutz sent his letter of resignation to Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, saying that he was taking responsibility for the outcome of the war.

"For me the concept of responsibility is everything," Halutz wrote, according to Army Radio.

Tours to be extended in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan — The top U.S. commander in Afghanistan and Pakistan began early Tuesday to extend the combat tours of 1,200 soldiers amid rising violence, and Defense Secretary Robert Gates said he was "strongly inclined" to recommend a troop increase to President Bush if commanders believe it is needed.

Gates also said Pakistan must act to stem an increasing flow of Taliban fighters into Afghanistan as U.S. military officials cited new evidence that the Pakistan military, which has long-standing ties to the Taliban movement, has turned a blind eye to the incursions.

The prospect of a troop increase in Afghanistan, at the same time Bush is ordering 21,500 more troops into Iraq, raises new questions about the military's ability to sustain its fighting on two major fronts — now about 24,000 U.S. troops in Afghanistan.

NATIONAL NEWS

Imprisoned Katrina survivor born during storm

MARINETTE, Wis. — A white man was charged Tuesday with murdering a Hawaii man in a woods in a slaying that reminded racial tensions in Wisconsin and raised fears that some long-standing ties to the Taliban movement, has been a problem.

"All babies are miracles. But we have some special miracles," said Wanda Stogner, a rescue worker and three spectators examined the charred wreckage of an abandoned bus.

The university's well-shaded campus occupies several square blocks in the middle of downtown, according to Taqi al-Moussawi, the university's vice chancellor.

The school ranks second among the students at the university, known especially for its colleges of science, literature and education.

When Nouri al-Maliki blamed the attack on "terrorists and Saddamists," seeking revenge for Monday's hanging of two of Saddam Hussein's top aides, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki said he would throw out people on the streets who are not following the rules.

"We don't want to live in a city that's a war zone," a student said.

Iraq

Bombs kill 65 at university

U.N. says 34,000 civilians were killed last year, 142 Iraqis found dead Tuesday

BAGHDAD — Twin car bombs tore through a leading Baghdad university as students gathered Tuesday in the deadliest attack in Iraq in nearly two months, U.N. investigators said.

The two men and killed three other soldiers in a cross-border raid, July 12.

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The only guilt of our martyred students is that they pursued education. They belong to all religions, sects and ethnic groups," said an angry al-Moussawi, himself a Shiite. "The terrorists want to stop education. ... Those students had nothing to do with politics.

After the explosions, a rescue worker and three spectators examined the charred wreckage of an abandoned bus, according to Taqi al-Moussawi, the university's vice chancellor.

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The university's vice chancellor was in the middle of downtown, according to Taqi al-Moussawi, the university's vice chancellor.

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"All babies are miracles. But we have some special miracles," said Wanda Stogner, a rescue worker and three spectators examined the charred wreckage of an abandoned bus.

"Our job is to take even more lives, but he was spotted and shot by security men. He could not blow himself up, the dean said.

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NATIONAL NEWS

Firemen stand at the site of blasts outside a university in Baghdad Tuesday. Two minibuses exploded near the school as students were leaving after classes.

LOCAL NEWS

Rescued boy glad to return home

KIRKWOOD, Mo., Dec. 31, 2006 — Ben Ownby has spent a lot of time watching TV since he was rescued from a man who kidnapped him and another boy, but there's one face he's tired of seeing.

"It feels like I'm getting bruises from too many hugs," he said.

Earlier Tuesday, in an interview on NBC-TV's "Today" show, Ben's mother recalled the words a police officer used to tell her. "We recovered her son, who had been missing for four days: 'We have him.' "

"And I said, 'We have who?' cause I thought he was talking about the bad guy," Doris Ownby said in a recorded interview broadcast Tuesday on NBC-TV's "Today.

Michael Devlin, a 41-year-old pizza shop employee who also held a job answering telephones at night at a funeral home, was being held in lieu of $1 million bail. He is charged in the kidnapping of 13-year-old Ben, but authorities also expect to charge him with abducting Shawn Hornbeck, a 15-year-old abducted four years ago.

Both boys were found Friday in Devlin's apartment in the St. Louis suburb of Kirkwood.

Ben and his parents thanked Mitchell Buijs, 15, a friend who helped authorities find him by identifying a small white pickup seen speeding away after Ben's abduction. The middle school where both Ben and Mitchell attend planned an assembly Tuesday to honor Mitchell.
Fans continued from page 1

As a member of the 1996
shattered by the loss of the
University, I am proud to
be part of a tradition that
stands united in the face of
adversity. The Notre Dame
community is resilient and
strong, and we will continue
to support our team and
our players through thick
and thin.

The Irish faithful have
shown their support in a
dramatic and inspiring way
during these challenging
times. The outpouring of
love and encouragement
from fans across the
country has been
unbelievable.

As a Notre Dame fan,
I believe in the
principle of Never
Surrender. This is not just a
slogan, but a way of life
that we must embrace in
everything we do.

Thank you for your
support. Together, we will
overcome any obstacle and
continue to fight for what
we believe in.

Go Irish!

WILLIAM K. KELLEY
Notre Dame fan, Class of 1998

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Citrus disaster hits California
Prices for oranges, lemons, avocados expected to soar after record low temperatures

Farmers Keith Nimele, left, shows Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger his orange trees as they look at the vulnerable citrus crop Tuesday in Fresno, Calif.

Associated Press

FRESNO, Calif. Shoppers will feel the sting from the swing of record cold nights in California's citrus groves and other farming areas, with prices for oranges, lemons, avocados and other produce poised to double or triple in coming weeks, according to industry officials.

"We may adjust the discount as we discover the full extent of the damage next week, but for now, if you want to pick up a dollar to $1.49 for it," said Todd Steel, owner of Royal Vista Marketing, which sells California citrus to markets throughout the country.

With the NFL playoffs in full swing, some fans may choose to go without two traditional favorites. "Lemons are expensive enough as it is," said Joseph Vasquez, a 21-year-old school teacher from Pasadena. "We may have to do without guacamole for a while. And we may be drinking our Corona without limes."

Nearly every winter crop is affected by the freeze, from avocados to strawberries to fresh-cut flowers, but it's the state's citrus crop that stands to take the biggest economic hit. California is the nation's No. 1 producer of fresh citrus, growing about 84 percent of lemons and 21 percent of oranges sold in the U.S. according to the California Farm Bureau. The state produces more oranges, but those are mostly processed for orange juice.

More than 70 percent of this season's oranges, lemons and tangerines — nearly $3 billion worth of fruit — were still on the trees when a surge of freezing temperatures drove the cold front from the Central Valley dipped into the low 20s and teens on four straight nights beginning Friday. The freeze ruined as much as three-quarters of the California citrus crop, growers say; the fruit is threatened whenever the mercury falls below 28 degrees. "Large amounts were harvested before the freeze, so it's not like the markets are going to dry up suddenly," said Claire Smith, a spokeswoman for Sunlink Growers Inc., a Los Angeles-based cooperative owned by more than 6,000 growers in California and Arizona.

Still, the diminished supply is bound to drive up prices, Smith said. Sunlink may import oranges and other fruit from South America and other countries. On Tuesday, a Visalia-based citrus broker was selling 40-pound boxes of oranges for $22 to $32, depending on the variety. That's up from $6 to $14 a week earlier, and with the National Weather Service calling for at least one more night of frigid temperatures in many areas, prices could continue to escalate.

Some shoppers took advantage of still-reasonable prices Tuesday, as many of the fruit on market shelves was picked before the freeze. Shopper Lindsey Beauchamp, 29, was surprised to see a 10-pound bag of oranges selling for $10 at a Vons supermarket in Pasadena. "I might just have to get another 10 pounds worth because that's not going to last," she said of the price.

Damages from the current freeze will likely surpass those from a three-day cold spell in December 1998 that destroyed 85 percent of California's citrus crop, a loss valued at $700 million, state Agriculture Secretary A.G. Kawamura said.

The state also suffered a deep freeze in 1990 — one that completely wiped out the $1 billion crop. It took growers two years to recover.

Labor leaders are also watching the weather closely. They estimate as many as 12,000 field workers and packing house employees could lose their jobs for the remainder of the season.

In Brief

Workers, farmers protest free trade Seoul, South Korea — Protesters slamming free trade negotiations between South Korea and the United States took to the streets Tuesday as officials pushed for breakthroughs on contentious issues that threaten to torpedo a deal.

Shouting "Stop the Korea-U.S. FTA," a group estimated by police at 3,000 people held a peaceful sit-down protest on a Seoul thoroughfare across town from the heavily guarded talks in a hotel.

Protesters, including opposition lawmakers, cattle farmers, laborers, medical workers and students, rallied toward the negotiation site but were blocked by special police riot buses from approaching the hotel.

About 50 demonstrators scuffled briefly with police but there were no injuries.

Authoritative sources have about 15,000 riot police on the streets of the capital this week, many of them near the site of the negotiations, which, as during talks in Seoul in July, has turned into a virtual fortress.

Demonstrations against the proposed deal dogged the previous two rounds in South Korea. The talks have drawn sometimes fierce resistance from farmers, laborers and even filmmakers who say free trade threatens their livelihoods.

P.M. involved in bank investigation Jerusalem, Israel — Police will open a criminal investigation Tuesday into Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's role in the privatization of an Israeli bank, the Justice Ministry said.

The ministry said a preliminary investigation raised allegations in the 2005-06 sale of United Tel Aviv Bank to a favored business associate as finance minister during the sell-off of a controlling share of the bank. Olmert owns one of Israel's largest financial institutions.

If Olmert is indicted, he would have to step down pending legal proceedings.

The Justice Ministry said the preliminary investigation is based on allegations raised in a report by the state comptroller about the bank sale "led to the conclusion that a foundation of evidence has been built that would justify opening a criminal investigation.

Dow at record high for a third day

NEW YORK — Wall Street ended an erratic session mixed Tuesday with the Dow Jones industrials reaching a third straight record close despite concerns about corporate earnings, stock prices and the impact of falling oil prices.

The stock market struggled to digest a drop in oil prices, which fell to 19-month lows near $44.50 a barrel on a report from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries that the cartel was poised to cut production. The cartel is the first time that OPEC leader Saudi Arabia said there may be no need for further production cuts.

Investors were also left nonplused by mixed oil prices, absent meaning that fears and optimism about the recovery are simmering. But what's clear is that investors are preparing for a big oil shock, according to industry officials.

The Dow rose 26.51, or 0.21 percent, to 12,582.59. The index reached a new trading high of 12,581.08 earlier in the session.

Breadth stock indicators were mixed. The Standard & Poor's 500 index was up 1.17, or 0.08 percent, at 1,431.90, and the Nasdaq composite index fell 5.04, or 0.20 percent, to 3,497.78.

The bond market drew some support from a New York Federal Reserve report that the pace of manufacturing in its region reached its lowest level since the summer of 2005.
Robbery
continued from page 1
occurred at Park Jefferson
Aparments and the other was
reported at 312 St. Peter
Street, where Notre Dame sen­
ior Jeff Mansfield did not share the
good fortune of his fellow
off-campus residents.
Mansfield — who lost approxi­
mately $400 worth of electron­
ic — said he "was kind of
expecting to see it happen."
The criminals broke through a
first floor window and took a
trickle of international
out of sight, has been meeting
President Fidel
room, along with stereo equip-
manship at the university,
out of the second floor bed-
room, along with stereo equip­
ment and an Xbox from the
first floor. "Is this what you
random crap was in my bed-
room," he said. Although Mansfield said he
regrets having the only bed­
room door without a function­
ing lock, he is grateful that the
criminals did not take more of their valuables.
Mansfield blames the robbery
partially on the lack of an acti­
ated alarm system — some­
thing landlord Mark Kramer
said is key to deterring crimi­
als.
Of the approximately 150 res­
dences Kramer rents to stu­
dents, he said there's been only
one attempted and one success­
ful break-in.
"The attempted break-in was
on Notre Dame Ave.," he said, and
said it did not get anything
because the police were there
within two minutes." In
addition to the SBPD, Kramer
said he has a staff of
off-duty police officers that
patrols his residences
during breaks.
Both SBPD and Kramer
encourage students to make it
secure your system when you aren't
in the house. Many students made their
homes seem "lived in" during
break by leaving television sets
and lights on, Kramer said.
Ross said students should try
to take their valuables home
with them, even if it seems
inconvenient. "If students just grab their
laptops before they go, it will
save them a lot of trouble," he said.
Although students also had
the option of storing boxed valuables in the Notre Dame
Security/Police building as part of
the ND Safe Lock program, this
opportunity will not be
available during spring or Easter breaks, said Assistant
Director of NDSP Dave
Chapman.
Despite the lesser number of break-ins during winter
break, off-campus residents
must remain vigilant during the
school year, Ross said.

Ailing Castro taking steps to smooth transition of power
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Debortalo Hall - Wed., Jan 31st, 5:45-6:45 pm
Joyce Center - Thurs, Feb 1st, 4-8 pm
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bring it with you.
"War is over," he said. "As a people, as well as the whole world, are longing to hear those three small words sung by John Lennon decades ago. Unfortunately, war is not over. Rather, it seems as if there is no end in sight. And with the President's recent surge of over 20,000 troops to the Middle East, a continued long war is in the forecast. The increase in troops has raised a lot of questions among the American people, democrats in offices as well as several Republicans. Will the surge of troops be beneficial? Can this war be won? Will the Iraqis fulfill their promises made to the US? The more our senators and representatives ask questions, the more accountable the administration will be held, and the more representative the democracy in America will be.

Prop to Americans. The 2006 midterm elections proved to the Bush Administration that America was ready for a change and an end to the ongoing conflict in Iraq. Americans, and proved that apathy in America is not as prevalent as previously thought. Although Bush's anthem before the elections was that we are winning the war, Americans were not fooled. Democrats were elected and took control of the House and Senate, and a clear war plan and withdrawal of troops finally seemed tangible. However, just two months after the elections, progressive as well as frustated voters' hopes were crushed. Bush announced last week that he intends to send over 20,000 more troops to the Middle East. The President is either not up to date on the politicians' polls about his approval rating, or he has some ulterior motives. Needless to say, American citizens are concerned, and members of Congress from both parties have started to question the President's agenda.

Bush's new proposal, his apparent ulterior motive, appears to be an effort to bolster his legacy, not the situation in Iraq. And because a re-election is of no concern for him, he can do whatever he wants to save the face of his war-time presidency. NBC's Meet the Press host Tim Russert said after the President's address, "Bush bet his presidency on the war in Iraq, and tonight he made that bet double or nothing." Bush's decision to go on in Iraq has proved to be unsuccessful thus far, so he is now committing more troops, insisting that more troops will lead to victory. If the President's new plan fails, the public's poor opinion of him from here on out will most likely stay the same. Yet if Bush's new strategy does improve the situation in Iraq, public opinion of him and the war will also improve, and thus he will hold the legacy of being a successful wartime president. Bush has nothing to lose.

Members of Congress, however, have their jobs on the line until the elections in 2008 and cannot afford to make bets. Republicans have an exceptionally high number of seats up for re-election, and with America closely watching the government's war plan, the time is now for candidates to make their case. And luckily for us voters, our representatives are now starting to listen. Before now, our elected officials were too concerned with patriotism, party loyalty and re-election than the well-being of Americans and the rest of the world. In 2004, Hillary Clinton and John Kerry both supported the war out of fear of losing votes. Although they had doubts about the legitimacy of intelligence reports on weapons of mass destruction and were hesitant about breaking ties with the UN, they voted in accordance with the President to appear patriotic. Congress wants to express their concerns for the Middle East, and the Bush administration is likely to side with the President, especially if the Iraqis fulfill their promises made to the US. Instead, Congress will hold the President accountable for his war plan, and as a result, Congress will not re-elect the President.

While "War is Over" is not yet the tune to America's new political rhythm, the song's following line, although often overlooked, holds the key to success: "War is over... if you want it." The American people, as well as the President's proposal, his apparent ulterior motive, appears to be an effort to bolster his legacy, not the situation in Iraq. And because a re-election is of no concern for him, he can do whatever he wants to save the face of his war-time presidency. NBC's Meet the Press host Tim Russert said after the President's address, "Bush bet his presidency on the war in Iraq, and tonight he made that bet double or nothing." Bush's decision to go on in Iraq has proved to be unsuccessful thus far, so he is now committing more troops, insisting that more troops will lead to victory. If the President's new plan fails, the public's poor opinion of him from here on out will most likely stay the same. Yet if Bush's new strategy does improve the situation in Iraq, public opinion of him and the war will also improve, and thus he will hold the legacy of being a successful wartime president. Bush has nothing to lose.

Congress wants to express their concerns for the Middle East, and the Bush administration is likely to side with the President, especially if the Iraqis fulfill their promises made to the US. Instead, Congress will hold the President accountable for his war plan, and as a result, Congress will not re-elect the President. While they have long been opposed to Bush's war plan but too chicken to act, Democrats, as well as many Republicans, are now beginning to publicly oppose the President's new strategy. A recent USA Today/Gallup poll indicated that only 12 percent of people polled want a troop increase. Although among the 78 percent of people who are frustrated and depressed about the recent call for more troops, I feel that we have reached a turning point for democracy in America. Elected officials are finally paying attention to the polls and listening to the voices of the people they represent, and therefore change is likely to occur. Bush's legacy, however, seems as though it has no chance for improvement. The more he acts in opposition to public opinion, the more his approval rating will plummet. Our senators' and representatives approvals, however, will skyrocket. By being a true representative of the people and by staying true to their constituents on what is best for the United States, Congress has the opportunity to show America that our voices are being heard, and that our cares and concerns should be heard and addressed. While "War is Over" is not yet the tune to America's new political rhythm, the song's following line, although often overlooked, holds the key to success: "War is over... if you want it." The American people, as well as the President's proposal, his apparent ulterior motive, appears to be an effort to bolster his legacy, not the situation in Iraq. And because a re-election is of no concern for him, he can do whatever he wants to save the face of his war-time presidency. NBC's Meet the Press host Tim Russert said after the President's address, "Bush bet his presidency on the war in Iraq, and tonight he made that bet double or nothing." Bush's decision to go on in Iraq has proved to be unsuccessful thus far, so he is now committing more troops, insisting that more troops will lead to victory. If the President's new plan fails, the public's poor opinion of him from here on out will most likely stay the same. Yet if Bush's new strategy does improve the situation in Iraq, public opinion of him and the war will also improve, and thus he will hold the legacy of being a successful wartime president. Bush has nothing to lose.

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One of my favorite philosophers once said that man is a rational being. After taking the exam in politics for over the last four years, I now believe a far more accurate statement: man is capable of thinking rationally, but rationality is not automatic.

Mark Poyar

Actual

Common Sense

mental error people make when making some sort of political claim is the refusal to examine what their support for a certain public policy necessarily implies. Support of minimum wage laws is an example of this error in thinking.

Minimum wage laws have been around for so long that most Americans instinctively accept, if not support, such laws. Many view them as an acceptable government policy in the "war on poverty." Democrats are especially notorious for recommending the increase of the minimum wage, although many Republicans also support its increase as well. However, virtually none of these same people would disagree with the statement that a person owns himself; indeed, most of the supporters of the minimum wage also claim that a woman has a right to seek an abortion because she is the owner of her body. But the claim that a person owns himself and the claim that there should be a minimum wage are entirely incompatible, for examples of the minimum wage necessarily implies that the person cannot also believe in self-ownership. Like the front side of a coin, the claim that there should be a minimum wage law is readily apparent to all that witness it, but its unspoken rejection of self-ownership, like the back side of a coin, is not so obvious but implicit in the first claim.

In order to see why it is impossible to simultaneously support both minimum wage laws and the axiom that you own yourself, it is necessary to see why accepting the idea of self-ownership automatically rules out support of the minimum wage. If it is true that man owns himself and that ownership means the right of control over something, then he is free to do anything he wants with his own property (his person and possessions) except those actions that infringe on the rights of others to do the same. This means that because man is the sole owner of his body, he is free to use it in any way he sees fit to support his life as long as those efforts do not infringe upon the rights of others. Murder, slavocracy, and rape are subsets of the same crime: theft, the act of taking the use of the body of another without the person's consent. All actions that violate a man's right of self-ownership are inherently wrong because they deprive the person of the right to control his own body.

Because a man owns his own body and is thus free to use it in any way he wishes, he has the right to agree to rent his body to a firm for exchange in money, goods, or services, or any other sort of transaction in which both parties agree to it. Likewise, owners of a firm have the right to rent the services of another for exchange for compensation. Both parties to this contract have stated no one's rights; it is the right of the worker to contract his labor out to others since he owns himself and it is the right of the owners of the firm to buy the labor of the worker using some form of compensation as long as the worker is not forced into the deal.

Minimum wage laws necessarily violate a man's right of self-ownership. The government does not have the right to control his own body. Pretend that the government imposes a minimum wage of $10 per hour but I agree to work at In-N-Out Burger for $9 per hour, a rate at which the company agrees to pay me. I shall be forced to contract my labor out to any company at a rate that I would otherwise long as the company comports itself by virtue of the fact that I own myself and therefore have the right to do with it what I please. Similarly, the owners of a firm have the right to buy the services of others, or any rate which is acceptable to both parties by virtue of the fact that the other firm. The minimum wage denies both employer and employees these rights.

Support of minimum wage laws, you can't also believe that you own yourself because a belief in self-ownership necessarily leads to a rejection of minimum wage laws; it is impossible to support self-ownership, all moralities go out the window, for there cannot be any consistent opposition to rape, murder, or slavery without the belief that actions which violate another's person are wrong.

When making any political claim, make sure to not just look at the claim itself, but also the implications of the claim. Look at both sides of the coin.

Mark Poyar is a junior finance major and student and vice president of the College Libertarians. Their website is http://ndlibertarians.blogspot.com. He is currently studying abroad in England and can be contacted at maipoyar@gmail.com.

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

Gina Beach
Ohio University Post

Twenty years. That's a relatively long time to be walking the Earth.

So I entered the time otherwise known as "the rest of my life." My 20th birthday was my birthday, and I've left my teenage self in the dust, wondering where the last past year went as my new twentiesomething self begins to stretch her legs and realize this.

Nothing exciting happens when you turn 20. All.

Eighteen has its infinite possibilities and privileges associated with becoming an adult: voting, lottery tickets, cigarettes and porn. Just the prospect of leaving the parental bounds of childhood is enough to make the age thrilling.

Nineteen is more of a stretch and a bit of a drive to test out the castos and bars in Canada. The last year to revel in or resent being a teen. And now I've crossed the line and am in a sort of purgatory. I have no new privileges, and I can't even complain on my blog because with my new decade, I've gotten a bit too old to cry.

I now have to face my problems without whining or sulking. I've missed my chance to dress all in black and have it be just "a phase." And although I'm not lamenting a passing of my angst, having that option was a nice last resort.

Of the upside, I will rest assured that I'll never be a tragic teenage mother, but I'll also never be a child prodige, and should the desire to be a beauty queen arise, I'll have my chance to please a beauty queen. Miss Teen Maine USA won't take my application.

And so, with my newfound sense of youth, I head- ed out to celebrate. That's when I felt particularly young. I'll be a whole year before I can go to the bars, which is fine because I like an important milestone. The emphasis on turning 21 is certainly a rite of passage for college students, but it also marks the end of another significant part of the decade. I still have a big birthday ahead of me. I still have the rest of the year to celebrate my 20th birthday. So even though it doesn't come with fancy bellies and whoopies, it has a certain optimism and excitement that is a rare form of birthdays from two to 20. This might be the last year I have to be enthused about my next birthday.

I do have the rest of the decade to feel old. For the next 350 odd days, I'll consider myself 20 years young.

This article first appeared in The Post, the daily paper of Ohio University, on January 16. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
AWARDS SHOWS SPOTLIGHT

Hollywood lauds its best at Golden Globes

By CASSIE BELEK
Some Win

When camera shutters hushed and noise died down, the last glasses of champagne were emptied and the Hollywood newcomer expressed thanks in being welcomed to the Hollywood community and said, "You do not know how much this does for my confidence," only to realize her words made her sound just like her character Effie.

Ferrera brought the audience to tears as she accepted her award for Best Actress in a TV Series. Looking anything but ugly in a beautiful purple gown she helped design, Ferrera said, "It's such an honor to play a role that I hear from young girls on a daily basis how it makes them feel worthy and lovable and that they have more to offer the world than they thought." "Ugly Betty" also won Best Musical or Comedy TV Series in just its freshman year.

On the movies side, Zach Braff was Best Supporting Actor in a Motion Picture for his role as a hipster in "The Devil Wears Prada." "The Devil Wears Prada," directed by David Frankel, was twice-nominated in the category. Whitaker was literally speechless despite the critical acclaim that indicated his positive chances at taking home the Golden Globe that evening.

"Dreamgirls" garnered two more awards with Eddie Murphy's win for Best Supporting Actor in a Motion Picture and the movie's win for Best Motion Picture Musical or Comedy. "Babel" won Best Motion Picture Drama without winning any other awards during the evening.

In perhaps another Oscar prediction, Martin Scorsese won Best Director for "The Departed," beating Clint Eastwood's two nominations in the category. Scorsese is the Susan Lucci of the Academy Awards having never won an Oscar in his six nominations, but the Academy may finally be ready to give him his proper recognition especially since Eastwood already won the category for "Million Dollar Baby" two years ago.

Despite the lack of on-screen scandal, the Globes remain more fast-paced and even more entertaining than the Academy Awards.

Despite the lack of on-screen scandal, the Globes remain more fast-paced and even more entertaining than the Academy Awards. The Golden Globes are often seen as the precursors to the Academy Awards, held in March.

Tom Hanks speaks at the 64th Annual Golden Globe Awards. The Golden Globes are often seen as the precursors to the Academy Awards, held in March.

Musical or Comedy Series for his role in "30 Rock," beating last year's winner Steve Carell.

In a show of strength, all four of NBC's leading men from its Thursday night comedy block — Baldwin, Carell, Jason Lee and Zach Braff — were nominated in the Best Actor category, demonstrating the sign of improvement for the struggling network that is attempting to recreate Must See TV.

On the drama side, Kyra Sedgwick won Best Actress for "The Closer," after losing to an un-nominated Mariska Hargitay at the Emmys, and primetime medical soap "Grey's Anatomy" took home the Best Drama TV Series despite being shut out in every acting category.

Even with an open bar and bottles of champagne on every table, the evening continued without any drunken mishaps of Danny DeVito proportions. Annette Benning was never seen to knock out a glass of champagne in her hand and Sharon Stone's co-star Colin Farrell was seen drinking directly from a bottle of wine after the man behind "Borat" relived the hazing memories of their nude wrestling match on stage.

Prince failed to show to accept his award for Best Original Song for "Song of the Heart." From "Happy Feet," premiering presenter Justin Timberlake stumbled around before crouching down and providing the boy with a hug and accepting the award for him.

Prince mysteriously appeared on camera later in the ceremony only to block the camera with his hand. However, presenters Hugh Grant and Drew Barrymore finally revealed that the musician had previously been stuck in traffic and then gave him the time to stand up and take a bow for receiving the award.

Despite the lack of on-screen scandal, the Globes remain more fast-paced and even more entertaining than the Academy Awards. The Golden Globes are less predictable than the Oscars, with no on-screen scandal last year end of Awards season, and they offer a unique mix of movie and television stars at present at most other award shows.

Oscar nominees will soon be announced, and the Globes winners are ensured of a nomination and in most cases, win the first major award show of the season, the Globes set the tone for what is to come.

Contact Cassie Belek at cbelek@nd.edu

"Lost" actors Daniel Dae Kim, left, Yunjin Kim, center, and Jorge Garcia walk the red carpet in Beverly Hills, Calif. before the Golden Globe Awards Show.

Producer Laurence Mark, center, poses with the main cast of "Dreamgirls" after winning the Golden Globe Award for Best Motion Picture Musical or Comedy.
Swamped.

Explosive Tigers run, pass all over Irish in Sugar Bowl romp

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

NEW ORLEANS — Louisiana State’s team buses rolled down Notre Dame Street on their way to practice at the Superdome every day leading up to the Sugar Bowl Jan. 3. When game time arrived, the No. 4 Tigers rolled over the No. 1 Irish in a 41-14 victory in front of a jubilant Louisiana crowd.

After a competitive first half, LSU pounded Notre Dame in the second with suffocating defense and a persistent, efficient offense. The Irish trailed just 21-14 after two periods, but the Tigers defense bore down in the third and fourth quarters, and a flat LSU’s star quarterback, JaMarcus Russell, completed touchdown passes of 11 and 58 yards and ran for a 31-yard score en route to earning game MVP award.

From... that little two-minute touchdown they got right before halftime, for the rest of the game they really laid the wood on us,” Irish coach Charlie Weis said.

Quinn finished his prolific career with his worst game in two seasons, completing just 15-of-35 attempts for 148 yards, two touchdowns and two interceptions. LSU’s star quarterback, JaMarcus Russell, completed touchdown passes of 11 and 58 yards and ran for a 31-yard score en route to earning game MVP award.

I have great respect for their great quarterback, Brady Quinn,” Tigers coach Les Miles said. "I just think I have the best quarterback in the country."

Russell finished 21-of-34 for 332 yards, two touchdowns, one interception and aumble. Notre Dame gained only two first downs in the second half, including one on a pass interference penalty. After the first, the Irish went three-and-out; after the second, Quinn threw an interception on the following play.

The turning point of the game was Russell’s 58-yard pass to wide receiver Early Doucet with 3:40 remaining in the first half. With the game tied at 14, Doucet got to the Irish 5 and Russell ran the ball in for a score from a four-wide formation, one of LSU’s common offensive themes for the night.

"You just have to tip your cap to them because they came to play and we didn’t,” Ndukwe said. "They were throwing deep balls all over the place.”

Notre Dame’s only strength on the night, its rushing attack, fell victim to an LSU lead that forced Weis to abandon the ground game and rely solely on the inefficient rhythm passing.

LSU defensive tackle Glenn Dorsey stuffs Irish quarterback Brady Quinn’s pass at the line during the Sugar Bowl at the Louisiana Superdome Jan. 3. Quinn completed just 15-of-35 passes for 348 yards in his final collegiate game. The Tigers beat the Irish 41-14.

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The Notre Dame

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Notre Dame. The Irish gained just 291

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rushing average. The Tigers pounded

Walker in the second half. Those were the final four

Rushing attempts by Irish running back Darius

carries of Walker's Notre Dame career.

adding up

the numbers

Brady Quinn's completion percentage in the Sugar Bowl. The mark was his lowest

since 2004. 4

Rushing attempts by Irish running back Daruis

Walker in the second half. Those were the final four

carries of Walker's Notre Dame career. Number of points the Irish scored in the

second half. Notre Dame had not been shot out in a half all season prior to the Sugar Bowl.

0

2

Number of 58-yard passes LSU quarterback

JaMarcus Russell threw in the game. Russell also completed a 31-yard throw.

6.6

LSU's rushing average. The Tigers pounded the ball for 245 yards and 16 first downs on the

ground.

8:43

Notre Dame's time of possession in the second half. LSU ran 22 plays for 132 yard during its first two

possessions after the break.

Yardage advantage the Tigers had over

Notre Dame. The Irish gained just 291 yards to LSU's 577.

286

Consecutive bowl losses for Notre Dame. Though not an official record, the streak is the longest in NCAA history.

9

Mike Gilloon

Sports Writer

LSU's superior athleticism. LSU coach Les Miles did his best Lou Holtz impression, smiling and praising

Notre Dame's potential. Weis did his best Charlie Weis impression, scowling and作为 a reporter who

asked how Notre Dame could stay “competitive” against the big, bad Tigers.

“We didn't come here to be competitive,” Weis snapped. “We came here to win the football game.”

They did?

It would be hard for anyone watching the Sugar Bowl's second half to think that Notre Dame thought it had a

chance to win the game. There was no sense of urgency, no gang tackling, no realization that this was the last — and the biggest —
game of the season.

Downs 27-14 with four minutes left in the third quarter, Notre Dame had the ball and an opportunity to close

the Irish further. The Irish offense — which everyone agreed was the team's best weapon — couldn't even convert a first
down for the rest of the game.

Even Brady Quinn couldn't keep the Irish aboard. The toughest player on the field fought to keep from breaking
down during his post-game interview. He's done all he can and more this year. If there is anyone to blame for the

loss, it's not him. All signs point to Weis.

One question: where's the fire?

LSU defenders jumping for interceptions were an all-too-common occurrence during the Sugar Bowl for Irish

quarterback Brady Quinn. But Quinn's low completion rate was not as worrisome as the team's lack of emotion.

Against LSU and LSU, the Irish had nothing to lose and everything to gain. They were the underdog with every reason to play with energy and intensity. But instead of playing like a team possessed, they played with all the energy and enthusiasm of a hyped-up week walk through on Cartier Field.

It's the same lack of hunger and confidence that has hurt Notre Dame for the past several years. One of the

biggest criticisms of former coach Tyrone Willingham was that the Irish were blown out every time they

played more talented competition. Remember the Michigan (38-0), USC (44-14) and Florida State (37-0) los­

es in 2003? Besides an obvious upgrade on offense, it's hard to say there was a huge difference between those
defeats and recent losses to Ohio State, USC and LSU.

In each one, Notre Dame acted as if losing was inevitable. And in each one, Notre Dame played with less
desire than its opponent. If anything, the underdog should have more desire. (See: Boise State.)

Weis can sell tickets. He can woo recruits to South Bend. He can develop quarterbacks and vastly

improve an offense. But questions remain about his ability to motivate players for a crucial game. It's been two

years since the decade's second return to glory began. Has anything really changed?

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

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu
By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

Weis: Nine seniors apply for fifth-year eligibility, Irish coach Charlie Weis announced last week.

The paper also reported that quarterbacks coach Peter Vaas had been let go along with Minter, and that Notre Dame director of personnel development Ron Powulis will take over as quarterbacks coach.

University officials declined to comment on the reported coaching moves.

This is not the first time that Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis has worked with Brown. Weis was an assistant with New England when Brown was drafted by the Patriots in 2000.

...Weis announced last week...

...University officials declined to comment...

...This is not the first time that Notre Dame coach Charlie Weis has worked with Brown...

...Weis announced last week...
Bayou bungle

Before the game, Charlie Weis used his confrontational style to make a point: the Irish “didn’t come here to be competitive.” By the end of the night, Irish fans wished they would have done just that. Brady Quinn ended his career on a low note, and Weis explained how Notre Dame was only a “nice” team — not an elite one. A BCS blowout made that evident for the second straight year.
Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest

Widescreen Edition
Walt Disney Pictures

'Descent' finds acclaim at top of horror film list

By ERIN MCGINN
Assistant Scene Editor

While the British excel at many things, creating excellent horror movies is far from the top of the list. Aside from several notable exceptions, British horror tends to be, quite frankly, not scary. Director Neil Marshall, however, is making great strides in reversing the fortune of British horror.

Coming off the 2002 success "Dog Soldiers," Marshall wrote and directed "The Descent," which was released to British audiences in 2005, and the summer of 2006 in the United States. "The Descent" not only ascended to the pinnacle of British horror, but was by far the best horror film of 2006.

"The Descent" follows a close group of six adventurous female friends who frequently take high-risk outdoor vacations together. This time, the women explore an isolated and previously unexplored cave system in the Appalachian mountains.

After experiencing a cave-in they are left to their own devices to find a new way out, only to discover that they are not alone in the caves. The confined spaces and darkness of the caves, as well as the terrifying creatures, lead to a constantly high level of horror.

Of the cast, the movie focuses the most on Sarah (Shauna Macdonald) who, after recently suffering a family tragedy, is trying to get her life back together and Juno (Natalie Mendoza) who recklessly and purposely led them into the wrong caves to try to bring the women closer together.

When "The Descent" was released in America, it was not the same version that was shown to British audiences the year prior. The original, and albeit darker, ending was edited so that the film ended early, leaving a slightly happier version for American filmgoers. The unrated DVD release of the film is the original director's cut that was shown to British audiences, which includes a longer and darker ending that was previously left out.

The decision to change the ending for the American version became so controversial that the disc includes a featurette in the special features section entitled "DeadENDING" in which the reasoning for the change is examined.

Also included in the special features section is an approximately 20 minutes of deleted and extended scenes, a fairly humorous blooper reel, storyboard-to-scene comparisons and an almost hour-long commentary track with the crew and the actresses. For obvious reasons the commentary track with the crew is more technical, while the one with the actresses is much more anecdotal.

"The Descent" excels at scaring viewers both on the surface level — with monsters hiding in the dark — as well as delving deeper into more psychological fears. Without letting up for an instant, the movie manages to stay a thrilling ride from the beginning until the end.

Contact Erin McGinn at emcgin@nd.edu
Huskies fall to 2-3 in Big East with loss to Pitt

D.J. White ties personal highs in points and rebounds as Indiana tops the Hawkeyes 71-64 in Big East showdown

The Observer • CLASSIFIEDS

Wednesday, January 17, 2007

NCAA MEN'S BASKETBALL

Indianapolis, Indiana - No. 6 Pittsburgh pulled away midway through the second half behind Aaron Gray's strong inside play and Ronald Ramon's perimeter shooting, wearing down Connecticut in a typically rugged Big East rivalry game for a 63-54 victory Tuesday night.

Gray, helped by an injury that kept Kaman's 7-foot-3 Hasheem Thabeet out for most of the first half, had 22 points and 19 rebounds. Ramon went 4-for-4 from 3-point range while adding 17 points as the Panthers (17-2, 5-0) won their seventh straight.

They are the only team still unbeaten in conference play.

Gray missed by a rebound of becoming the first Pitt player with as many as 20 points and 20 rebounds in a game since Chris McNeal against Boston College in 1992.

UConn (13-4, 2-3) lost for the fourth time in six games mostly because of poor shooting — the Huskies shot 35.6 percent — yet led 33-32 with 12 minutes remaining.

The Huskies went scoreless for 4 1/2 minutes shortly after that during a 7-0 Pitt run fueled by Levance Fields' 3-pointer. Levon Kendall followed with a jumper from the wing, one of only two baskets before he fouled out, and Gray also scored six assists for Iowa (10-8, 2-2), which rallied from a 21-point deficit in the second half to make the game close.

The Hoosiers, who improved to 9-0 at Assembly Hall this season and snapped a four-game losing streak against Iowa, took charge early in the first half following Haluska's layup that put Iowa ahead 10-8.

White's rebound and putback tied the score and sparked an 11-0 run by Indiana over the next seven minutes. Lance Stemler's 3-pointer gave the Hoosiers a 19-10 advantage with 7:30 left.

Indiana extended its lead to 24-13 after White's basket with 6 minutes remaining, and the Hoosiers went up 29-17 on Wilmont's 3-pointer to end the half.

Wilmont made three 3-pointers and scored 13 points, and White added eight points and six rebounds to lead Indiana in the first half. The Hoosiers shot 46 percent from the field and committed 10 turnovers before the break.

BOSTON COLLEGE, Miami 63

Sean Marshall scored Boston College's first nine points as the Eagles opened a 20-point halftime lead on Tuesday night and coasted to a victory over Miami.

Marshall finished with 20 points and Jared Dudley scored 18 for BC (11-4, 5-0 Atlantic Coast Conference), which won its fourth straight game since he returned from a foot injury and sixth in a row overall. Tyrese Rice had 16 points and a career-high 12 assists, and Shamari Spears scored nine with 10 rebounds.

Dwayne Collins scored a season-high 24 points and added 13 rebounds as Miami (9-10, 2-3) lost for the sixth time in eight games, including an 85-63 loss to No. 14 Duke on Sunday. He was the only Bluejay to make more than half his shots as they shot 28 percent in the first half and fell behind 42-22 at the break.

Virginia 103, Maryland 91

Mamadi Diane scored a career-high 26 points and Sean Singletary added 25 and seven assists Tuesday night to lead Virginia past Maryland, ending the Cavaliers' three-game losing streak.

Virginia (10-6, 2-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) blew a 20-point first half lead, allowing Maryland to close to within three early in the second half.

But the Cavs came back strong to make it 70-55 with nine minutes left and from there the Terrapins (12-7, 2-3) couldn't get closer than eight.

Mike Jones led Maryland with 18 points. Greivis Vasquez made three 3-pointers and scored 17, Ekene Ibekwe also had 17 before fouling out in the closing minute.

Two free throws by Ibekwe pulled the Terps to within 55-53 with 14:36 to play. After Virginia turned the ball over on a 10-second violation, Maryland also turned it over and Jamil Tucker hit his third 3-pointer in as many tries for the Cavaliers.

Maryland turned the ball over three more times and missed all five of its shots over the next four-plus minutes, allowing Virginia to rebuild its advantage.

D.J. White takes 54-31 on Mike Cook's driving layup with 2:41 remaining, then spent most of the remaining time on the free throw line as UConn foiled every in every Pitt possession to try to get the ball back.

The Big East's two most successful programs since 2001 have no team close to them in regular season victories — are known for their intense, physical styles. This one was no different, as was evident when Thabeet caught an elbow from Gray above his eye less than 2 minutes into the game.

Thabeet was assisted to the locker room in obvious pain and didn't return late in the half. With Thabeet out, Gray took advantage by getting 11 rebounds by halftime.

Indiana 71, Iowa 64

D.J. White tied career highs in points and rebounds as Indiana tops the Hawkeyes 71-64 in Big East showdown

The Hurricanes' Keaton Hare gets double for the 82-63 win at Silvio O. Conte Forum in Boston.

The Panthers made it 53-49 on Mike Cook's driving layup with 2:41 remaining, then spent most of the remaining time on the free throw line as UConn foiled every in every Pitt possession to try to get the ball back.

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Men's Basketball Associated Press Top 25

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NFL

California head coach Jeff Tedford, right, leads his team out before a Sept. 9, 2006 game against Minnesota. Tedford agreed to an extension that will keep him at California through 2013.

Tedford extension valid through 2013

Associated Press

**BERKELEY, Calif. —** California coach Jeff Tedford has agreed to a four-year contract extension that will keep the two-time Pac-10 coach of the year with the Golden Bears through 2013, the Associated Press learned Tuesday.

The UC Board of Regents was scheduled to discuss the deal at a closed meeting Tuesday, and athletic department spokesman John Sudsbury said approval is expected Thursday.

Tedford is 43-20 in five seasons, leading the Bears’ longest sustained period of excellence in a half-century. He led Cal to a 10-3 record, a Pac-10 co-championship and a victory over Texas A&M in the Holiday Bowl in the just-completed season.

With his offensive acumen and impressive success at a relatively low-profile football school, Tedford annually appears on the coaching wish lists of big-school athletic directors and NFL general managers. This winter alone, he was linked with openings at Alabama and with the Atlanta Falcons.

But Tedford seems comfortable at Cal, where he has transformed a once-struggling program into a West Coast power with burgeoning fan support and new facilities on the way.

The Bears have reached the top 10 in three straight seasons while appearing in four consecutive bowl games — winning three — for the first time in school history. Cal’s share of the Pac-10 crown this season was its first conference title since 1975, and Tedford also has beaten archival Stanford five straight times.

After Tedford’s 2004 club went 10-2 and reached a No. 4 national ranking, he received a five-year contract that will be worth $2 million per season if he collects a retention bonus for staying the length of the deal. Financial terms of his proposed extension weren’t immediately available, but should be public record when the deal is approved.

Tedford is best known for his acumen in tutoring quarterbacks, both at Cal and during his time as an offensive coordinator at Oregon and Fresno State. The former Canadian Football League quarterback has sent Trent Dilfer, David Carr, Akili Smith, Joey Harrington, A.J. Feeley, Kyle Boller and Aaron Rodgers to the NFL.

**IN BRIEF**

Armstrong urges Iowans to support cancer research

**MELBOURNE, Australia —** Defending champion Roger Federer advanced to the third round of the Australian Open with a 6-2, 6-3, 6-2 victory over Jonas Bjorkman on Wednesday.

It was Federer’s second straight win over Bjorkman in the last three Grand Slam tournaments. He beat the 34-year-old Swede in straight sets in the Wimbledon semifinals last year and a warmup to beating Rafael Nadal in the final.

Bjorkman relied on drops and some improvised shotmaking to work Federer around, but it rarely worked consistently in the match that lasted 1 hour, 35 minutes.

Federer maintained his record of never dropping a set against Bjorkman.

“Jonas is a great guy, he always puts up a good fight,” said Federer, who is chasing a 10th Grand Slam title.

Armstrong urges Iowans to support cancer research

**WASHINGTON —** Lance Armstrong urged Iowans on Tuesday to support a presidential candidate who is dedicated to expanding cancer research.

In a speech to Iowans Tuesday, and there has been approval is expected

“I am a 34-year-old Swede in straight sets in the Wimbledon semifinals last year as a warmup to beating Rafael Nadal in the final. Bjorkman relied on drops and some improvised shotmaking to work Federer around, but it rarely worked consistently in the match that lasted 1 hour, 35 minutes. Federer maintained his record of never dropping a set against Bjorkman.

"Jonas is a great guy, he always puts up a good fight," said Federer, who is chasing a 10th Grand Slam title.
The Patriots coach had done that so many times with Adam Vinatieri. And, just like Vinatieri, the cool rookie came through in a big playoff game.

Gostkowski easily made his 31-yarder with 1:10 left Sunday, giving the Patriots a 24-21 win and stunning the favored Chargers in their home Sunday. The "k" in Gostkowski is as silent as the crowd, screaming for the Chargers throughout the game, fall when his kick sailed through the uprights.

"He's doing great," Tom Brady said. "Cross your fingers, hope it lasts another week." The kick, as important as it was, was a prelude to an even bigger game Sunday — against Vinatieri and the Indianapolis Colts, with the winner going to the Super Bowl. Vinatieri's kicks already have won two of them for the Patriots, on the final follow when the Patriots chose not to attempt a pressure kick.

That's what Gostkowski had to follow when the Patriots chose him in the fourth round of the April draft, one month after Vinatieri ended 10 seasons in New England by signing as a free agent with the Colts.

So far, so good for left 22-year-old rookie. He's made all six of his field goal attempts in the playoffs after connecting on 12 of his last 14 in the regular season. His leg is stronger than Vinatieri's and he's even done something his predecessor never did in the playoffs. His 50-yard field goal that gave the Patriots a 3-0 lead over the Chargers is the longest in the team's postseason history.

The distance didn't surprise his coach at Memphis, Tommy West. But the accuracy took a lot of hard work from the day he walked on to the college team after receiving a baseball scholarship.

"When he came to Memphis, strong leg, no accuracy," West said Tuesday while on a recruiting trip in Alabama. "It was dangerous to stand on the other side of the line. He made himself into the kind of kicker he is."

Gostkowski's winning field goal was his first since a 35-yarder with 6 seconds left gave Memphis a 38-35 win at East Carolina in the stage is much bigger now, but he considers every kick that game-winning kick, from a 35-yarder with 6 seconds left gave Memphis a 38-35 win at East Carolina in the stage is much bigger now, but he considers every kick that game-winning kick, from a 35-yarder with 6 seconds left gave Memphis a 38-35 win at East Carolina in the stage is much bigger now, but he considers every kick that game-winning kick.

Gostkowski said.

"You can't win them all until you win one, and we'll take this one now."

Ryan Dombkowski
Belles coach

Dombkowski saw improvement in two departments due to the trip: "They worked pretty hard," he said. "They swam doubles eight of the ten days, and even though their bodies are broken down, they're in a great shape."

"They really came together as a unit," Dombkowski said.

"The sixteen bonded as a team. You can tell they're a much different group as far as concerned. They really supported each other at Alma, and they push each other in practice. They really come together as a unit."

Between fifth and sixth place is a big battle, a swing of 26 points in the meet." This meet was also the first conference meet the Belles have won since the 2004-2005 season.

"It shows recruits that Saint Mary's can be successful," Dombkowski said. "It makes a big difference toward the psyche of moving in the right direction. You can't win them all until you win one, and we'll take this one now."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@od.edu
ND SWIMMING

No. 16 Irish off to best start in past 30 years

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

After a long period of training over winter break, the Notre Dame women’s swimming team started 2007 with a second place finish at the Michigan Invitational in Ann Arbor last weekend.

Meanwhile, the No. 16 men’s team spent its winter break training in Boca Raton, Fla., then hit the road again to face off against Oakland and participate in a four-team meet at Cleveland State.

The Irish defeated Oakland 181-119 last Friday. Sophomore diver Michael Belfino, freshman John Lyle, and freshman Ross Moore each posted two wins at the meet.

Notre Dame then went on to defeat Cleveland State, Xavier, and Duquense in a quad meet Saturday. The three wins improved Notre Dame’s their record to 8-0 this year in individual meets, their best start since the 1974-75 season.

The No. 19 ranked women’s team scored 1074 points in Ann Arbor, finishing behind No. 13 Indiana (1466.5 points), but ahead of No. 10 Michigan (1052.5).

“Has it was great. It’s always great to perform well in a big event like this,” women’s head coach Carrie Nixon said.

Carroll captured three events at the invitational by posting winning times in 200-yard butterfly, 500-yard freestyle, and 200-yard individual medley.

“It was self-assuring because this came off a training trip,” Carroll said. “So, it’s definitely good for the rest of the season.”

Fellow senior Julia Quinn swam a season’s best time in the 200-breaststroke, while junior Caroline Johnson set a season best time in the 50-yard freestyle (23.57), good enough for third. She also placed seventh in the 200-freestyle with a season’s best time.

“Katie had a great meet,” Nixon said. “Julia swam the breaststroke two seconds faster than at this time last year and the 50 and 100 back and 200 freestyle were breakthrough swims for Caroline.”

After competing in last month’s U.S. Open, the team spent most of winter break training in Honolulu.

“The girls trained very hard. They have set themselves up for another great season,” Nixon said. “They’re doing the little things well, playing to their strengths and capitalizing on other’s weaknesses.”

The main purpose of the trip, Nixon and Carroll said, was to prepare for the Big East meet in February.

“Mainly, we built up our endurance. Also, it was nice to get out of South Bend and into some nice weather,” Carroll added.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

Kessler gets award for stellar conference play

Junior guard leads team to place fourth in MIAA standings

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

After a 1-6 start that included a four-game losing streak, Saint Mary’s has gone 4-3 since Dec. 6. Since a 72-69 win over Anderson in their conference opener on Nov. 20, the Belles have defeated Adrian, Alma, Tri-state and Kalamazoo and lost to Hope, Olivet and Calvin en route to a 4-3 conference record and fourth in the MIAA.

A large factor in this recent upswing has been the play of junior guard Alison Kessler, who was named MIAA Player of the Week for the week of Dec. 31 to Jan. 6. During the three games that week, Kessler averaged 24 points and six assists per game.

“I’m very grateful,” Kessler said of the honor. “I’m grateful for my teammates as well. It’s a win for the team, for everyone.”

Although the honor is given to an individual player, Kessler credits her teammates.

“They contribute in a lot of ways,” she said. “They give me assists, set screens, and just talk and communicate.”

This season, as Kessler has gone, so have the Belles. She averages 21.4 points per game in wins and 17.6 points in losses. She leads the MIAA in scoring, averaging 19.1 points per game. Her 20 points and 13 foul shots against Olivet on Jan. 4 were both MIAA season highs.

Kessler shrugs it off as a side-effect of good basketball.

“When the team’s playing well, all the individual players play well,” she said.

The Belles are in position to make the conference tournament, a goal that seemed distant during the frustrating start. They are fresh of a 72-40 drubbing of Kalamazoo at home, a game in which four starters scored in double figures. They will travel tonight to face an Albion team that has won two straight and also blew out Kalamazoo.

The Britons are 8-7, 3-4 in conference play. Led by senior guards Jessica Babcock, who averages 12.7 points per game, and Amy Aemisegger, who shoots 50 percent from three-point range, the Britons average 59.1 points per game.

The game should be a close one, and the Belles, with a win and an Olivet loss, could jump to third in the MIAA standings.

Saint Mary’s is hitting its stride, scoring more points, shooting better and committing fewer turnovers than in the first half of the season. Kessler believes the Belles have a large part to play in the surge.

“We’re maturing. We’re a really young team,” she said. “We’re mostly freshmen and sophomores. We only have three upperclassmen. We’re more mature now and are getting used to the physical play.”

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu
Walker continued from page 24

near future. Although disappointed, we wish him nothing but the best.”

While Walker will not graduate this semester, he said he will be only four courses shy of earning a degree. His mother, Laverne, said the family discussed the academic repercussions of the decision at length.

“I told Coach Weis when we met with him, and all of the fans and anybody else that really has that concern for Darius, as a mother and a parent, like I told Coach Weis, you do not have to worry about Darius Walker getting his college degree, because he will do that,” she said.

“I will see to that.”

The departing tailback and resident of O’Neil Hall added his own affirmation of the fact.

“This isn’t the last Notre Dame is going to see of me,” he said. “You can tell O’Neill Hall that they can keep a dorm reserved for me for when I come back.”

Walker had consecutive 1,000-yard seasons after rushing for a program-record 786 yards as a freshman. In 2005, Walker totaled 1,196 yards rushing on a 4.7 yards-per-attempt average. As a junior, Walker averaged 5 yards a carry and gained 1,267 yards on the ground.

As a junior, Walker averaged 5 yards a carry and gained 1,267 yards on the ground.

His most valuable assets for NFL teams, however, may be his soft hands. The native of Lawrenceville, Ga., was third on the team this season with 56 catches for 391 yards. He finished his career with 109 receptions for 816 yards.

Walker's final game at Notre Dame may have been his best. The 5-foot-10, 208-pounder ran for 128 yards on 22 carries against the vaunted LSU defense in the Sugar Bowl, including 125 yards in the first half. With Notre Dame trailing, the Irish abandoned the successful running attack and Walker got only four carries after halftime.

Other running backs to enter the draft with a year of eligibility remaining include Adrian Peterson of Oklahoma, Michael Bush of Louisville, Antonio Pittman of Ohio State and Marshawn Lynch of California.

With freshman running backs James Aldridge and Munir Prince developing—and coveted tailback recruit Armande Allen arriving on campus for the spring semester, Walker may have faced more of a challenge for the majority of carries in 2007.

Walker has until today to withdraw his name from the draft if he has second thoughts, and he has not yet hired an agent. He wouldn’t predict where he would go in the draft, but said he was confident in his skills.

“I feel like I’ve been able to show what I can do—I can run the ball, catch the ball, block, everything that a running back is supposed to do,” the media-friendly footballer said, before adding a final laugh. “You really can’t control what happens and what team you go to as far as that is concerned unless you’re one of the Mannings.”

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Former Irish tailback Darius Walker scores his first career touchdown against Michigan Sept. 11, 2004. Walker ran for 3,249 yards and 23 touchdowns in his Notre Dame career.

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said. "She was clicking." Allen's play also helped spark her teammates, including freshman guard Ashley Barlow, whose 3-pointer with 6:16 left in the half got the run started.

"When [Allen] gets going, it gives everybody confidence," Barlow said. "We just gotta keep getting her the ball." During the first half, the Irish - who turned the ball over a season-low 10 times all game - gave the ball away just twice, compared to St. John's 11 first-half turnovers.

Still, McGraw was not comfortable with Notre Dame's 44-34 halftime lead. "I was a little worried," McGraw said. "We were only up 10 ... [after] playing as good as we could play. I'm glad we were able to extend the lead [in the second half]."

The Irish quickly began pulling away in the second half. Notre Dame made each of its first five 3-point attempts, including two each from Allen and Barlow, who finished with 14 points each in a 15-5 run to start the half that extended the lead to 61-39 with 12:44 to go. After an 0-6 start from behind the arc, the Irish went on an 11-7 stretch that spanned halftime.

"Normally we step shooting after [a bad start]," McGraw said. "We did a better job in the second half against their zone moving the ball.

The Irish also emphasized working the ball inside in the second half, and senior Melissa D'Amico scored eight of her 10 points in the second half. D'Amico also finished with a career-high 11 rebounds, and tallied the third double-double of her career.

USFA continued from page 24

Columbus: Because of Ghattas' injury, he had limited success in December's USFA event in Richmond. The senior sabre struck in top form this weekend, though, posting a tie for third place. Ghattas finished behind only Mike Montelido of Ohio State and two-time Olympian Keeth Smart of New York City. "Patrick Ghattas is improving tremendously," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "He made a great jump forward in a strong field, too. He's showing he should be taken seriously for the national team."

Because of Ghattas' downtime, the strong showing was important for his Olympic hopes. Ghattas, who will be competing in Istanbul, Turkey, this weekend said he's glad to have a good tournament under his belt after the injury.

"It's definitely nice to be back out there," he said. "It was a strong tournament - a lot of good fencers ... It's always frustrating coming to practice and, in my case, you can't always go 100 percent." On the women's side of the discipline, Irish senior Valerie Provandina and junior Mariel Zagunis - both from Beaverton, Ore. - tied for third as well.

Irish guard Melissa Lechlitner drives to the basket in Notre Dame's 54-51 loss to Indiana Dec. 2.

"She had a size advantage," McGraw said. "In the second half we got it in a little more and she hit the boards harder.

The Irish also clamped down on the Red Storm's field goal offense. After shooting 56.5 percent from the field in the first half, St. John's went just 9-for-24 from the field after halftime. Of its 21 second-half points, only 1% came from the field. "I think in the beginning we handled their pressure well, but their pressure wore us down," said St. John's head coach Kim Barnes Arico.

For the game, the Irish outshot the Red Storm 76-47 and outrebounded them 38-29. "I thought we shot the ball better and we really rebounded well," McGraw said.

Note:
Freshman guard Melissa Lechlitner had a career-high nine assists.

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Bednarski praised the performances of both Zagunis and Provandina as examples of continued excellence. Provandina won the NCAA title in her discipline as a freshman, and Zagunis captured Olympic gold before arriving at Notre Dame. Yet, Bednarski said, both have worked hard to continue improving, and the work paid off with the strong showings in Columbus.

In the women's epee, Irish freshman Kelley Hurley took sixth at the competition, while senior Amy Orlando was No. 15 and sophomore Kimberlee Montoya finished No. 24. Bednarski noted Hurley's potential and her development in her short time at Notre Dame. Rounding out the top Irish finishers, sophomore Mark Kubik took 11th in men's foil.

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Thank you for making our auction a continued success.

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2005-06 season.

"It's still January and our whole focus is on Western Michigan right now," Jackson said. "If we start thinking about that we will get ourselves in trouble."

The only loss of the break came in a Jan. 7 upset to the Colonials of Robert Morris University at the Joyce Center. After jumping out to a 2-0 lead, Notre Dame gave up four unanswered goals to the Colonials, including three in the third period. Center David Boguslawski led the way with a goal and an assist in Robert Morris' first victory over a ranked team in program history.

"It was not having enough respect for our opponent. It is hard to get motivated for a non-conference opponent in January," Jackson said. "We just didn’t prepare ourselves to play with the same level of intensity that we have."

Notre Dame's four other wins were over conference foes Michigan and Northern Michigan. Seven different skaters scored for the Irish in a 7-3 topping of the then-No. 7 Wolverines on the road. Garret Regan scored twice in the second meeting at the Joyce Center to lead the Irish to another win.

After a two-week break, Notre Dame was able to keep its win streak going with two wins over Northern Michigan in another home-and-home series. The pair of victories capped off a perfect December for the Irish, who won all six of their contests in the month.

During that span the team racked up four wins over ranked opponents while outscoring the opposition 24-12. Junior Mark Van Guilder led the team with five goals and is currently tied for the season lead with freshman Ryan Thang at 13 apiece. Van Guilder is also third in points scored (25) behind freshman Kevin Deeth and Condra with 26 and 33, respectively.

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Break
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Washington, D.C. on Jan 6. The victory also moved Notre Dame into a tie for second in the Big East with Syracuse.

The Irish, now ranked twenty-fourth, will go for their first win of the spring semester tonight against Villanova in Philadelphia.

For Peoples, the Seton Hall game was his biggest contribution since arriving on campus. The freshman point guard has been receiving more playing time in recent games in relief of starter and fellow freshman Kyle McAlarney.

On Sunday, Peoples scored a career-high nine points in 29 minutes. Jackson scored four points in 36 minutes, adding five assists and four rebounds.

Jackson was thrust into the starting role against Stony Brook Dec. 30 after sophomore Kyle McAlarney was arrested on charges of possessing marijuana and marijuana possession. Peoples, who had only been seeing spot duty, suddenly became the second option at point guard.

Both were also crucial in breaking Seton Hall's full court press, which the small, quick Pirates employed for much of the game.

"They played old," Irish coach Mike Brey said of his young point guards' ability to break the press. "They were more like juniors out there."

Sophomore forward Zach Hillesland also had his best game in an Irish uniform, scoring a career-high 10 rebounds and coming two assists short of a triple double with eight assists.

"It was a matter of finding open guys, knocking down shots, grabbing rebounds, and just doing the little things here and there," said Hillesland of his performance.

Senior guard Russell Carter led all scorers with 24 points, while fellow senior Colin Falls hit four 3s and totaled 14 points.

Georgetown 66, Notre Dame 48
Georgetown jumped out to a 20-point first half lead and held Notre Dame to their lowest point total of the year in handing the Irish their first conference loss Jan. 6.

The Hoyas dominated from the opening tip, taking an early 18-2 lead and never looking back. Georgetown center Roy Hibbert scored 18 points on eight-for-nine shooting.

Carter led Notre Dame with 12 points. The Irish shot just 31 percent from the field, including four-for-22 from behind the 3-point arc, while the Hoyas caught fire, connecting on 57 percent of their shots and making 10 3s on 20 attempts.

Notre Dame 78, Louisville 62
Tory Jackson poured in 14 points in only his second career start as Notre Dame opened the Big East season with an easy home win over Louisville Jan. 3.

The Cardinals came into the game riding a five-game winning streak, but shot just 42 percent from the field and never really challenged the Irish.

Notre Dame led 43-29 at halftime and coasted an easy victory.

Notre Dame 95, Stony Brook 66
In their first game without the suspended Kyle McAlarney, Notre Dame beat an overmatched Stony Brook team that won just four games last year on Dec. 3.

Carter led the Irish with 22 points.

Notre Dame 101, Rider 51
Notre Dame hit triple digits for the first time this season Dec. 28 against Rider at the Joyce Center. Kuz led the Irish with 23 points and Harangody added 18.

The game was the fourth straight road game for the Brutons, who shot just 31 percent.

Notre Dame 88, Army 47
One month and three days after the Notre Dame football team routed Army, the Irish hoops squad did the same Dec. 21.

Notre Dame dominated the glass, out-rebounding the Cadets 45-22. Falls scored 24 points, hitting six 3s.

Notre Dame 86, Portland 69
Carter poured in 28 points as Notre Dame demolished Portland Dec. 19. The loss was the eighth straight for the Pilots, who shot 50 percent from the field but had no answer for Carter or Kuz, who had 23 points of his own.

Notre Dame 94, Elon 63
Notre Dame jumped out to a 10-0 lead and never looked back in an easy win over Elon Dec. 16. Notre Dame outrebounded the Phoenix 55-35.

Carter once again led the Irish in scoring with 21 points.

Notre Dame will face Villanova tonight in Philadelphia. The Wildcats are 1-3 in Big East play.

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FOOTBALL

Junior tailback Walker declares for NFL draft

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Notre Dame junior running back Darius Walker has decided to run to greener pastures. The versatile tailback announced last week he would forgo his senior season at Notre Dame and instead enter the NFL Draft.

"I sat down, spoke with the folks and all of the people who have influenced me and have supported me and everything," Walker said. "We just went down the pros and cons, all that type of thing, and just really feel like, you know, it's the right thing for me to do at this time. It's the right thing for me to go on and to go to the NFL now rather than wait." While hoping to keep some things "private," Walker said he did not make a "blind move."

"It's definitely something that I put time and research in, something that I feel is right," he said. "Darius Walker and his parents informed me of his intent to make himself eligible for the NFL Draft," Irish coach Charlie Weis said in a statement read to the media by Brian Hardin, Notre Dame director of football media relations. "He guaranteed me that he would graduate from Notre Dame in the spring." Walker was 14-for-19 from the floor and added 10 rebounds in the win over Pitt.

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Storming the Johnnies

Allen scores 31 points as Notre Dame Blasts Red Storm, 83-65

By ERIC RETTER
Associate Sports Editor

Charel Allen scored a career-high 31 as Notre Dame beat St. John's 83-65 Tuesday night at the Joyce Center.

Allen was 14-for-19 from the floor, the highest field goal total for any Irish player since Katrina Gaither made 16 on Jan. 9, 1995. "My teammates were looking for me and my shots were falling," Allen said. "I wanted to be aggressive the whole 40 minutes this game. Despite Allen's efforts, Notre Dame opened slowly, and the Red Storm held a slim lead for much of the early going. Behind 56.5 percent shooting from the floor, Allen, who had eight points during the stretch, Irish coach Muffet McGraw saw RED STORM/page 20

Irish guard Charel Allen shoots in Notre Dame's 54-51 loss to Indiana Dec. 3. Allen scored 31 points Tuesday against St. John's.

HOCKEY

Sweep of Lake Superior moves ND into first

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

With a sweep of Lake Superior State last weekend, Notre Dame moved into sole possession of first place in the CCHA for the first time this season.

The Irish beat head coach Jeff Jackson's former team 4-3 in overtime Friday and 4-1 on Saturday night. Sophomore Erik Gondra beat Lake goalie Jeff Jakaitis on the first shot of overtime to secure the first victory and added another goal Saturday as four different players scored to complete the two-game road sweep. "I have a lot of friends up there and so much of my history is up there, so I just wanted to go up there and be proud of our team," Jackson said. Senior goaltender Dave Brown made 31 saves in the second game — including 17 in the final stanza — to keep the Lakers at bay and secure Notre Dame's spot atop the conference. The No. 3 Irish went 7-1 over Christmas break to improve their overall record to 19-4-1 and 13-2-1 in the conference. The 19 wins so far this season surpasses the total number of wins for Notre Dame in the past two years. The team was held to five wins in Dave Poulin's final year behind the bench and Jackson collected 13 in the

FOOTBALL

Team tunes up at USFA Cup events

NCAA season begins this weekend with Notre Dame Duals

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

The Notre Dame Duals and the beginning of the NCAA schedule arrive this Saturday for the Irish, but the squad spent the winter break fine-tuning its skills with individual competition.

The Irish also returned to the path of team success last week at a USFA North American Cup event in Columbus, Ohio — and the team's top fencers hope that's the same path to follow to their Olympic dreams. Fencers accumulate points at USFA events, and the season's top point-collectors earn their spot at the Olympic trials. For the weekend, the top story for Notre Dame was the return to form of its top male fencer. Irish senior Patrick Ghaitas tore his hamstring in a training camp in New York City last Aug. 22 but finally returned to his normal skill level and medaled in the competition in

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles junior guard Alison Keasler named MIAA Player of the Week.

ND SWIMMING

The No. 19 women's team takes second in an invitational in Ann Arbor, while the No. 16 men places first at a quad meet in Cleveland.

SMC SWIMMING

Saint Mary's 130

Alma 103

The Belles earn their first conference win since the 2004-05 season.

NCB BASKETBALL

Pittsburgh 63

UConn 54

The Panthers stay unbeaten in Big East play with a win over the Huskies.

NCB BASKETBALL

Indiana 71

Iowa 64

D.J. White has 23 points and 12 rebounds in Hoosiers' win.

FOOTBALL

LSU 41

Notre Dame 14

The Irish defense collapsed in the second half as the Tigers run away with the Sugar Bowl.

Irish Insider

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