ND joins ranks of Columbia with African effort
Universities make unique contributions to development of Millennium Villages Project

By AMANDA MICHAELS
Assistant News Editor

For an institution steeped in tradition, Notre Dame's venture with the Millennium Villages Project (MVP) has it treading on relatively fresh ground -- so fresh, in fact, that only one other university in the world has been there before.

Though it has already sparked a worldwide effort, the Millennium Villages Project (MVP) is a very recent development, created by the Earth Institute at Columbia University -- directed by economist Jeffrey Sachs and Notre Dame Forum speaker Jeffrey Sachs — in response to a set of Millennium Development Goals issued by the United Nations in 2002. Those goals include the reduction of extreme poverty, disease and hunger by 2015.

The Project's first two research villages were established in 2005 -- and, in addition to Notre Dame's village in Nindy, Uganda, 10 more have already been added.

"Safeguarding and concretions were what allowed Notre Dame to become involved in MVP, according to Father Bob Dowd, director of the Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative (MIDI). "Although other universities in the United States have expressed interest in participating in the project, only Notre Dame has actually made that commitment real at this point," Dowd said. "We are blessed with a generous trustee and benefactor, Mr. Ray Chambers, who offered to support the project in the name of Notre Dame." Chambers is chairman of Millennium Promise -- the non-profit corporation behind MVP, whose declared mission is to end extreme poverty worldwide by 2025.

University President Father John Jenkins also sits on the Observership.

SMC staff downsized over break
SAO loses two top admins, restructures

By KELLY MEEHAN
Saint Mary's Editor

The Saint Mary's Student Activities Office downsized over winter break after its director resigned and assistant director was terminated, College spokeswoman Melanie McDonald said Wednesday.

Director of Student Activities George Rosenbush retired for health reasons, McDonald said, and Associate Director of Student Activities Frances Bruder's position was eliminated as part of an ongoing "strategic restructuring plan" for Student Activities.

The plan calls for Vice President of Student Affairs Karen Johnson to spend the rest of this year assessing the needs of the office, researching staffing levels at peer institutions and determining how Saint Mary's can better meet the needs of its students, McDonald said.

Both Johnson and McDonald said the College plans to hire a new director of Student Activities, but has yet to set a definite date of replacement.

Rosenbush worked at Saint Mary's for 23 years and announced her retirement in late December, a move that surprised Johnson.

"I see it at great length with George, and tried to convince her to give a goodbye party," she said, "but she preferred to say goodbye in her own way."

Bruder's position was eliminated on Jan. 2 -- a decision that...

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INSIDE COLUMN

Relocated memories

My high school was legendary for its crowded hallways. In eighth grade, when my friends went on their high school visits, they would return to school the next day talking about the cafeteria food, the uniforms and the classes of course, but a visit to Good Counsel invariably resulted in the same comment about congestion in the hallways. When I went to Good Counsel for the first time, I too returned with tales of a school bursting at the seams. But I decided to venture into the rush. Walking through those hallways required skill. You had to dodge maneuvers of crowds of people going to class and retrieving books from their lockers, barraging yourself through hundreds of high school students in matching uniforms is not something I miss, but it is a fixed memory I have of my high school days.

When I visited Good Counsel over winter break, I moved through the hallways effortlessly. The surging masses were nonexistent, because the hallways were much wider. The reason for the bustling room — Good Counsel relocated to a different town and a larger facility over break. So I went to GC to walk through a school I graduated from but had never attended. Everything was bigger and better. The cafeteria was nicer, the labs were full-sized. The reason for the breathing of the new school had been a much improved facility over the old Good Counsel, but when my former teachers asked me if I wished the new school had been finished a few years earlier, I could honestly say no. The school was nice, but it had no character. No one had made any memories there yet. They had picnic tables in the courtyard, but they were missing the messages and notes written on them from years ago.

During junior year, my daily drive to school ended in a brief moment of pause. As I tried to maneuver my car in the poorly designed junior parking lot, no one student who drives can get a parking pass that assigns him or her own numbered parking space. That should count down on the number of our accidents that occurred each day at the school. The parking lot should never take the memory of pushing my driving skills to the limit every day to make it and out of that parking lot with no scratches over the day I pulled into my very own parking spot. In a few years though, the new Good Counsel will mold its own character. Future students will probably not have to walk through the crowded hallways of my day but classes will be taught, students will graduate and memories will be made.

And my memories will stay with that small school long after it has been torn down.

Contact Katie Lynn Riey at krielyn@nd.edu.
The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

CORRECTIONS

Due to a reporting error, the Jan. 17 article "Nudge selected as state poetry laureate" stated that Notre Dame is giving money to the Millennium Promise Cooperation (MPC) for the implementation of the project. The money is actually being given to the MPC in Notre Dame name by benefactor and muse, Ray Chambers. The Observer regrets the error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE WINTER TIME ACCESSORY?

Andrea Teske
freshman
Breen-Phillips

"Scarves — they keep me warm and nice!"

Kaitlynn Riey
Associate News Editor

Annie Legault
freshman
Farley

"My earmuffs! To keep my ears from freezing."

Gina Camarata
freshman
Howard

"Scarves! I have way too many."

Michael Henry
freshman
Zahn

"Thermals!"

Michelle Hoefner
freshman
Farley

"My skis. Yay for places with big mountains!"

Nicole Campo
freshman
Farley

"My Uggs. I am from Florida so I finally have a legitimate excuse to wear them."

IN BRIEF

The Suite Museum is hosting a new exhibit of 290 photos taken during the Vietnam War by photojournalists who died in the violence. The exhibit, titled "Requiem," will be on display at the museum from Jan. 4 through March 4. Admission is free.

A lecture titled "Grand Challenges in Environmental Science and Engineering" will be held today from 4:5 p.m. in 102 DeBartolo.

Student Activities is presenting the movie "Fargo" tonight at 9 p.m. in the LaFortune Ballroom. The movie is free, and so is a cup of hot chocolate.

Play pool for free tonight from midnight on at Xzecents. Tables have been carded in for one night only.

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 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

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

Students interested in joining the Wednesday Lunch Fast to fight poverty should e-mail their full name and NDDID number (the number on student IDs that begins with 90) to whcl@nd.edu by Feb. 2.

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

Committee chairs set new goals for spring semester

Senator members enthusiastic about improving ND-South Bend area relations, plan to hold community summit

By KAITLYNN RIELY
News Writer

Student Senate committee chairs echoed student body chairs' enthusiastic outlook for the remainder of their terms Wednesday as they presented the remainder of their terms. President Lizzi Shappell's several objectives for the spring semester.

"We are going to try to put the Millennium Village Project forward," Senator Mark Healy, off-campus senator said. "We are going to try to try to put that forward for the incoming class council coming in on April 1," Healy said.

Sheena Plamottoff, chair of the Social Concerns committee, said students can anticipate a Darfur week this semester as well as stall notes that feature different countries involved in global conflict, the goal being increased awareness of the geography, flag and current events of that country.

The schedule of events for the Eating Disorders and the Campus Culture Conference is now available on the Center for Continuing Education's Web site. Shappell said, students do not need to register to attend, but are encouraged to do so has also the site.

The Residence Life committee has an alcohol awareness week planned for later this semester, said committee chair Pat Knapp. The Senate should also expect a resolution next week concerning Domen Dollars on campus, he said.

Residence Life committee vice chair Mariana Montes said she has several meetings planned to discuss upgrading Web sites like WebCT for better integration between faculty and students. She is also looking into a plan for the library to provide iPods for podcasts.

The University Affairs committee is "starting to get the ball rolling" on the Catholic Think Tank lecture series, said committee chair Aly Baumgartner. Politics and women are two topics that will be addressed in the lectures.

Desi Nelemanos, chair of the Minority Affairs committee, said she will explore ways for students to facilitate minority faculty recruitment. She also plans to evaluate the services available for minority students and talk with multicultural clubs on campus about planning events.

Contact Kaitlynn Riel at kriel@nd.edu

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The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

page 3

POWE(RED)

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Urban Plunge, and now the Organizing Director of the student activist group于 that the church, "You use us any way you want." Warner said the Folk Choir tours, we always do our work for free," Warner said. "We say to the church, 'You use us any way you want.'" Warner said. Students on the tour stayed with host families. ACE staff members Amy Seamon and Matt Kloser spoke during the concerts about the hurricane damage, specifically on the Mississippi coastal areas. "We've been given a wonderful gift of singing, but that doesn't mean it ends with us," Warner said. "We make music because we're trying to make some kind of situation better for someone. So in that respect, it's a fusion of arts and social justice," Warner said. Contact Emma Driscoll at edrisoc@nd.edu
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Suicide car bomb kills 17 in Baghdad

BAGHDAD — A suicide car bomber killed 17 Shiites at a wedding hall in Sadr City market Wednesday, while gunfire in a predominantly Shi'ite neighborhood of Baghdad shot up a convoy of Iraqi police, wounding 16, in an ambush that took the lives of an American woman and three British soldiers.

The attack on the marketplace came one day after car bombings killed scores of university students in Baghdad, leaving 19 people missing, wounding 47, and raising alarms that al Qaeda-linked fighters are bent on a surge of violence.

"This is a very serious development," said a senior police official in Baghdad, who spoke on condition of anonymity because police banned the media from the area.

"We are investigating all the possibilities that such attacks are the hallmark of Sunni militants, who appear to be taking advantage of a lull in fighting before the security crackdown to step up attacks on Shiites. There had been a brief lull in Baghdad violence since the first of the year.

U.N. supports traffic fine crackdown

UNITED NATIONS — The new U.N. secretary-general expressed strong support Wednesday for New York City's goal of recouping nearly $18 million in traffic fines owed by U.N. diplomats and members of the consular community.

Most of that debt came prior to a city crackdown four years ago on drivers who used the diplomatic zone but rarely paid because of diplomatic immunity.

When asked what he would say to diplomats to get rid of the backlog, Ban Ki-moon said: "It is important for diplomatic officials who enjoy diplomatic immunities and privileges to abide by and comply with all necessary regulations in force in the countries where one is working."

NATIONAL NEWS

Kidnapped teenage boys resurface

ST. LOUIS — More than four years ago when details trickled out, it appeared that a 13-year-old who had grown more than a diamond's worth in baseball, drew cartoons and spent time with his stepfather.

Last week when he surfaced in a stunning conclusion to a kidnapping case, Shawn was a 15-year-old who had grown more than a foot, had a pierced lip and shy smile. But the change went beyond his appearance. As Shawn returned a fighter pilot, his return sealed a victory for his stepfather.

When Shawn had settled into a domestic life with Michael Devlin, the man who allegedly abducted him and took him on Jan. 8, matched a 13-year-old boy and brought him to his suburban St. Louis apartment. Both boys were rescued last week by police after acting on a tip.

Proposed bill sparks party tension

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. — The Indiana Supreme Court on Wednesday of a man scheduled to be put to death Friday in the 1993 slaying of an Indianapolis traffic officer, James Polehinke.

The court, in its 3-2 decision, stated that the arguments raised by Norman Timberlake's attorneys that he should not be executed because he is mentally ill are similar to those in a case the U.S. Supreme Court is reviewing in the case of a condemned Texas man.

The world is

UNITED KINGDOM

‘Doomsday Clock’ ticks faster

Scientists discuss dangers to Earth caused by climate changes, nuclear threats

At the "Doomsday Clock" press conference, British scientist Stephen Hawking explained the threat of climate change at the Royal Society in London on Wednesday.

Scientists discuss dangers to Earth caused by climate changes, nuclear threats

Included Hawking and science fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke.

Despite the organization's new focus on global warming, the prospect of nuclear war remained its primary concern, the bulletin's editor, Mark Strauss, told The Associated Press.

"It's important to emphasize that today's nuclear weapons could kill 200 million people," he said.

The organization flouted a variety of proposals to help control the threat of nuclear proliferation and repeated a call to nuclear nations to whittle down their arsenals and reduce the launch readiness of their weapons.

Airplane crash in Kentucky kills 49

WASHINGTON — In the minutes before the crash of a commuter jet that took off from the wrong airport, the pilots discussed their family
circumstances, the news and other job opportunities, and the airline said Wednesday that part of the conversation involved a federal rule against extraneous cockpit chatter.

The National Transportation Safety Board released a transcript Wednesday of the cockpit recording aboard Comair Flight 5191.

The recording also showed that one of the pilots noted something was amiss when he looked down the Lexington, Ky., airstrip and said it looked "weird" because it had no lights.

The transcript was the first public disclosure of the pilots' conversations during the ill-fated flight, which killed 49 people in the deadliest American aviation disaster in five years.

The transcript revealed that the flight crew "did not follow Comair's general cockpit procedures," Comair spokeswoman Katie Marx said. "It is unclear what role, if any, this played in the accident, so it would be premature to determine that."

In 1981, the Federal Aviation Administration adopted a so-called "sterile cockpit rule" that forbids, among other things, extraneous conversation during taxi, takeoff and landing.

As the pilots went through pre-flight procedures, Capt. Jeffrey Clay talked about his young children having colds, and co-pilot James Polehinke discussed his four dogs.

The two men also talked about pay and working conditions, even as the controller occasionally interrupted to provide instructions.

"How old are they?" Polehinke asked six minutes before the crash.

"Three months and two years old," Clay answered.

"That's a nice range, age range," Polehinke said.

Associated Press
Project continued from page 1

Millennium Promise’s Board of Directors

Notre Dame has also forged connections with Sachs and others at Columbia, who helped provide a model for university involvement in the MVP. Dowd said he and NDMDI assistant director Tim Lyden have spent time both with Sachs and the faculty and staff of the Earth Institute in order to learn from their experiences, and intend to keep in touch to share their own findings.

“That’s another great aspect of this project (NDMDI),” Dowd said. “We are not only collaborating with Uganda Martyrs University, but we are also working hand-in-hand with other universities so that we can learn about and contribute to human development as much as possible.”

While receiving guidance from other universities, Notre Dame will also be charting its own course with NDMDI. Dowd noted that not only does Nindy’s (the village where Notre Dame will be involved) present different challenges and situations than Ruhirwa (where Columbia is involved), but that Notre Dame’s and Columbia’s programs are very different institutions.

“There really is no template carved in stone that we attempt to replicate. Our strengths are different than Columbia’s strengths and our involvement in this project will be distinctive,” he said. “I cannot emphasize enough that what we make of this opportunity is up to us.”

And while Notre Dame’s Catholic character is perhaps its most notable difference from Columbia, Dowd said it was not a driving force in determining the University’s involvement.

“Religious affiliation should never be an issue when it comes to a project like this. Many members of the Notre Dame family may be involved in this project because we are motivated by our faith. This is great,” he said. “[...] However, this project is about human development, not about Catholic development, Protestant development or Muslim development. Religious sectarianism has absolutely no place in this project.”

Education, however, does have a place. Though MVP has other sources of funding and support — including everyone from individual donors to national governments — Dowd said educational institutions like Notre Dame and Columbia can play a unique role in the project.

“I think the distinctive contribution that a university has to do with research that is devoted to identifying and explaining change,” he said. “For example, as a social scientist, I want to know if Millennium Villages Project is actually empowering people as it is intended to do. If not, why not? ... As students and professors, we can make contributions to the goals of the project through our research.”

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu

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Senate continued from page 1

to first offense evictions.

"From this meeting we agreed upon the spirit of the ordinance and gained allies in opposing first offense student evictions,” Shappell said.

A later meeting with the manager of Turtle Creek Apartments demonstrated the interpretation of the ordinance has changed, Shappell said. She called this “major progress” in light of the several evictions that occurred in fall of 2005.

“We are now confident that students will not be evicted from their homes after the first violation of the disorderly house ordinance,” Shappell said.

A central goal of the student government over the past two years has been to improve relations between Notre Dame students and the local community, she said.

“We have challenged each other to truly engage in the South Bend and Mishawaka communities, to move beyond the stereotypes of ‘townies’ and to live as good neighbors,” Shappell said. “The concept of community relations is now common language on our campus which has resulted in incremental improvements.”

One method the student government employed to increase the relationship was a tour of South Bend available for freshmen during their first weekend at Notre Dame, co-sponsored by the South Bend mayor’s office. Shappell said the tours — which attracted approximately 100 freshmen — were “widely regarded as successful.”

“The purpose of this initiative is to assure that students have a positive impression of the community from their first weekend forward,” Shappell said.

But her administration’s job of improving community relations is not over.

“We have a lot of work left to do,” Shappell said.

Shappell is planning a community summit this February with the theme of integrating students into South Bend. Notre Dame will invite local area leaders and representatives from Saint Mary’s, Holy Cross, Indiana University South Bend and Bethel College to discuss ways to enhance interaction between students and community members through community service, internships and other initiatives. Shappell called the summit a “novel event.”

“The community summit will provide an opportunity to both formally talk about these issues and informally get to know our community leaders and fellow area college students,” Shappell said.

With regard to alumni-student relations, Shappell wants to continue to bridge what she called the “perceived disconnect” between students and alumni by making the Go Irish networking group more accessible to students.

“Seniors and graduate students are now able to access the network of over a hundred thousand alumni in every region and professional field,” Shappell said.

The network currently provides contact information and search engines for jobs in and around South Bend. Shappell said she will work to increase the usability of the site with resume posting, opportunities for alumni to volunteer as mentors for undergraduate students and general information sharing capabilities.

Andrich is the undergraduate representative who will work on this project for the Alumni Association. Shappell said he will sit on the career networking committee to continue the administration’s work of finding student and alumni receptions on football weekend Fridays.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

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Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu
MARKET RECAP

**Dow Jones** 12,582.59 +26.51

**Up** Source Down Composite Volume

- NASDAQ 2,060.80 +2.77
- NYSE 2,479.78 -5.04
- AMEX 9,139.56 -0.38
- S&P 500 1,431.90 +1.17
- NIKKEI(Tokyo) 10,078.12 -12.48
- FTSE100(London) 6,215.70 -47.90

**EXCHANGE[SECN][PRICE]**

- NASDAQ 100 TR (QQQ:00) -0.97 -0.03 45.28
- INTELS CP (INTC) +0.77 +0.17 22.30
- SUN(MICROSY) (SUNW) 0.00 0.00 6.04
- MICROSOFT (MSFT) -0.16 -0.05 31.16

**TREASURIES**

- 10-YEAR NOTE -0.12 0.03 4.75
- 30-YEAR BOND -0.35 -0.07 4.84
- 5-YEAR NOTE -0.46 -0.02 4.73

**COMMODITIES**

- LIGHT CRUDE (NYM:US) +1.78 51.21
- GOLD (NYM:CM) +0.90 425.85
- PORCEL BELLS (COM:CM) +0.08 91.70

**Exchange Rates**

- TEN 120.8550
- EURO 0.7738
- POUND 1.1761
- CANADIAN $ 1.0597

**5-YEARNOTE**

- Dow Jones above 12,600, +39.42
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- S&P 500 above 1,430, +2.15
- NIKKEI(Tokyo) above 10,050, +18.36
- FTSE100(London) above 6,200, +47.90

**IN BRIEF**

Experts warn health club members

NEW YORK — Many people who made New Year’s resolutions to slim down are in the process of joining health clubs. Fitness and finance experts alike suggest consumers make sure they’re selecting clubs with the facilities and amenities they want and that they read contracts carefully and avoid signing to avoid problems if they don’t stick to their new regimes.

It’s often easier to join health clubs than it is to quit, and failure to take that into account can be costly, as early consumers find out.

“We know memberships rise at the beginning of the year, generally because of resolutions,” said Dr. Donald Adkins, a psychiatrist who advises people on how to make lifestyle changes, said Sheila Adkins, spokeswoman for the Council of Better Business Bureaus in Arlington, Va. “But by April or May, we start getting complaints, mainly from people with cancellation or refund issues.”

The Better Business Bureau logged more than 4,425 consumer complaints about health clubs in 2005, ranking it 30th among the 3,000 types of businesses the BBB tracks.

The problem, Adkins said, is that people are often in such a hurry to sign up that they don’t pay attention to details.

Crude oil falls after two week high

NEW YORK — Gold futures edged higher Wednesday, hitting a two-week high as crude oil contracts rallied off their lows and the dollar declined. Natural gas dropped 6 percent after a forecast of warm weather.

At settlement, most-active February gold was up $7.40 to $633.30 a troy ounce on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Wednesday’s strongest level of $644.80 an ounce was a two-week high for the contract.

The gold market had given off a week start Wednesday. Larry Young, senior trader at Infinity Brokerage, said a sell signal was touched off at the $623.20 an ounce level, taking the contract to a session low of $620.28 an ounce.

However, buyers stepped in and took February gold into positive territory, just as the dollar fell from its highs and tumbling crude oil futures bounced off a fresh 20-month low of $50.28 a barrel.

Apple achieves record profit

Holiday sales of iPods, Macintosh computers yield best fiscal first quarter

SAN JOSE — Apple Inc. on Thursday posted a record profit in its fiscal first quarter, beating Wall Street estimates as earnings rose 78 percent amid strong holiday sales of its iPods and Macintosh computers.

Investors were buoyed by the blowout quarter, however, was curbed by a second-quarter outlook that fell below analyst expectations. Apple said the March quarter partly stems from expectations of slightly lower gross margins and slower software sales ahead of the company’s spring release of its upgrade to the Mac OS X operating system, dubbed Leopard.

During the final three months of 2006, the Cupertino-based company said it earned $1 billion, or $1.14 per share, compared to $557 million, or 66 cents a share, in the year-earlier period.

Revenue for the quarter hit a record, reaching $7.1 billion, up 24 percent from $5.7 billion the previous year.

Analysts, on average, were expecting earnings of 78 cents per share on sales of $6.42 billion, according to a Thomson Financial survey.

"This one was for the record books," Apple Chief Financial Officer Peter Oppenheimer said in an interview.

Apple shipped 1.6 million Macs and more than 21 million iPods during the quarter, representing a growth of 16 percent and 50 percent respectively from the year-ago holiday season.

That’s an iPod sold for nearly every Texan. Sales of the iconic device accounted for $3.43 billion, or nearly half of the company’s total revenue.

Mac sales continued to be strong. Oppenheimer said, with a growth rate that was three times higher than the PC industry’s during the quarter. The IDC market research firm also reported Wednesday that Apple’s share of the PC market in the U.S. had grown to 4.7 percent in the quarter, up from 3.6 percent a year ago.

Still, shares of Apple lost $2.15 to close at $94.95 on the Nasdaq Stock Market as technology stocks in general tumbled. In extended trading following its report, Apple shares initially jumped by about 4.5 percent then declined by 1 percent to $94.

Apple forecast fiscal second-quarter revenue of $4.8 billion to $4.9 billion and earnings per share of 54 cents to 56 cents. Analysts had projected revenues of $5.22 billion and earnings per share of 60 cents, according to Thomson Financial.

Apple is one of the most prominent among dozens of companies facing scrutiny over its past accounting of stock options but Wall Street has largely shrugged off the matter.

Last week, federal prosecutors confirmed that they had opened an investigation into stock options irregularities at Apple, including an award granted to CEO Steve Jobs that carried a false October 2001 date when it was actually approved in December of that year.

Apple’s own internal probe last year had disclosed that discrepancy, among thousands of other mishandled grants. The company, however, said its probe exonerated Jobs and any current management from any wrongdoing, while raising “serious concerns” about the actions of two former officers.

Investors remain optimistic about Apple’s future as it reinvents itself as a consumer electronics company. It even changed its name last week — from Apple Computer Inc. to just Apple Inc. — to better reflect its broadening portfolio of computer products.

An Apple customer scans iPod accessories at a store in Palo Alto, Calif., Tuesday, before the company announced its fiscal first quarter earnings.

Investors surprised by PPI increase

NEW YORK — Wall Street finished mixed Wednesday after the Federal Reserve reported slow but steady regional economic growth, deflating hopes for an interest rate cut that were sparked by disappointing producer price index.

Investors’ rate worries wobbled through the day as they watched some earnings in the financial services sector, which earlier in the day helped nudge the Dow Jones industrials above 12,600 for the first time.

The Labor Department said before the market opened that the PPI, an indicator of inflation, rose by 0.9 percent in December — slower than in November, but faster than the market expected. Later, the Fed reported in its Beige Book of regional economic conditions that the economy is moderating at a steady pace. Investors believed the report not only lowered the chances of a rate cut, but also that the Fed might raise rates to curb inflation, a move that could crimp consumer spending and hurt corporate profits.

"Inflation may be a worry, and that is one job at the Fed to control inflation," said Kim Caughey, equity research analyst at Fort Pitt Capital Group in Pittsburgh. Wednesday’s PPI figure "makes it more unlikely that easing will happen, and may make it likely for the Fed to raise rates,“

Also weighing on stocks was a rebound in oil and prices in an overall recovery from Interm Corp., the world’s largest chip maker, that suggested profits in the technology sector might weaken this year.

The Dow fell 5.44, or 0.04 percent, to 12,577.15, after hitting a new trading high of 12,614.00 earlier in the session and after three straight days of record closes.

Broader stock indicators also slipped. The Standard & Poor’s 500 index declined 1.28, or 0.09 percent, to 1,430.62, and the technology-laden Nasdaq composite index fell 18.36, or 0.74 percent, to 2,479.42.
Most of us probably spent our winter break crying ourselves to sleep over the bowl game, keeping tabs on the 24-hour coverage of the RosieTrumph feud, or watching re-runs of "That's So Raven." What, that's not just me, right? Anybody? But while we Americans were busy returning Christmas gifts and revising our rash New Year's resolutions, those industrious Canadians were at it again. Scientists from our Neighbor to the North announced last week the results of a research project which found that people who are fully bilingual, by using both languages on a day-to-day basis throughout their lives, can delay the onset of dementia by up to four years. Apparently, the extra effort needed to speak two separate languages boosts blood to the brain and exercises your nervous system, two important defenses against the debilitating elderly disease.

This probably comes as a shock to many of us in the good old U.S. of A., where our official language is American and we eat our cheeseburgers sans mayo, thank you very much. Oops, I slipped and used a foreign word there. Mea culpa. As it turns out, knowing a second language can actually do more for you than merely teach you dirty phrases or random gibberish, such as "the monkeys are eating my pineapple under-pants" (although things like that are fun to say). Know that second language well, and you could be on the happy end of some solid health benefits. Your non-native tongue can help sharpen your brain and keep it in good shape, like exercising water aerobics at the Y. Except for your feet, not your wrinkly thighs.

I always thought it would have been pretty awesome to be raised in a biling-ual family, or at least a family who used a different form of speech than the standard. But really, even if you're born and raised American, it shouldn't set you back. There's no reason why you can't practice another language and put your brain to good use. Here at Notre Dame we have language requirements, but the end of schooling is no reason to give up your study of foreign communica-
tion. If you have never tried learning a language, no age is too late to dive right in. Give yourself more of a mental hurdle to leap than a daily sodoku. Besides all those health benefits, moreover, knowing a second language makes you look cool. Of course, we all know there is an entire world of aca-
demics opened up to you with a second language — reading philosophy in Greek, literary theory in French, theo-
logical documents in Latin, Chinese his-
tory in Mandarin — the list goes on. Nothing compares to the original. But set all that aside for a minute, and pic-
ture yourself at a chic French restaur-
ant. Knowing a second language, you wouldn't have to blubber while trying to get yourself "some of that chicken cor-
don bl... bl... bl..." and just settling for "the chicken." Instead, you can confi-
dently order your chicken cordon bleu
dish, impress your girlfriend and res-
cue the date from doilish disaster, show her your intelligent side, wind up married with four kids and a waterfront villa, and live happily ever after.

Sometimes we can get annoyed when people speak in their own language. It creates a barrier between them and you, which makes it all the more rewarding when you break it by learn-
ing the language. But once again, this is America — no mayo on our burgers, and sure as heck no other language. Need I reiterate? The terrible price we all pay for having to comply with the saturation of other languages in our modern world takes its toll. We need to force our eyes past all that Spanish text printed on signs, and the extra step needed to select your language over the phone or on an internet site, that will just eat up a lot of our precious time. The "official language" discussion opens up a whole new bag of worms, presenting a prickly and difficult sub-
title. So often in this country of immi-
grants, we focus so much on unity — for instance, through a common language — that we shun any effort to preserve things that may impede that assimila-
tion. And "diversity" has become such a catch-all term, devoid of any real mean-
ing, that we consider discussion of it a trite and cliché. But the next time we get mad in Wal-Mart while shopping for our ketchup and mustard and overhear a discussion in a language we can't understand, we can remember that maybe we should see past our own limi-
tions and put in some work to learn another language ourselves. The existence of one unifying language does not mean it has to be our only language. If you can't appreciate that, remem-
ber that knowing a second language regu-
larly will help your brain later on in life. Most importantly of all, it can bring you happiness, companionship and endless joy. And that waterfront villa.

James Dechant is a junior studying Africana Studies at Notre Dame and plans on using his second language skills to impress his future wife. What, that's not just me, right? Anybody?

As it turns out, knowing a second language can actually do more for you than merely teach you dirty phrases or random gibberish, such as "the monkeys are eating my pineapple under-pants" (although things like that are fun to say). Know that second language well, and you could be on the happy end of some solid health benefits. Your non-native tongue can help sharpen your brain and keep it in good shape, like exercising water aerobics at the Y. Except for your feet, not your wrinkly thighs.

I always thought it would have been pretty awesome to be raised in a biling-ual family, or at least a family who used a different form of speech than the standard. But really, even if you're born and raised American, it shouldn't set you back. There's no reason why you can't practice another language and put your brain to good use. Here at Notre Dame we have language requirements, but the end of schooling is no reason to give up your study of foreign communica-
tion. If you have never tried learning a language, no age is too late to dive right in. Give yourself more of a mental hurdle to leap than a daily sodoku. Besides all those health benefits, moreover, knowing a second language makes you look cool. Of course, we all know there is an entire world of aca-
demics opened up to you with a second language — reading philosophy in Greek, literary theory in French, theo-
logical documents in Latin, Chinese his-
tory in Mandarin — the list goes on. Nothing compares to the original. But set all that aside for a minute, and pic-
ture yourself at a chic French restaur-
ant. Knowing a second language, you wouldn't have to blubber while trying to get yourself "some of that chicken cor-
don bl... bl... bl..." and just settling for "the chicken." Instead, you can confi-
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Having trouble with spam, viruses and ultimately hard- drive crashes? More seriously, have you felt guilty lately about how much time you’re spending on the Internet (or about what sites you’ve visited)? You might consider praying for guidance to St. Isidore of Seville, the patron saint of computer users and the Internet.

A patron saint of the Internet—who knew? Well, about eight years ago, a group of Internet and computer experts who work for one of the pastoral councils of the Vatican began to do some research to figure out which saint might be an appropriate patron of the (then) new frontier of cyberspace, and they decided on Isidore, a 6th-century scholar from Seville.

Now before you snicker and turn to the back page to see who won the ND-Villanova game, think about this: don’t we often say to family members or friends, “Pray for me, please”? In a time of need, sorrow or fear, we pick up the phone; we turn to our roommate; we send an email; we ask for help. Put this together with our Christian belief in the resurrected Christ who believes who have died now live in communion with God, and it makes a lot of sense that we could also ask the dead (especially those whom the Church recognizes as particularly holy) to pray for us as well.

Community, for Christian believers, stretches not only across geography, but across time. We form a community of faith with believers around the world today, but also with people who lived, died, struggled and found joy hundreds of years ago or a thousand years ago. And people who aren’t even born yet will become a part of our community hundreds of years into the future. As an Up-to-date as a saint born in 5th might seem with YouTube, Google and blogs about blogs, the pairing of St. Isidore with computer experts who use users could give us a wonderful chance to think more clearly and carefully about just how we use the time and resources available to us every day.

If you want to learn more about particular patron saints, they are certainly easy to find with a Web search. The wider lesson about asking anyone to pray for us, however, whether it’s the friend in the room next door or the God’s people whom we know our modern doubts and fears, is not that we’re gathering the troops to lobby God for a particular outcome. We absolutely have to recognize how much we need such others, and how much our lives on earth will look more like heaven — not because God’s going to change the course of events for us, but because we’ve found God in our connections to one another.

I had the privilege of attending the funeral Monday of one of the newest members of the communion of saints: Johnny Schrage was new to the Notre Dame community as well as the local St. Joseph parish and school community, but her life of faith, energy and joy had already made an impact in both places. Anyone who had the privilege of meeting her before she died, and after she was laid to rest, valiant battle with cancer knew how important it was to gather in the Basilica with her husband and daughters to celebrate her life. Father John Delio, who presided and preached at her funeral, spoke of how lucky we are to have the privilege of having Johnny Schrage, and how we have the beautiful grace of joy — Johnny Schrage’s boundless enthusiasm for life, her ability to reach out and make friends wherever she went, her love of children of all ages. Perhaps if St. Isidore were alive today, he would urge us to take the time to remember what real community means — the strengthening of our invisible bonds of shared life and death; the attempt to bring our lives on earth a little closer to a glimpse of the Kingdom of God; the joy and gratitude found with others that we will never find alone. Never underestimate the power of asking another person to pray for you — or of offering to do so for someone else.

This week’s FaithPoint is written by Kate Barrett, director of resources and special projects in the Office of Campus Ministry. She can be reached at kbarrett@nd.edu The views expressed in this article are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Letters to the Editor

But' can be the most important part

In Eric Kosmo’s Nov. 30 Letter to the Editor, “Stop using the ‘but’,” he discusses the politicians today who use the “I am personally opposed, but…” line as a means to help legis­late to the things they claim to be morally opposed to. Kosmo is staunchly against this method of politics, claiming that “a politician cannot support publicly what he knows is wrong personally.”

This tactic seems to be ever more popular among current politicians, and politicians should not run for office under a moral campaign as a means of getting elected just to completely disregard those passions once in office. However, there are some cases when politicians need to realize that what they personally believe is not going to best suit the country. It is in these cases when it is important and necessary to go against their own morals. As former governor of New York Mario Cuomo said, “All religiously based values don’t have a priori place in our public morality.” The community must decide if what is being proposed would be better left to private discretion than public policy.” Religious beliefs and public morality delivered to the University of Notre Dame on Sept. 13, 1984). A politician should use his morals as a framework for his decision making, but also know that as an elected official for the people, he will have to sometimes go against his beliefs to create a better country. Take, for example, a Catholic senator who does not believe in sex education, but knows that it is important to improve his values on the social issues of contraception, but by doing so he would not be doing his job, he is supposed to ensure that the legislation passed will best benefit the nation. In fact, there are some situations when a politician can support publicly what he knows is wrong personally.

I know that I want my elected official to have a moral backbone to help guide him on important decisions. At the same time, I can only hope that our elected officials have the sense to realize when they can or cannot impose their moral beliefs on society.
Chumbawamba misses mark with newest album

By CHRIS McGrady
Assistant Scene Editor

When examining the long list of 1990s era one-hit wonders, the name Chumbawamba almost always finds its way into the discussion. After all, the band’s historically catchy party-pop hit “Tubthumping” still reminds most of us of middle school dances.

Perhaps dissatisfied with its “one hit then quiet” status, Chumbawamba is making another run at the stop. This time, however, the band is ditching the electronic aids for an acoustic act.

“A Singsong and a Scrap” is the name of Chumbawamba’s latest release, a brand new take on the group’s sound. What most people do not know is that the band is not really just a one-hit wonder, but has actually enjoyed moderate success (with a few very large spots and a couple of very large flops) in the beginning years.

The band formed in Leeds, England with an extremely political point of view. Considered anarchists, group members often wrote songs hashing the political goals of then-Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and even held benefit concerts in protest of her position in office. It was not long after this that Chumbawamba’s anti-government stance peaked, and the group became the target of police raids.

The album opens with “Laughter in a Time of War,” a harmonic folk-inspired song that uses melodic guitar-picking to produce a folk sound. The lyrics, however, hint at a darker message as the band points out the irony in the general attitude towards war.

“Walking into Battle with the Lord” is the fifth track on the CD and brings religious shading to the predominantly political album. The song is mostly a cappella, and the band does an impressive job in this context. The lyrics are poignant and moving, and it is at this point that the listener begins to wonder if this is the same group behind “Tubthumping.”

“Fade Away” is another light-hearted piece. The song will draw comparisons to some of the happy-go-lucky sounds of folk singers from the past, such as Simon and Garfunkel. But it is this deja vu that causes the downfall of the album — where is the originality? The album is surprisingly well thought-out and performed. A far cry from the “expected” Chumbawamba, the band has shown a musical diversity that would generally be unaffiliated with a group reputed to be a one-hit wonder. However, the music from the album is largely homogeneous and lacks anything new and refreshing to set itself apart from other groups that pioneered the folk genre.

Despite these flaws, it is undeniable that Chumbawamba has never shied away from controversy. Their music from the past was often considered too controversial for mainstream radio, but the group has continued to push the envelope with their new album.

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**Movie Review**

Lively "Museum" entertains young at heart

By MARTY SCHROEDER

"Museum," the latest in the string of Ben Stiller films that have helped bring the actor to the top of the box office charts, is a great film for kids, as well as for any person who loved museums as a child. However, it is worth waiting for it to reach the dollar theater. What the film could have been is one thing, but the final result is something else entirely. "Night at the Museum" is worth seeing on the big screen — just not one that costs more than six dollars.

The actors in this film have certainly done more rewarding projects. However, it has already taken in over $190 million, so they will surely be pleased with the paycheck, if not an award-winning performance.

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**DVD Review**

'Talladega Nights' earns place among Ferrell's finest

By SEAN SWEANY

"Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby" recently hit DVD shelves and is quickly becoming another Ferrell classic. The movie stars Ferrell as Ricky Bobby, a NASCAR superstar and crowd favorite who wins at all costs. His team and friend, Cal Naughton, (John C. Reilly, "The Aviator") always finishes second to Bobby's first, which earns the duo the nickname "Shake 'n Bake."

When French Formula One driver Jean Girard (Sacha Baron Cohen, "Borat") arrives to challenge Ricky Bobby in his NASCAR dominance, Bobby must overcome a new influx of personal problems involving both racing — and his personal life — to reach the top of the racing world.

"Talladega Nights" was clearly created with the intent of mimicking the style of Ferrell's previous movies that have brought him such success. The film is full of the non-sequiturs and absurd situations that audiences have come to expect from Ferrell's movies and most of these do not disappoint.

Ferrell shows his usual skill and wit in delivery, and Reilly — who was originally cast in "Anchorman" as Champ Kind, only to withdraw due to scheduling conflicts with "The Aviator" — gives a good performance in another supporting actor role. Cohen also demonstrates his comedic talent and gives a better performance here than he does in "Borat."

Other actors such as Michael Clarke Duncan, Amy Adams, Gary Cole, Jane Lynch and Andy Richter are perfectly cast in supporting and cameo roles and provide a good assortment of characters for Ferrell and Reilly to interact with throughout. If this movie suffers from anything, it is that at times the writing falls the actors, in spite of their good performances. Although Ferrell and Adam McKay wrote both "Talladega Nights" and "Anchorman," this film does not demonstrate the same hilarity that "Anchorman" had at every turn.

The unrated DVD comes loaded with special features, some of which are worthless promotional spots that were no doubt included to cram as much product placement in the movie as possible, given the heavy built-in marketing that NASCAR already uses. However, features such as a gag reel, extended scenes, interviews and deleted or alternate scenes with Ricky Bobby, Cal and Jean Girard reveal humorous material inexplicably left out of the final cut of the film. These show the comic ability of the actors, especially Ferrell, and make the film funner on a second viewing. Indeed, like many other Ferrell movies, "Talladega Nights" becomes better and funnier each successive time it plays. This is something all good comedies have in common and is a testament to not only the acting, but also the writing of a film.

In this respect, Ferrell has produced, another success in his ever-increasing litany of films. While not on the elite level of "Anchorman," "Talladega Nights" finishes a close second.

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The Observer • CLASSIFIEDS

Thursday, January 18, 2007

NCAA Men's Basketball

Flowers leads Wisconsin in win over Purdue
Ohio State tops Northwestern in Big 10 action, Vanderbilt upsets Alabama, Tar Heels cruise past Clemson

Associated Press

MADISON, Wis. — Michael Flowers scored 15 points to lead No. 13 Wisconsin to a 100-73 victory over No. 25 Purdue.

The Badgers (18-1, 4-0 Big Ten), who are enjoying the highest ranking in school history, led by 10 points midway through the second half.

Kendall Gill's fast break layup with 39 seconds left brought the Boilermakers (13-6, 2-3) within 67-62. Kamron Taylor made one of two free throws for Wisconsin with 36 seconds left. Purdue missed and rebounded two 3-point attempts, finally settling for a putback by Carl Landry that made it 68-64 with 5.3 seconds left.

Gordon Watt had 18 points for Wisconsin, which has won its four games on the road in nearly three years.

The Badgers' winning streak is tied with the highest ever by the Boilermakers.

Wisconsin missed its first nine shots and was 1-9 from the floor in the first 10:47-17 from 3-point range for the game.

The Badgers did put together a 14-4 run midway through the second half — though there was no lead change. Landry pulled away during a timeout, as they methodically opened a 10-point lead over nearly six minutes.

Wisconsin center Jason Chappell and forward Tim Williams both scored 13 points as the Badgers ahead 40-39 with 13:32 remaining. Wisconsin's first lead of the half came at 9:32.

Flowers threw up a haphazard shot when Purdue was staggering up and down, and it fell in to put the Badgers ahead 51-43. Alando Tucker later scored on an inside move to push the Badgers' lead to 10 with 7:47 remaining.

North Carolina 77, Clemson 55

Brandon Wright would have been one bad game under his skin.

That's a freshman trait North Carolina's 6-foot-8 forward won't lose.

Wright, the Atlantic Coast Conference's leading scorer, shot 17-of-21 from the field, including 7-of-9 from 3-point range. His percentage, was a miserable 1-6 of 23 from Virginia Tech last Saturday, but he hit his perfect conference mark and No. 4's opening.

Wright skipped off by scoring 17 points on 8-of-10 shooting to help the fourth-ranked Tar Heels recover with a victory over No. 9 Clemson.

"I think Wright is the type of team that we are," said Wright referring to the 94-85 loss to the Hokies. "We wanted to show who we were. We put that belief in us that we wouldn't lose the next game."

The smooth 6-foot-9 freshman certainly did that. He hit his first seven shots as North Carolina (16-2, 6-3) won eight straight over Clemson (17-2, 3-2).

Less than a week ago, Clemson had been 17-0 and the nation's only Division I unbeaten. The perfect record ended last Saturday with a 92-87 loss at Carolina. And the Tar Heels' speed and pressure made sure the Tigers wouldn't start another.

"If people want to run with us, we can run with them. Tha's what we want to do," North Carolina guard Wes Miller said.

The Tar Heels' quickness turned what was expected to be a tight game into a laugher.

Ohio State 73, Northwestern 41

Greg Oden had a new look and a couple of his teammates had a new approach.

Ohio State's point-guard tandem of Mike Conley Jr. and Jamar Butler was 12 points, was 15 of 13 from the free throw line.

Conley scored a career-high 17 points and had big baskets in the opening of the half as the Buckeyes (15-3, 3-1 Big Ten) pulled away to defend their home domination of the Wildcats.

"Coach told us to penetrate, attack that middle man and try to make plays," Conley said of the Buckeyes' plan to slice through the Wildcats' 1-3-1 zone defense.

Northwestern (10-8, 0-5) has not won in Columbus since Feb. 24, 1977 — a string of 24 consecutive losses on the Buckeyes' home floor.

Olbio Hunter added 10 points for the Buckeyes, who have won five of their last six.

Conley had 10 assists — two more than Northwestern.

"They couldn't trap Mike and Mike made a lot of plays," Butler said.

Oden — clean shaven for the first time in his brief collegiate career — finished with five points, six rebounds and five blocked shots.

"He looks faster," Conley said with a grin of his former high school teammate. "Our old coach says after you get a haircut or shave that you look faster."

Asked if he knew why Oden shaved, Conley laughed and said, "He said it was personal reasons."

Vanderbilt 94, Alabama 73

Shan Foster scored 27 points at Alabama and the Commodores pasted the Crimson Tide 94-73 for the Commodores' first half of the Commodores' 54-73 upset win over the Tide.

"It's a very good, very good team," Foster said. "I hope we can run with them. That's the way we want to do.

"They couldn't trap Mike and we hit all five of his 3s," Foster said. "It was a good night for us.

"We can run with them. That's a freshman trait we don't lose."

The Commodores hit a season-high 15 3-pointers in 28 attempts and 58 percent overall in pulling off their second straight and the Tide a ninth straight loss in a 4-minute stretch that broke the game open midway through the first half. Campbell hit all five of his 3-point tries in the first half.

"It's my best shooting game (at Butler)," said Foster, "because I'm getting a lot more looks because I'm getting used to the system. Getting used to how to find my shot in the system."

The Bulldogs (16-2, 4-1 Horizon League) made 14 of 24 3s and hit seven straight in a 4-minute stretch that broke the game open midway through the first half. Campbell hit all five of his 3-point tries in the first half.

"It's my best shooting game (at Butler)," said Foster, "because I'm getting a lot more looks because I'm getting used to the system. Getting used to how to find my shot in the system."

The Bulldogs were 10-of-13 on 3s in taking a 42-18 halftime lead. They widened it to as many as 33 points with under 7 minutes left in the game.

LSU 62, Mississippi 55

Tasmin Mitchell and Terry Martin combined for 22 second-half points to lead No. 16 LSU to a victory over Mississippi.

Mitchell scored 14 of his 19 points in the second half, while Martin had eight of his 15 after the break.

With the Tigers (13-4, 2-1 Southeastern Conference) leading by one points and less than 5 minutes to play, Martin and Mitchell both hit big shots.

Martin knocked down his fourth 3-pointer of the game to give LSU a 50-46 lead with 4:44 remaining. On the Tigers' next possession, Mitchell hit a 3 that put them ahead 53-46.

Mississippi didn't get closer than five points the rest of the game.

Glen Davis added 11 points for LSU.

Clarence Sanders paced the Rebels (12-6, 3-12) with 12 points, while Dwight Curet had all of 11 in the second half and reserve Kenny Williams added 10.

Two baskets by Mitchell gave LSU a 24-13 lead with 7:36 left in the opening half. The Tigers made just one field goal the rest of the half and had their lead trimmed to 29-23. Williams scored four points in the final 7 minutes.

The Rebels fell behind 34-25 early in the second half, but LSU's 3-pointers defined Mississippi had settled at 37-34. Mississippi had been within one point three times in the second half.

Ca...
**NBA**

**Warriors and Pacers complete trade**

Associated Press

**OAKLAND, Calif.**—Almost every player involved in the Indiana Pacers’ eight-man trade with the Golden State Warriors on Wednesday is likely to welcome the change of scenery.

The Pacers traded Al Harrington and Stephen Jackson to Golden State for forwards Troy Murphy and Mike Dunleavy in a large, bold deal to shake up two struggling teams.

The Pacers also sent guard Sarunas Jasikevicius and forward Josh Powell to the Warriors, who gave up forward Ike Diogu and guard Keith McLeod. According to Chris Mullin, the Warriors’ vice president and a former player for both teams, the wholesale shuffle will benefit everyone involved.

“This is a situation where both teams feel good about what’s going to happen,” Mullin said. “They’re all key components. All these guys that are in the deal, they’re going to have good roles with their new teams.”

Murphy, Dunleavy and Diogu had been reduced to sparse playing time.

“None of them can wait to walk around and see their own plaque,” Pacers CEO Donnie Walsh said of Jackson, who averaged 14.1 points this season. “No matter what he was going to do, he wasn’t going to outlive that environment. So I think it’s good for him to go to another city and start fresh, and I think it’s good for our team as well.”

The deal left injury-plagued Golden State with just six healthy players on its roster for Wednesday night’s game against the Los Angeles Clippers, two fewer than the NBA minimum required to avoid forfeiting a game. The Warriors quickly signed NBA Development League forward Renaldo Major.

**In Brief**

**Pirates complete deal for Braves first baseman Lallbroche**

After two months of trying, the Pittsburgh Pirates finally landed a deal for Atlanta power hitter Adam LaRoche on Wednesday when they agreed to acquire the first baseman for left-handed reliever Mike Gonzalez and another player.

The trade will be announced after physicals are completed, according to a baseball official familiar with the negotiations who requested anonymity because the deal was still being finalized. The identity of the other player was not immediately known.

The Pirates, who hit an NL-low 141 homers during a 95-loss season last year, have been desperate to add a left-handed power bat to take advantage of PNC Park’s short right-field deck. They targeted LaRoche weeks ago, but the Braves previously sought both Gonzalez and one of the Pirates’ young starting pitchers.

Sosa set to make comeback with Texas after year off

Despite being out of baseball since 2005, Sammy Sosa showed enough pop in his bat to get an offer from the Texas Rangers.

“It’s strong,” Rangers manager Ron Washington said Wednesday. “I saw good bat speed. The ball made a lot of sound off his bat. I saw a great attitude. I saw a guy that is very confident in his ability.”

An agreement on a minor league contract appears likely, and could be completed by the end of the week.

The 38-year-old Sosa, 12 home run shy of 600, last played with the Baltimore Orioles. The seven-time All-Star hit .211 with 14 homers and 45 RBIs in 102 games.

That year got off to a poor start when Sosa tested during spring training before a congressional committee looking into steroids use by professional baseball players.

**Tennis great Sampras elected to sport’s Hall of Fame**

As a tennis history buff, Pete Sampras wasn’t wait to walk around the sport’s Hall of Fame when he goes there for the first time this summer.

He’s especially looking forward to seeing his own plaque.

Sampras was elected to the International Tennis Hall of Fame on Wednesday, joined in the 2007 class by Arantxa Sanchez-Vicario, Sven Davidson and Russ Adams.

“It’s kind of icing on the cake for having a good career,” Sampras said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. “It’s an honor to be included with (Rod) Laver and the older generation. (John) McEnroe and (Jimmy) Connors. All these guys.

Sampras has never visited the Hall of Fame in Newport, R.I., but he’ll get a chance when he’s there for the July 14 induction ceremony.
**TENNIS**

**Clijsters advances in Open**

Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia — Kim Clijsters extended the winning start to her farewell tour, beating Akiko Morigami 6-3, 6-0 Thursday to reach the third round of the Australian Open.

The 23-year-old Belgian, who has announced she is retiring at the end of this season in the hope of starting a family, recovered from an inconsistent opening set to run through the second in 24 minutes.

She started the year with a win over Maria Sharapova in the final of a Hong Kong exhibition tournament and last week won the Sydney International.

Recently engaged Martina Hingis, into the second year of her comeback after three years on the sidelines, had a 6-4, 7-5 win over Russian Alia Baghdatis on Wednesday.

Clijsters won her first-round match without dropping a game but was erratic early against Morigami, making more unforced errors (12) than winners (11) and dropping serve twice.

She clicked into gear in the second, making only three unforced errors in the last six games.

She blamed the slow start on a late night, staying up to watch Frenchman Gael Monfils upset last year’s finalist Marcos Baghdatis on Wednesday. "I went to bed maybe a little too late," she said. "But I’m playing well, and it’s nice to be back on this court again."

Sixth-seeded Hingis, who became engaged to Czech player Radek Stepanek last month, moved closer to another quarterfinal showdown with Clijsters.

Hingis won three straight Australian titles from 1997 and then lost three consecutive finals before finally getting the tour because of nagging foot and ankle problems.

**NFL**

**Schottenheimer will stay with San Diego**

Chargers head coach to return for 2007 season

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Marty Schottenheimer might be down to one last chance to get the San Diego Chargers to the Super Bowl.

Three days after the talented Chargers melted down in a stunning 24-21 playoff loss to New England, team president Dean Spanos decided Wednesday that bringing Schottenheimer back for the final year of his contract gives San Diego its best chance to win.

Schottenheimer, though, declined the team’s offer of a one-year extension for 2008 worth $4.5 million, with a $1 million buyout.

The coach didn’t offer specific reasons, but they could have to do with the spiraling salaries given to other NFL head coaches, and perhaps to his strained relationship with general manager A.J. Smith.

"Right now, I wasn’t comfortable accepting it," said Schottenheimer, who will earn more than $3 million in 2007, the final year of an extension he received after the 2004 season.

Spanos said Schottenheimer didn’t give him a reason.

"I offered what I thought was a fair offer and it was surely up to him to make the decision as to whether to accept it or not, and he chose not to, and I respect that entirely," Spanos said.

With a regular-season record of 200-126-1 with Cleveland, Kansas City, Washington and San Diego, Schottenheimer is the most successful coach never to have reached the Super Bowl.

His 5-13 playoff record has taken a lot of its own.

Sunday’s loss was his sixth straight in the postseason dating to 1993, and the ninth time a Schottenheimer-coached team lost its opening playoff game.

His teams have failed four times to capitalize on the home-field advantage that comes with owning the AFC’s No. 1 seed.

He is 47-33 in five seasons with the Chargers, including 35 wins and two AFC West titles in the last three seasons.

Led by league MVP LaDainian Tomlinson, the Chargers were thought by many to be Super Bowl-caliber, with an NFL-best 14-2 record. But they had four turnovers and made numerous other mistakes in losing to the Patriots, their first defeat at home this season.

Speculation grew following the loss that Schottenheimer might be fired, but it was part to the front office’s expectations of a deep playoff run and his icy relations with Smith, believed to have developed over personnel moves.

Smith said that following the loss, it wasn’t automatic that he would recommend Schottenheimer return.

"Not in my mind. We had to stop and think," he said.

Smith said he spent Tuesday speaking with Spanos, players, front-office personnel and people around the league about Schottenheimer.

"I made a recommendation which may surprise all of you, that we continue next year with Marty Schottenheimer based on the fact that we are so talented of a football team and the information that I got from everybody was, we’re so close," Smith said.

"We made some mistakes in that football game and still almost won I just felt that it was the best for this organization to continue."
Hungarian State Folk Ensemble

Tuesday, February 13, 2007, at 7:30 pm | Leighton Concert Hall
Tickets: $36, $30 faculty/staff, $30 seniors, and $15 all students

The Hungarian State Folk Ensemble’s repertoire showcases the musical folk traditions that inspired Hungarian and international composers such as Liszt, Brahms, Kodály and Bartók. All of its choreography is based on authentic dances, some of which include elements dating back hundreds of years.

Described by the New York Times as "unreservedly brilliant," the Ensemble has performed in 44 countries for more than seven and a half million people, earning accolades for its high energy and vibrant colors.

BROWNING CINEMA

Old Joy (2006)
Directed by Kelly Reichardt
NR, 78 minutes
English language
35mm print
Thu, Jan 18 at 7 pm and 10 pm
Sat, Jan 20 at 7 pm

Marie Antoinette (2006)
Directed by Sofia Coppola
PG-13, 123 minutes
English and French languages with English subtitles
35mm print
Fri, Jan 19 at 7 pm and 10 pm
Sat, Jan 20 at 10 pm

Sunset Boulevard (1950)
PAC Classic 1
NR, 110 minutes
35mm print
Sat, Jan 20 at 3 pm

ND Student Film Festival (2007)
Directed by ND Students
NR, 120 minutes
Thu, Jan 25 at 7 pm and 10 pm
Fri, Jan 26 at 7 pm and 10 pm
Sat, Jan 27 at 7 pm and 10 pm

FILM LINE: 631-FILM

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An original movie review show, Wednesday nights at 11 pm on NDtv Channel 53

http://performingarts.nd.edu
You can buy your tickets online, or call the DPAC Ticket Office at 631-2800.
Wildcats

continued from page 20
when I thought we were in pretty good defensive position," Irish coach Mike Brey said in his post-game radio interview. "That was frustrating." Freshman guard Scottie Williams led the Wildcats with 27 points, while forward Curtis Sumpter added 21. Forward Danielle Cunningham and guard Mike Nardi both came just short of the 20-point barrier, scoring 19 and 18, respectively.

Notre Dame fell to 15-3 and 3-2 in conference with the loss, its second straight road defeat. "I'm going to talk to the team about having a better road demeanor," Brey said.

Villanova jumped out to an early 16-6 and held the 10-point margin for most of the game, scoring nearly every time down the floor. "They jumped on us early," Brey said. "It was a tough hole to climb out of." Three-point shooting kept the Irish close, with six threes by guard Russell Carter and five more by guard Collin Falls. As a team, the Irish shot 44 percent from beyond the arc.

Notre Dame made a late run, pulling within seven at 79-72 with a little over five minutes remaining. The Wildcats responded with an 11-4 run, capped by a three from guard Shane Clark that sent the Pavilion crowd into convulsions.

"I liked the effort throughout the second half," Brey said. "But I didn't like the execution." Villanova sank its free throws to stretch its lead.

"They made some big shots when I thought we were in pretty good defensive position. That was frustrating." Mike Brey

Irish coach

Belles

continued from page 20
Babcock came right back with a four-point play after Kessler committed a foul, sending the game into overtime.

The score tied at 67 in the extra period, after four missed shots and four offensive rebounds for Saint Mary's. Babcock fouled Kessler, who missed the free throw and made the second to put the Belles up by one.

Babcock returned fire, sinking a jumper to put the Britons ahead by one. With 40 seconds left, senior guard Bridget Lipke fouled British guard Megan Garvey. Garvey sank both free throws, sealing the victory for Albion.

The game was close throughout. Albion's largest lead was eight points and Saint Mary's was four points. At the half, Albion led by just four.

Saint Mary's was, for the most part, out shot. Albion shot 72 percent from the free throw line, while Saint Mary's was 53 percent. Saint Mary's hit just one of 10 three-point attempts in the first half. And in overtime, Albion shot 40 percent from the field to Saint Mary's 20 percent.

The Belles defense was overmatched facing Babcock, who had 19 points on the night — her second-highest of the season. Kessler had a career-high 31 points, and Lipke earned her first double-double of the season with 12 points and 10 assists. Freshman center Anna Kamrath pulled down 12 rebounds on the night.

After tonight's game, Saint Mary's is tied for third place in the MIAA with Albion and Olivet.

Contact Chris Klorey at cklorey@nd.edu
Recruits

continued from page 20

United States — where fencing is not as popular as it is in Europe — is difficult, especially with tight NCAA limitations on scholarships. Each school has just 4.5 scholarships for men and five for women, and another Bednarski said he and other coaches around the country would like to see increased.

"We need to produce more of our own fencers to the high levels," he said. "It's not easy to bring them here through recruiting. We need simply to produce more walk-ons, but we need the coaches to be able to do that."

While Notre Dame may have filled the talent gap with the approaching departures of its signature seniors and Olympic champion, another void remains. The Irish have only two coaches — Bednarski and assistant Gi

Kvaratskhelia — even though the NCAA limit is four. Notre Dame was already understaffed when former Irish assistant Zoltan Dudus accepted the head coaching position at Princeton this summer. Bednarski hired Kvaratskhelia this fall to teach foil, but holes remain. The biggest problems with the current coaching situation, Bednarski said, are the lack of one coach per weapon and the limitations placed on individual instruction.

"We need coaches," he said. "It's hard to bring them from Europe. It's hard to find them in this country."

Bednarski said the athletic department supports the search for a third paid coach on the staff, though meeting the NCAA limit of four may take time.

Still, he said, with the new recruits and current fencers, he believes Notre Dame remains atop the nation for fencing programs.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

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Write Sports. Call Ken at 631-4543.
Break

continued from page 20

"I think we looked at that game and really learned a lot from that game," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

The Irish entered the Thompson-Boling Arena riding a four-game win streak, but left with a 78-54 loss to the No. 4 Purdue Boilermakers, sending them to the final game before heading into SEC play. But for McGraw and the Irish, this game was crucial in establishing where they stood as a team and how things could they expect to perform in the Big East.

In the first half, the Irish were able to hang tough against the Lady Vols, trailing by no more than eight the entire half. Moreover, the Irish went on an 8-2 run to finish the half down only 29-27.

"We played really well in the first half of the Tennessee game and made them played bad," McGraw said. "I think the defense did a lot of good things. Even though Notre Dame continued to struggle throughout the second half, they were no match for the overpowering Tennessee lineup, who had three players in their starting five with double-figures in scoring — Sidney Spencer (17 points), Candace Parker (22 points) and Shannon Bobbitt (17 points).

Tennessee's lead slowly grew in the second half, but the Irish never gave up, made evident by their 13-2 run to finish off the game. The final score was even more important in showing Notre Dame's effort as Tennessee led by as many as 34 with less than five minutes remaining in the game.

McGraw credited her team's resilience as a constant factor in how they've been able to get back on track. "It's really important for us here last year," she said. "But to take it into overtime when they beat us last year was big."

Freshman center Erica Williamson led the Irish effort against USF, tallying the first double-double of her career with 10 points and a Notre Dame freshman record 13 rebounds. Another Irish freshman — guard Melissa Lechlitner — was also integral for the Irish, totaling 11 points and four assists in the loss. But the game was most important for Lechlitner, three of her 11 points game at the end of regulation, when she sank a shot from beyond the arc to send the game into overtime.

Despite the loss, Notre Dame still started strong in its Big East schedule with a 3-1 record including Tuesday's win over St. John's. "We had some people foul out and four people with fouls, but it was a hard game for us," McGraw said. "But to take it into overtime when they beat us here last year was big."
**KALEIDOSCOPE McDANIELS**

_Liam Moran_

**GREAT MOMENTS IN NOTRE DAME HISTORY**

_We will build the apartments here._

You call me, 

_Willie T. White._

_Kevin, it's just an SVE._

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**CROSSWORD**

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**HOROSCOPE**

**EUGENIA LAST**

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Kid Rock, 35; Jim Carrey, 44; Susan Sarandon, 51; Meatloaf, 58; Moby, 47. 

_Happy Birthday!_ It's what you do for others that will carry you along this year. You can make a remarkable gain if you are giving, helpful, and wonderful. This is a great year to invest wisely. An older person in your life may cause worry but give them your time, knowledge and assistance and you may receive rewards. Your numbers are 3, 7, 12, 19, 23, 33, 40.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): You may have to prove yourself today. Don't take chances or assume anyone knows you are or what you can do. Money can be made and a good position obtained but not without your undivided attention.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Gear up, get ready and put on the big push today. You have everything going for you if you are honest and keep a close watch over anyone you feel may be stringing you along. Leave nothing to chance.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): You can expect to feel a little left out today. So much will be going on but it will be difficult for you to get a piece of it. Don't think too much about what everyone else has. Consider your own attributes.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): You will look at things differently today and that is a good thing. Don't back away from something because it appears to be too complicated. Now is the precise time to ferret through the debris and come out with treasures.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): You've been so busy lately. Put that side of you to work and you will prosper. Today is the perfect time to pursue what you want to do. Don't be too anxious about what others may think.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Love, honors and fame and making a creative step into the future are coming today. You will discover something or someone who will grab your interest. You should mix business with pleasure if at all possible.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You do much better dealing with acquaintances rather than with those close to you. A problem with your home or personal life appears to be growing. You can move forward with a financial deal but do check the fine print.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Form alliances or talk matters over with people you want to do things with in the future. A partnership is looking good but set things up wisely and be very good for you.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You are persistent, loyal and quick to try to convert others to see your side. Today is a great year to invest wisely. An older person in your life may cause worry but give them your time, knowledge and assistance and you may receive rewards. Your numbers are 3, 7, 12, 19, 23, 33, 40.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Make a move and know that it is your time to excel. Don't hold back, want to see what everyone else is doing. Set the standard and you will be a strong, prosperous leader.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): It's time to weed out a few of the things that are taking up space but not benefiting you in any way. It can be a healing time. Share your love and trust with someone who can use those things which you no longer have a use for.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Emotional ups and downs will have you confused today. Try not to read something into what is being discussed. Keep things simple and you will avoid a much better chance with both money matters and relationships.

**Birthday Babies:** You have a strong will power and a very firm set of rules that you live by. You are persistent, loyal and quick to try to convert others to see things your way.

_Eugenics_ on Web: eugenics.com for fan, eugenicslab.com for confidential consultations.

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**JUMBLE**

_That Scrambled Word Game_ by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

**GEDEH**

_Does anyone play how much of a monkey wrench_ (5, 5, 4)

**CUIMS**

_How he hid for the freezer_ (10, 15)

**FLOUS**

_What the piano player worked on_ (9, 11, 7)

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**CroissantWorld**

_Adam Fairholm_

**Black Dog**

_Michael Mikuska_
Irish fall to 3-2 in Big East with road loss at Villanova 102-86

By CHRIS KHOERE
Sports Writer

Fifty-seven percent field goal shooting, 31 points and two players scoring 20-plus were recipe for defeat in Notre Dame’s road contest against Villanova Wednesday. A Wildcats offensive explosion handed the Irish their second conference loss, 102-86 in front of a rowdy sell out crowd at The Pavilion in Philadelphia. Villanova (12-5, 2-3 Big East) scored the most points of any Irish opponent this year. The previous high the Irish allowed was the 87 scored by Lehigh.

“They made some big shots...”

Irish guard Tony Jackson, right, and Villanova guard Scottie Reynolds battle for possession in Notre Dame’s 102-87 loss in Villanova Wednesday night. The Irish are now 15-3 overall.

FENCING
Coach inks four recruits to replace seniors

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Notre Dame head coach Janusz Bednarski knows the cost of success for the Irish is steep. He also knows how to minimize that cost.

As Notre Dame loses its four top sabers next season to graduation and national teams in preparation for the 2008 Olympics, Bednarski signed four coveted fencers in the discipline to national letters of intent.

Three of the newcomers — Avery Zuck, Sarah Birrnan and Eileen Hassett — are from the same area in Oregon as senior sabres Valerie Providenza and Patrick Ghattas and junior sabre Mariel Zagunis. Providenza and Ghattas will graduate this spring — along with All-American Matt Stierers — and Zagunis will leave the team next season as she trains to defend her Olympic gold medal.

Both Birrnan and Hassett are in the USFA’s current women’s sabre top-12, with Hassett owning eighth in the rankings and Birrnan at No. 12. “I am absolutely thrilled to be going to Notre Dame,” Hassett said in a statement issued by the Notre Dame athletics department on und.com. “I was extremely impressed with the campus and the students during my visit last September. ... I’m really looking forward to fencing under— coach Bednarski and being part of a great collegiate fencing squad.”

On the men’s side, Zuck is No. 11 on the American under-20 list. The fourth signee was Barron Nydam of Hancho, Calif., who enters Notre Dame ranked No. 35 in the senior USFA standings.

Bednarski, pulling in a strong class was important. He said recruiting in the

see PROGRAM/page 17

ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL
Strong road victories dictate productive break

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

While most Notre Dame students went home for winter break, the Irish continued their season, winning six of eight games — including road victories at Virginia and St. John’s.

Notre Dame finished its non-conference schedule in style, going on a four-game winning streak before falling to No. 4 Tennessee in Knoxville 78-54. The Irish carried their quality play from their non-conference schedule into early matchups against Big East opponents, starting off 3-1 against conference foes, including an 83-65 win over St. John’s Tuesday night.

Non-conference play
Going into the break, Notre Dame was coming off a tough home loss to in-state rival Indiana in front of one of the biggest crowds in Joyce Center history. But the Irish were able to regroup and recover in order to prepare for their next game against Purdue Dec. 6.

see BREAK/page 18

SMC BASKETBALL
Belles lose overtime thriller

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

In a game decided in the final minute of overtime, one foul made a difference.

The Albion Britons defeat­ed Saint Mary’s 71-68 Wednesday. A 62-62 tie at the end of regulation forced the extra period.

The Belles led 59-58 with 43 seconds left in regulation when junior guard Alison Kessler hit a three-pointer to stretch the lead to four. Albion senior guard Jessica

see BELLES/page 16

SPORTS AT A GLANCE
NFL
San Diego coach Marty Schottenheimer will remain with the Chargers despite their disappointing playoff loss to the Patriots.

see NFL/page 14

WOMEN’S TENNIS
Australian Open
Aiko Moritomi falls to Kim Clijsters in the second round 6-3, 6-0.

see TENNIS/page 14

NBA
The Pacers and the Warriors complete an eight player trade that sees former Indiana hooper Troy Murphy dealt to Indiana.

see BASKETBALL/page 13

MLB
Former Cubs slugger Sammy Sosa signs minor league deal with the Texas Rangers.

see BASEBALL/page 13

NCAA BASKETBALL
North Carolina 77
Clemson 55
The Tar Heels rebound after their loss to Virginia Tech by defeating the Tigers.

see BASKETBALL/page 12

NCAA BASKETBALL
LSU 62
Mississippi 55
The Tigers improve to 2-1 in the SEC with win over the Rebels.