University builds on Ugandan partnership

University develops plan to work with village; students involved in research, interviews

By MARCELA BERRIOS
Associate News Editor

Last January, a group of Notre Dame delegates led by University President Father John Jenkins traveled to Nindye, Uganda, to visit the village that would become Notre Dame’s partner in the Millennium Development Initiative.

One year later, the ties between the University and the village of 5,000 have strengthened with the research and findings of the project’s staff and Notre Dame students, as well as the enthusiasm among the Ugandans, according to the project’s assistant director, Tim Gruscinski.

By KRISTEN EDELEN
News Writer

Saint Mary’s students met juniors Mickey Gruscinski and Sarah Falvey, who are this year’s student body president and vice president, in the atrium of the Student Center Thursday night during a “Meet the Candidates” event.

Gruscinski, who is running as president on the ticket, currently serves on Saint Mary’s Residence Hall Association (BHIA) as treasurer. Falvey is the National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH) executive assistant, a representative position in a national organization.

“That was the first time we got to talk about the relationship with Nindye and their needs. That was the first thing we needed to do,” Lyden said Thursday. “We didn’t want to just jump into this partnership without taking a breath to figure out what our next step would be and how we were going to do it.”

After the 2006 Notre Dame Forum on global health, Jenkins announced the University’s involvement in the United Nations’ Millennium Villages Project. Nindye, Notre Dame said, would partner with a sub-

By JOSEPH McMAHON
Assistant News Editor

The Community Campus Advisory Coalition (CCAC), the central part of the South Bend Common Council’s compromise to draft its proposed party permit ordinance, has yet to meet since being established in September and has no current plans to convene.

Student body president Liz Brown helped form the coalition as part of a compromise with the South Bend Common Council when discussing alternatives to the proposed ordinance.

The major founding goal of the CCAC was to foster better relations between South Bend and the local universities — Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s, Holy Cross and Indiana University-South Bend (IUSB). However, bringing all these parties to the table can often take some time, said Timothy Rouse, the president of the South Bend Common Council and co-sponsor of the original ordinance.

“When you have a variety of folks and you want the inclusiveness, it takes a while to get it jump-started,” Rouse said. “I’m sure that it will happen and it will be inclusive of the entire community.”

In addition, poor weather, the Council elections in November, and winter break have all been factors in delaying the CCAC’s first meeting.

“We had hoped to have a meeting before Christmas time, but then it was thought with finals and the students going home, so we’d thought we’d wait until after the first of the (new) year,” said at-large Council member Al “Buddy” Kirsits.

Still, no date has been set, and many are hoping that the group can meet within the next few months.

Brown, whose term ends April 1, said she would like to have the opportunity to see CCAC/page 6

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

Notre Dame students have been putting their business savvy to many uses through the Student International Business Council (SIBC).

Organized into six different divisions — accounting, business consulting, finance, global development, human resources, internships and marketing — the SIBC works on projects to “accomplish [its] vision of peace through commerce,” said Maria Bufalino, director of the marketing division.

“We accomplish this by working with different companies on a more international level,” Bufalino said.

The SIBC has worked with companies such as PricewaterhouseCoopers, Boston Consulting Group, Starcom, Deloitte, RSM McGladery and NRC-Sports, as well as nonprofits like Luca Leadership, Bufalino said.

The Council has also worked with Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative (NDMDI), Bufalino said.

Bufalino said there are three to six projects for each of the six divisions, and anywhere from five to 10 students working on an individual project.

“We try to keep it very diverse,” Bufalino said. “It really can benefit everyone, not just business majors. You get to practice presenting in front of people, and you get to meet a variety of people and you get to learn and have fun.”

Students present projects to companies in order to form partnerships.

New students arrive for spring semester

ND admits 9 transfers, SMC admits 15

By MEG MIRSHAK
News Writer

Notre Dame added nine transfer students, and Saint Mary’s gained 15 new students as members of the spring transfer class.

The Notre Dame Office of Admissions received 95 applications from students seeking to be admitted as a spring transfer student, said Susan Joyce, the associate director of admissions.

Although juniors can apply to transfer to the University, all nine students admitted for the spring semester were sophomores.

This year, the University’s spring transfer class was unusually small, Joyce said, adding that the normal number of spring transfer students is typically around 18 students.

[The Office of Admissions] does not see this as a trend.

New Transfer Students at ND & SMC

By EMMA DRISCOLL
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INSIDE COLUMN

Waiting for George

Possibly as a result of the winter deluge or Christmas vacation withdrawal, I have decided to approach this Inside Column with my customary annoyances. First, all political candidates cannot or should not use the word “change.” They should consider offering less abstract, unsubstantial platitudes to run their campaigns. As a first-time voter, I’d prefer to see clear-cut strategies as opposed to simply identifying the nation’s problems. Furthermore, the news media seems to devote ample time to tears and haircuts on the campaign trail when coverage of genocide is rare. Similarly, I’d like to see the latest coach-jumping or umbrella-attacking celebritoids. Attempting to stay aware of international events, I find myself more informed on recent mug shots or failed court appearances. However, I no longer need to purchase an LS Weekly.

Third, although giving green is crucial for the planet, I do not think changing light bulbs is truly effective. Massive reforms at the Washington level must increase fuel efficiency standards in the even nearer future. Nevertheless, any global warming crisis can support their case with South Bend weather.

Fourth, the standard cable company for the residence halls does not provide Turner Classic Movies. Apparently, Cablevision assumes students are more likely to watch H/TIV and Lifetime. In addition, the channel broadcasts classics when Hollywood film BOMBS. This summer, theaters offered an impressive selection, namely, Norma Desmond 3 or Blash Hour 3. Tough call.

Finally, the writers’ strike has prevented the pure joy, relaxation, and escape of George Clooney in a taxi. In effect, the award-winning acknowledgments honor the writers. Moreover, I’m already overwhelmed with reality television. Without the writers, I’m forced to watch reruns of David Letterman throwing pizzas at a Christmas tree.

Smith, Green’s Bay press protection and special teams prevented one of the more sportsmanlike, humanitarian quarterbacks from reaching the pinnacle of success. To fulfill his entire career ahead of him.

No, no words can express my frustration with the horrendous team’s results. Except, perhaps sign Brady, as in Quinn. Only a former Purdue quarterback with a terrible bowl would hold the pressure.

Although I would never convert to the Susan fan base, how many times do I have to declare, “Mayby this is the year?” And the blight of fate was denied from Santo’s induction for too long. Shockingly, this baseball player has never used steroids.

Likewise, the NCAA has not scheduled a tournament for Illinois until 2009. No Tiger.

Looking toward Notre Dame’s next season, students who leave during the alma mater only reaffirm the “file-eater” accusation. Furthermore, field goals are an unchangeable means of scoring. Surely, the spring weather will bring a more positive outlook. So until the groundbreaking fails to see his shadow, I can only wait for George’s Oscar win to alleviate my winter doldrums.

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

Contact Katilyn Smith at ksmit010@ saintmarys.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets any and all professional publicists and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If you have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT MOVIE/ACTOR SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOMINATED FOR AN OSCAR?

Meghan Newcomb senior off campus

Anne Martell senior off campus

Carolyn Plou senior off campus

Jim Brady senior off campus

Kaitlyn Conway freshman off campus

“Journey to Jay’s Lounge, starring Crazy Doug.”

“Life at Waddicks”

“725 E. Angela: Peace, Love and Tequila.”

“A Night at the Torch.”

“The destroying of du Lac. It would be about the various ways one could destroy du Lac.”

OFFBEAT

RIBBIT! This green isn’t part of salad

NEW YORK — You just don’t want to eat some greens. That’s how a Brooklyn mom felt when she found a tiny frog comfortably nestled in the leaves of organic lettuce she was preparing to eat.

“She jumped away,” said 39-year-old Yvonne Brechbuhler, who described the green critter as no bigger than the tip of her pinky finger.

“I didn’t know what it was. But once I realized it was a frog, I was OK,” she told the Daily News in Thursday editions.

Intirigued, she named the frog “Curious.”

Brechbuhler, a stage actress, said she bought the lettuce at her local food co-op and kept it in the refrigerator three days before using it last week.

Naked rug portrait found in dumpster

MCMENAMIN’S, Ore. — Tamerre Bremer has her woven self-portrait back. It’s a bit stinky but the image is as curvy and naked as the day it was stolen. In October, the weaving was taken from an exhibit at Linfield College, where the Portland artist is an adjunct professor.

Police said a man saw it in a garbage bin Monday, recognized it from news about the theft and called. He’ll get the $500 reward the college offered.

The work is titled “The Sexy Sex: All Nude Revue Rug One.” It is a hooked rug in hand-dyed alpaca, 85 by 17 inches. Bremer said it took about two years to complete.

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

Construction of the new law building on DeBartolo Quad progresses as the framework of the building is erected.

IN BRIEF

Actors From The London Stage will present “The Taming of the Shrew” tonight and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Student tickets are available for $12.

Prints from the Suite Museum of Art’s collection that focus on artistic subjects from the 17th century will be displayed today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit, “Rembrandt and the Art of Printing in Holland,” will highlight the golden age of Dutch art, depictions of landscapes, portraits of animals and individuals in non-aristocratic social and economic classes, and scenes of their everyday life.

There will be men’s and women’s indoor track invitations tonight at 5 in Lofus Sports Center. Admission is free.

The Harlem Globetrotters will be playing tonight at 7 at the Joyce Center. For tickets, call 631-7356.

Men’s hockey will play Bowling Green tonight at 7:35 at the Joyce Center ice rink.

The Notre Dame Student Film Festival is taking place today and Saturday at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. It features 13 short films made in classes during the past year by students in the FTT department. From dark comedy to documentary, the films cover a wide range of genres. Tickets are $3 for ND students.

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

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TODAY

HIGH 22
LOW 15

TUESDAY

HIGH 33
LOW 18

SATURDAY

HIGH 35
LOW 28

SUNDAY

HIGH 33
LOW 18

MONDAY

HIGH 38
LOW 28

TODAY

HIGH 22
LOW 15

TONIGHT

HIGH 12
LOW 8

SATURDAY

HIGH 35
LOW 28

SUNDAY

HIGH 33
LOW 18

MONDAY

HIGH 38
LOW 28

TUESDAY

HIGH 33
LOW 18

LOCAL WEATHER

Michiana-based group makes second appearance on campus

By ROHAN ANAND
News Writer

Members of the Saint Mary’s community attended a performance by the Berwa Organization at O’Loughlin Auditorium on Thursday night. This was the second time that the Rwandan dance group, consisting of about 30 members, performed at the College.

“It’s more of a local, regional group,” said Richard Baxter, the College’s director of special events. “They performed at Saint Mary’s about a year ago in a much smaller, intimate setting, and I explored the possibility of having the group return for a larger audience.”

Traditional dance and music play an important part in the lives of Rwandans. At the beginning of the performance, one of the leaders of the group said dance and music are a way to teach younger generations how to live in peace, love and harmony.

All members of the Berwa Organization live in the Michiana area, where hundreds of Rwandans reportedly live. The name Berwa means “be proud” in the native Kinyarwanda language. The Berwa members ranged in age from 9 to 50. “They use dance to cope with what they have been through and pass the heritage of their dance styles on to their children,” Baxter said. “Watching them perform these dances on a grander scale serves as a great lesson to us.”

The performance began with the “inganzo” dance performed by younger girls, followed by the “Nyaruguru” dance performed by teenage girls. The second act consisted of the “Abakobwa b’Iwacu” dance that showed, in artistic movements, the typical day in the life of a Rwandan Movement.

Following was the “Ingoma” dance performed by the Berwa drummers, and after the intermission was a series of acts depicting the Rwandan traditional wedding, the Rwandan naming ceremony, and the celebration of a child’s birth. The performance concluded with a fashion show.

“It’s uplifting to watch them dance, because it reaches their hearts,” Baxter said. “It’s hard to talk about dance and how it affects you emotionally, but you are so captivated by their commitment to what they are doing, and you can’t help but invest in the project.”

All proceeds from the event will be sent by the Berwa members back to their families in Rwanda, a nation that has been torn apart by genocide and civil war.

Contact Rohan Anand at ranand@nd.edu

The Berwa Organization performs a traditional Rwandan dance at O’Loughlin Auditorium Thursday night.

Heritage dinner to honor Moreau

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY
News Writer

Saint Mary’s Board of Governance will host a Heritage dinner in Stapleton Lounge tonight at 6 to round out its celebration of the third annual Heritage Week.

The week celebrates the history of the College, and tonight’s dinner will honor Father Basil Moreau only days after the first celebration of his feast day since his beatification in 2007.

Student body president Kim Hodges said this year’s dinner will be different from years past. BOG has invited Sisters of the Holy Cross to attend the dinner to tell stories about their experiences at Saint Mary’s, and one of the sisters is going to share her experience from the celebration of Moreau’s beatification.

“The main purpose of the dinner is to bring the Sisters of the Holy Cross, faculty and students to converse and celebrate the heritage of the College,” Hodges said.

BOG is strongly encouraging student participation.

“The significance of the dinner is to pass down tradition, pass down themes of who we are as Saint Mary’s women from people who have been pillars at Saint Mary’s College,” Hodges said.

College vice presidents and BOG officials will attend the dinner along with the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

Sodexo, the company in charge of dining hall services, will cater the French-themed meal. The courses will be similar to the dinner Monday in the dining hall that was held for Moreau.

The dinner is open to the public and free of charge, but space is limited. Students interested in attending need to sign up at the front desk of the Student Center.

The dinner will be followed by a sock hop in the Student Center Lounge from 9 p.m. to 11. There will be an ice cream bar at the dance, and free T-shirts will be passed out in honor of Heritage Week.

Another Heritage Week activity today will be guided tours of the university; a small building in the center of campus. The building was formerly the location of home economics classes at the College. The tours run from 3 p.m. to 5.

The winners of the scavenger hunt that began Monday will also be announced today and awarded their prize.

Contact Ashley Charnley at acharnley@stmarys.edu

FROM THE STAFF

FRIDAY... TONIGHT!

10 PM

No Cover

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FROM THE STAFF

FRIDAY... TONIGHT!

10 PM

No Cover
"The projects, almost all of them except for the global development projects, are presented to the companies that we work with, mostly in Chicago," Bufalino said. "There was a group of students last semester that went to Goldman Sachs in New York and another group that went to Liz Claiborne in New York. We try to broaden out and get to other projects that are across the country."

Through working on various projects, students get opportunity to learn about the business world. Many students also work on internships and scholarships internationally — in places such as Uganda, Cambodia, Ireland, London, Thailand, Ghana, and Poland.

"Artisan Opportunities International is an organization founded by two SIBC members a couple years ago," said Tina Tovar, global development division director. "They founded it and they went to Nicaragua and when they were there, they decided they wanted to work with hammock artisans."

The SIBC purchased the hammocks made by artisans, took them to the United States to be sold and used the profits from the hammocks to support the artisans in Nicaragua, Tovar said. Tovar said that she researched the needs of the artisans and determined the best use for the hammock profits when she visited Nicaragua.

"We found we go visit homes every day, kind of observe and talk to them about what their needs were," she said. "Basically our trip was mostly for research purchases."

While in Nicaragua during its rainy season, Tovar saw that the artisans' houses "were in very bad condition, they were getting ruined on and everything inside was getting wet."

Thus, the SIBC members in Nicaragua decided a housing project would benefit the artisans.

SIBC chief financial officer Kadeja Gaines also spent time abroad with the project. She traveled to Uganda on the Uganda Project, part of the NIMBI.

Members of the Uganda Project found a group of women in which one had attended a dinner in the Main Building and decided a housing project would benefit the artisans.

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Maria Bufalino
director SIBC marketing division

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

U.N. set to increase sanctions on Iran
UNITED NATIONS - Major Security Council powers agreed on an incremental increase in sanctions on Iran, including a new restriction on exporters doing business with the country, diplomats said Thursday. A draft resolution also called for more monitoring of Iran's military and financial institutions, broader travel bans on Iranian nuclear scientists and other key officials operating the assets of people and banks linked to weapons proliferation, diplomats told the Associated Press.

Diplomats from the five nations with veto power—China, Britain, France and Russia—spent a third day negotiating a final agreement on principles that would form the basis for a third round of U.N. sanctions on Iran. They were joined by Germany, which has long been involved in efforts to resolve the Iran nuclear dispute.

ITALIAN PREMIER RESIGNS AFTER VOTE
ROCHESTER — Italian Premier Romano Prodi resigned Thursday and set a general election for next month, a month after the ruling coalition lost a key confidence vote in Parliament.

The center-left government, which faces a bitter campaign that appears to be slowly leaving them behind, represented perhaps a last, best hope to avoid a protracted political crisis in Italy.

Gates said the new administration has not requested any additional assistance in the weeks since Al-Qaida and affiliated extremists have intensified their fighting inside Pakistan. Gates said that the United States would respond to Pakistan's judgment on the utility of American military assistance.

"We're not aware of any proposals that the Pakistanis have made to us at this point," he said. "This is clearly an evolving situation. And what we have tried to communicate to the Pakistanis is essentially what we are saying here is we are prepared to look at a range of cooperation with them in a number of different areas, but at this point it's their nickel, and we await proposals or suggestions from them."

Gates made his remarks not as an announcement but in response to questions from reporters at a scheduled news conference in which he also declined to say when U.S. troops have previously crossed the border from Afghanistan into Pakistan for combat operations.

The increased U.S. troop presence in Pakistan is highly sensitive, although at times senior U.S. officials have acknowledged various arrangements. In an Associated Press interview in January 2002, for example, Gen. Tommy Franks, who headed the U.S. Central Command at the time, disclosed a deal with Pakistan allowing U.S. troops in Afghanistan to cross the border in pursuit of fugitive extremist leaders.

Gates said Pakistani authorities were understandingly taking their time in deciding whether to request more military assistance from the United States. He noted the assassination in Dec. 27 of former prime minister and opposition leader Benazir Bhutto and subsequent fears of increased unrest.

"I think that the emergence of this fairly considerable security challenge in Pakistan has really been brought home to the Pakistani government relatively recently and particularly with the tragic assassination of Mrs. Bhutto," Gates said. "So I think it's not particularly surprising that they have not fully thought through exactly how they intend to proceed and their strategy going forward."

The United States has about 28,000 troops in neighboring Afghanistan, and Gates earlier this month ordered another 3,000 to go in this spring to train Afghan forces and to help fight Taliban insurgents.

U.S. intelligence believes Al-Qaida leader Osama bin Laden is on the Pakistani side of the border that the United States is now being more willing to seek to U.S. assistance.

Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who appeared at the news conference with Gates, said he did not know whether Pakistan had fallen or received any new proposals.

Most of the discussion during the press conference has focused on the possibility of U.S. troops being used to train Pakistani forces, Gates said, but he acknowledged that combat operations might also be included.

Pakistan

White House offers combat aid

Gates says U.S. 'ready, willing and able' to help fight insurgents affiliated with Al-Qaida

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration is willing to send a small number of U.S. forces to Pakistan to help fight the insurgency there if Pakistan authorizes the United States to assist, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Thursday.

"We remain ready, willing and able to assist the Pakistanis and to work with them to provide additional training, to conduct joint operations, should they desire to do so," Gates told a news conference.

Gates said that the new administration has not requested any additional assistance in the weeks since Al-Qaida and affiliated extremists intensified their fighting inside Pakistan. Gates said that the United States would respond to Pakistan's judgment on the utility of American military assistance.

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Border Patrol wide searches

York: Marcelina del Carmen Joaquin, age 34, from Mexico Border Patrol agents and other federal and local law enforcement agencies conducted a sweep of the campus on Tuesday with a special focus on the west side.

The operation, which is part of a larger effort to increase security along the border, was conducted in response to a recent increase in illegal activity in the area.

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meet with the coalition before she leaves office — and she has been trying for the last several months to organize a meeting.

"I won't have a whole lot left to contribute because I only have a little over two months left in my term, but I do think it's important to at least get it formed in the year that it was created," she said.

House, however, is not positive that the coalition will meet before April 1, and although he welcomes Brown's input, says he will not rush a meeting.

"Although we wish Ms. Brown well and are sure that she will be very successful in whatever field she decides to go into, and her thoughts will always be welcome throughout the years, in all fairness to the coalition, this is not contingent upon whether she's in the community or not," he said.

However, Brown is not alone in wanting to meet sometime this spring. Some Council members would also like to see the CCAC convened to discuss what they consider a very important issue.

Though he still receives "some" complaints about student partying, Kirstis said that he has already seen an improvement in student-community relations since the CCAC was formed.

"I do believe, with some of the ordinance work, and the idea of registering parties, we've gotten people together to reel things in and get people talking to try to make the neighborhoods a little bit better for everybody," he said.

Despite the slow start, House is optimistic that the coalition will be able to accomplish its goals.

"I'm sure that it will meet the need that it was created for, and we're still very optimistic and proactive on that whole process," he said. "The results are going to be very much worth the wait."

Nonetheless, these goals can never be fulfilled if the CCAC is never convened. And ultimately, the responsibility rests with the members of the South Bend Common Council to empower the coalition.

"In terms of our end, we've followed up by asking when it's going to be formed, if it's going to be formed," Brown said. "Unfortunately at this point I just think it's kind of a waiting game. The ball is in their court. They know we've been following up."

Contact Joseph McMahon at jmcmahon6@nd.edu

Write news. 631-5323
Asian markets rise on U.S. news

HONG KONG — Asian markets rallied Friday, further recovering from their plunge earlier this week, as investors took heart from gains on Wall Street overnight and positive figures about the U.S. economy.

Investors also welcomed details of a tax rebate for U.S. consumers announced as part of President Bush's economic stimulus plan. The tax rebate will put $600 to $2,100 in most tax filers' pockets.

"The markets are reacting to news that Bush and Congress have agreed to accelerate the tax rebates for U.S. consumers so they can go shopping, not buy exports from Asia," said Francis Lui, a general management partner at Fullerton Securities in Hong Kong. Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index jumped nearly 6 percent in early trading before trimming some gains. By midmorning, it was up 1,138 points, or 4.90 percent, at 24,067 points. The index fell 2.2 percent the previous day.

In Tokyo, Japan's benchmark Nikkei 225 index extended its gains for a second straight session, rising 67.63 points, or 0.28 percent, to 13,459.83 by midday. It gained 2.1 percent on Monday. Markets in Australia, South America, Taiwan and the Philippines were also up.

"The rally on Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrials rose more than 100 points, partly because by day's end, the Labor Department said number of people seeking unemployment benefits last week fell for a fourth straight week. Investors were also cheered by strong gains on Thursday in Europe. "Hong Kong gainers were led by property issues on expectations that the U.S. Federal Reserve would again slash rates when it meets next Tuesday and Wednesday. Hong Kong banks usually match the U.S. rate cuts as the Hong Kong Dollar is pegged to the U.S. currency. Asian markets had a volatile week, buffeted by worries that the U.S., a key export market and the world's biggest economy, was going to contract. On Monday and Tuesday, all Asian markets suffered steep losses before rebounding Wednesday and Thursday after the U.S. Fed slashed lending rates by 0.75 percent. The Hang Seng Index bucked Thursday's upward trend. After rising 3 percent in the morning, it slumped 2.5 percent later in the day after French bank Societe Generale announced a massive write-down in subprime assets and detailed how a junior trader had lost the bank more than $7 billion. Analysts described Hong Kong's drop as a "knee-jerk reaction" to the French bank's news. "We should have ended up yesterday," said Rob Hart, an analyst at Morgan Stanley. "But there was no where else to pull money from when from the Societe Generale news came out. Tokyo and Seoul had already closed." The Dow Jones industrials average rose 0.88 percent to 12,378.61 Thursday, following a 2.5 percent surge on Wednesday. The Nasdaq composite index advanced 1.9 percent to 2,360.92.

FRANCE

Trader defrauds bank for $7 billion

PARIS — Last Sunday, Societe Generale Chief Executive Daniel Bouton got the call every banking chief dreads.

Undeterred by multilayered security systems at the bank, France's second-largest, 31-year old junior trader Jerome Kerviel had fraudulently used company funds to bet on European stock markets — wrongdoing that was going on for a year. The timing could not have been worse.

Bank stocks suffered their blackest day since September 11 ter­ rorist attacks on Monday, meaning Societe Generale was forced to sell the contracts built up by the rogue trader just as bonds were plung­ ing.

It took the bank three days to unload them, and appeared to be the largest trading fraud ever car­ ried out by a single person.

The losses, Societe Generale announced Thursday, amounted to 4.9 billion euros, or more than $7 billion — making it one of history's biggest banking frauds and prompt­ ing immediate calls for tighter regu­ lation of the industry.

Societe Generale said Kerviel — described as a "brilliant" student by one of his former university teach­ ers — appears to have netted no personal gain from the scheme. The trader was compared to Nick Leeson, who bankrupted British bank Barings in 1995. Barings col­ lapsed after Leeson, the bank's Singapore general manager of futures trading, lost 860 million pounds — then worth $1.38 billion — on Asian futures markets, wiping out the bank's cash reserves.

The company had been in business for more than 230 years. Leeson himself told the British Broadcasting Corp. on Thursday that he was not shocked such a fraud had happened again, but "the thing that really shocked me was the size of it." Though the scale of losses at Societe Generale is far greater, Bouton insisted that the bank is still financially sound.

"We had to open 1,443,234,961 accounts to cover everything," he said. "We can absorb a lot of pain there." The company said it expects to post a net profit of 600 million to 800 million euros ($744 million to $1.16 billion) for all of 2007 — even after the fraud and another 2.85 Mil­ lion euros ($2.99 billion) lost in the subprime mortgage crisis.

As a result, the bank said it would be forced to raise $8 billion in new capital, partly by selling shares in a rights offer underwritten by JPMorgan Chase and Morgan Stanley.
LEGACY VILLAGE
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3. Family Room with fireplace;
4. Mud Room with laundry center, including a washer and dryer;
5. Hardwood flooring on entire main floor (except Mud Room);
6. Each Bedroom area is approximately 10’ x 16’ and has the following design features:
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7. Each two students will share a porcelain-tiled bathroom (private toilet room and a steam shower with seat) and a small den with kitchenette (sink, bar refrigerator, cook top and microwave) having hardwood flooring;
8. Gas barbecue grill on Back Porch/Patio;
9. Wireless internet service ready;
10. Fire/Security Alarm System and locks with deadbolts for all exterior doors and all doors from staircase to bedroom areas;
11. Top-of-the-line heating, air conditioning and other mechanical systems (the "Mechanical Systems");
12. The floors, ceilings and walls surrounding each bedroom and bathroom are completely insulated to reduce noise;
13. Reduced utility costs because of the Mechanical Systems and the fact the homes are extremely well-insulated;
14. Spacious yards;
15. Substantial parking available.

For more information, contact Robert L. Cimala at legacyhomes@comcast.net or (630) 886-7715.

HURRY AND RESERVE YOUR HOUSE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!
Uganda

continued from page 1

Saharan village to help it tackle the challenges of disease, hunger, poverty, illiteracy and environmental degradation through the empowerment of its people and institutions.

This meant that rather than impose a solution to these problems, Notre Dame would collaborate with and give the villagers the tools and resources they might need to improve the standard of life.

Lyden said that during the first half of 2007, Notre Dame and its partner school, Uganda Martyrs University, worked together to conduct research on the village and comprehensive interviews with its residents. The two schools also studied Ruhila, a more advanced Millennium Village in the Lungi district of Uganda.

"We looked at some of Ruhila's strategies, timelines and budgets and hope to adapt those to Nindye's needs," Lyden said.

One of those strategies was hiring a consultant from the Ugandan capital, Kampala, to conduct a participatory mapping exercise in Nindye. Lyden said the project's staff called on the same consultant used in Ruhila to "map out existing infrastructure, water sources, topography and population density, among other things, so that we could gain a better understanding of the region and take those things into consideration in the future."

The mapping exercise, he said, involved the villagers by inviting them to three open meetings where they could offer their input and knowledge of the region.

More than 100 people attended each of the sessions, Lyden said. "Word was getting out among the people about the way in which we wanted to build the partnership — an inclusive one," he said. "And they were also willing to coop­erate with us and talk to us because they knew we were working with Uganda Martyrs.

When five Notre Dame undergraduates arrived to spend the summer in Nindye, the vil­lagers were open and receptive.

"People were extremely willing to spend one or two hours talking to our students," Lyden said. "Two students were there through the Student International Business Council (SIBC), identifying and interview­ing local entrepreneurs while the other three were doing academic research on different areas, including the education system and the economic and political conditions in Nindye, Lyden said.

Their findings and conclusions will become the basis for a more tailored systematic survey that the project staff hopes to get out to the villagers in 2008.

This baseline survey, he said, will yield more information about Nindye's demographics, the level of education of its residents, their religion, mortality rates, mea­sures of maternal health and incidence rates for HIV/AIDS and other diseases like tuberculosis and malaria, among other key indicators.

"We hope the results from this baseline survey will tell the people of Nindye what to tackle first. Do they work on purifying water sources or on building new schools? Although ultimately, the hope is to be able to start working on a variety of different initiatives at the same time and in that way, jumpstart the entire vil­lage," Lyden said.

He said it's likely the survey will not be conducted until mid-2008, when Uganda Martyrs stu­dents in need of a summer job and who can speak the local lan­guage— Luganda — can distrib­ute it to the villagers, compile the results and communicate them to the people of Nindye.

Notre Dame, for its part, will concentrate on raising more cap­i­tal to back up the project, Lyden said. This might include extend­ing an invitation to the alumni to become more involved in the efforts to help Nindye, but those plans aren't finalized yet.

"We do know that sometime this fall, we hope to be able to gather the villagers, tell them what our findings are, work with them to prioritize their needs and put in place the economic and political conditions that have the most impact on their lives," Lyden said.

"The duo also wants to increase the study break options to once a week throughout the semes­ter instead of just during exams.

"The idea for study break options came from a thought that stress occurs at different times, not just during finals weeks," Gruscinski said.

"When asked what these study breaks would entail, Gruscinski suggested more movie showings in Vanden and Vener theater, recruiting performers onto campus, and hot chocolate nights.

"We've never had a bigger turnout for students to participate than for Siefert," he said.

Voting begins on PRISM at midnight on Monday and continues until 11:59 p.m.

Contact Kristen Edelen at kedele01@saintmarys.edu

Elections

continued from page 1

five tickets," Siefert said.

Speaking to a group of about 20 students, Gruscinski acknowledged the unusual nature of their unannounced contest, but said she and Falvey are still tak­ing their campaign very seri­ously, and are concerned with increasing voter turnout at Saint Mary's.

"Students will still be asked to vote," Gruscinski said.

She explained that students will have the option of either voting for them or selecting an abstain option on Saint Mary's PRISM Web site on Monday.

In the circumstance that 51 percent of students do click the abstain option, Gruscinski and Falvey will not take office next school year.

If the abstention vote wins, it will be the first time in school history, Siefert said. This might include extend­ing an invitation to the alumni to become more involved in the efforts to help Nindye, but those plans aren't finalized yet.

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For a limited time, try Moe's new Chicken Club Burrito loaded with grilled chicken, bacon, cheese, spicy ranch sauce and all of your favorite fresh ingredients. Or get a Chicken Club Quesadilla, back by popular demand!

buy one chicken club burrito or quesadilla $5 off any purchase of $10 or more

get one free with the purchase of 2 large drinks

MISHAWAKA IS A
southwest grill
"welcome back students!"
Four years after it was created, the teaching position meant for Tariq Ramadan is still unfilled. The Muslim scholar, hired by Notre Dame in spring of 2004 to teach Islamic ethics and fill a new tenured position at the Kroc Institute, was not named to the position he was told he would be released by the U.S. government. Barred from entering the country, the Swiss citizen resigned his position at Notre Dame. So Oxford promptly took him.

In fall of 2006, the government finally explained the problem: Ramadan had been given money to a Swiss charity later classified as a terrorist group. The ACLU took up his case. This December, a federal court dealt Ramadan another blow, dismissing his lawsuit and upholding the government’s decision.

It is a long-awaited disappointment.

Ramadan is a complex figure. His criticism of certain French Jewish intellectuals has drawn accusations of anti-Semitism. But he has also called for religious tolerance. His writings and lectures and his family history — his grandfather founded the Muslim Brotherhood — have elicited warnings from critics, who claim him insincere and give him backing of oppressive, militant Islam. But he is also known as a reformer, strongly opposed to extremism.

Let’s get it started! Let’s get it started in here. Let’s get it started in here. After wasting far too much time trying to come up with an adequate introduction to this article, we concluded that anything we came up with would pale in comparison to the words of black Eyed Peas. Now that we got things “started (that)” on the topic at hand — how the new Budweiser mascot is the embodiment of all the worst qualities of every jerk we’ve ever met.

For all of you who watched the AFC and/or NFC championship games, no matter who you were rooting for, I think there is something we can all agree upon. The new Budweiser guy is a huge d-bag. Who is this condescending butt clown and why rooting for him?

A controversial professor should not be hired for controversy’s sake, a professor — controversial or not — should be hired for the value he presents to the University. The Kroc Institute pursued Ramadan for the contribution he made to Notre Dame and to its choice to critics. Notre Dame cannot shy away from controvers in the future.

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Debates tarnish Obama’s image

Last Monday, during the contentious South Carolina Democratic debate, Sen. Barack Obama tarnished his own image as a “new” type of politician — so much so, that only his support from African-Americans rises above double digits over rival Senator Hillary Clinton. Obama continues to fall off message, exposing his inexperience while using his favorable impres- sion on the national stage.

The political landscape of the past half-century is littered with similarly unsuccessful presidential candidates of both parties who offered a new direction, good intentions and charismatic rhetoric — but failed to win their party’s nominations. Consequently, Obama has drifted away from his original image as an inclusi- ve candidate with high ideals who happens to be an African-American instead of the more narrowly defined candidate of African-Americans. Unfortunately, voters demand broad appeal rather than a nar- rowing candidacy, which can be fatal as it dog labeled the Haskell B. Hurt candi- date.

Political pundits have consistently mis- characterized Obama’s appeal. In Iowa, they lumped him with former Senator John Edwards as the anti-Clinton change agents. However, it is Edwards, the party’s former vice presidential nominee, who is dividing the experi- ence-based vote over Obama’s inexperience. While Obama energized new and independent voters with lofty ideas, it’s early contests, South Carolina is the first “closed” primary of the season in which only Democrats may vote. With more than half of the voters African-American, Obama’s win will be narrowly viewed.

Obama’s back-to-back losses in New Hampshire and Nevada caused his cam- paign to change tactics, taking their eyes off of the ultimate prize. Deprive for a second, Obama catered to South Carolina’s African-American majority voters, first with his Nevada concession speech (read from a TelePrompTer), then with new body gestures and language that made him sound more like a Southern Baptist minister. Voters in other parts of the country can clearly see his transforma- tion away from his original Iowa persona, a demeanor that now dramatically emphasizes the notion that he is just another politician doing what he needs to do for a desperate win.

Formerly the more open-minded himself by describing his candidacy to a Nevada editorial board. Comparing his goals with his coalition-building skills of Ronald Reagan was a fair assessment but lacked the wisdom to avoid agitating Democrats unenthusiastic about Reagan. However, when Obama lopped off Bill Clinton with Richard Nixon, an effort to contrast and slightly discredit Hillary, he stooped to a personal level by insulting the former president. It is a mystery how Obama cannot comprehend that his remarks were personal and how they surely invited, and drew, a quick response from Bill Clinton.

The Obama campaign has been too sen- sitive again and too quick to engage the Clintons. First, they accused Hillary of a callous disrespect for Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. when she suggested that he needed President Lyndon Johnson’s sup- port to achieve the passage of civil and voting rights laws. Then, in a zeal to win the next primary and break his losing streak, Obama himself complained about the former president’s remarks that Obama’s votes for military funding are identical with Hillary’s votes, yet she is accused of supporting the war. Obama has become so rattled by the Clintons that he publicly whined about the former president to Hillary during the debate.

Bill Clinton is demonstrating that in the presidential arena, Obama cannot have it both ways — hurling insults on the one hand, which Obama then decries as the old political way, and rationalizing his personal Clinton slurs as simply laying forth the facts. If other Democrats, like Al Gore or John Kerry, had been standing in Hillary’s place on stage, they would have scolded Obama with, “Well, welcome to the big leagues. Do you naively think you can have it both ways by publicly whining about the former President Johnson during the debate. Bill Clinton is demonstrating that in the presidential arena, Obama cannot have it both ways — hurling insults on the one hand, which Obama then decries as the old political way, and rationalizing his personal Clinton slurs as simply laying forth the facts. If other Democrats, like Al Gore or John Kerry, had been standing in Hillary’s place on stage, they would have scolded Obama with, “Well, welcome to the big leagues. Do you naively think you can have it both ways by publicly whining about the former President Johnson during the debate. Bill Clinton is demonstrating that in the presidential arena, Obama cannot have it both ways — hurling insults on the one hand, which Obama then decries as the old political way, and rationalizing his personal Clinton slurs as simply laying forth the facts. If other Democrats, like Al Gore or John Kerry, had been standing in Hillary’s place on stage, they would have scolded Obama with, “Well, welcome to the big leagues. Do you naively think you can have it both ways by publicly whining about the former President Johnson during the debate. Bill Clinton is demonstrating that in the presidential arena, Obama cannot have it both ways — hurling insults on the one hand, which Obama then decries as the old political way, and rationalizing his personal Clinton slurs as simply laying forth the facts. If other Democrats, like Al Gore or John Kerry, had been standing in Hillary’s place on stage, they would have scolded Obama with, “Well, welcome to the big leagues. Do you naively think you can have it both ways by publicly whining about the former President Johnson during the debate. Bill Clinton is demonstrating that in the presidential arena, Obama cannot have it both ways — hurling insults on the one hand, which Obama then decries as the old political way, and rationalizing his personal Clinton slurs as simply laying forth the facts. If other Democrats, like Al Gore or John Kerry, had been standing in Hillary’s place on stage, they would have scolded Obama with, “Well, welcome to the big leagues. Do you naively think you can have it both ways by publicly whining about the former President Johnson during the debate. Bill Clinton is demonstrating that in the presidential arena, Obama cannot have it both ways — hurling insults on the one hand, which Obama then decries as the old political way, and rationalizing his personal Clinton slurs as simply laying forth the facts. If other Democrats, like Al Gore or John Kerry, had been standing in Hillary’s place on stage, they would have scolded Obama with, “Well, welcome to the big leagues. Do you naively think you can have it both ways by publicly whining about the former President Johnson during the debate. Bill Clinton is demonstrating that
“American Gladiators” is back — just not the way you remember it. NBC has resurrected the reality competition this season in the wake of the writers’ strike, but the new, glitzy version of the show fails to live up to the legacy of the original.

Viewers are greeted to the arena by former WVE super-hulk Hogan and boxing’s super middleweight champion Laila Ali. Hogan can be counted on to get the crowd excited, and his personality has not changed much since he was a professional wrestler. But Ali lacks the charisma that defined her father, Muhammad Ali, and often comes up short when doing interviews.

Moreover, the pair act merely as talking heads, lacking the same kind of play-by-play coverage that former hosts Mike Adamle and Larry Csonka did in the original series. Adamle and Csonka could have been counted on for quality and insightful commentary, that rivals most of what is on television today. All and Hogan’s interviews with the contenders rarely add anything meaningful to the show, instead only wasting just enough time to cut down on the number of events. In the original run of the show, contenders competed in seven events before the eliminator. That has since been reduced to five. The contenders usually show their hubris by blurting out absurd statements that make them look either silly or rude.

The contenders themselves are inherently different from their counterparts in the original. While standing next to the gladiators, the original contenders looked downright puny. They were fit, but rarely did any of them have any really muscular builds like all of them do today.

The contenders were also asked only to be athletes; now, each of them has to have an interesting story. In the same episode, three different contenders claimed they needed to win the $100,000 grand prize in order to rebuild a house destroyed by Hurricane Wilma, buy a house to help her mother move out of a trailer and help spread Christianity.

On the other hand, the gladiators remain as they were in the original: mysterious and dominant. The names that you grew up with are gone (no more Thunder, Lazer or Gemini), but they have been replaced by the hoste-dancing Toa and the howling Wolf. Wolf is by far the best of this new crop of American heroes, if for no other reason that he looks to be flat out crazy. During events in which he is competing, he has the wild look in his eye of a madman bent on vengeance — something that has suited him just fine in the early goings of “American Gladiators.”

The female gladiators have drastically changed from the original. Fans of the original series will remember the Amazon who competed were largely the muscular women who would have fit right in with the East German swim team. The mighty Helga, whose role in the show is simply to be an immovable object, at least has some lady-like features. Many of the events remain the same as in the original series, and the new ones still have the same general feeling of contender versus gladiator. But the new show has a distinct advantage over the original in its eliminator. In the original series, the Eliminator was a lengthy obstacle course at the end of the show that was more than just ceremonial because it was impossible to make up any lead lost during the race. But that has all changed. The Eliminator is much longer now and requires contenders to use all of their strength just to finish.

The most important change is the move of the “travelator” (an inclined treadmill) from the beginning of the race to the end. This has wreaked havoc on the contenders in the revival, punishing the proud contenders as they struggle to maintain their footing all the way up to the finish. Overall, the new series provides the same quality entertainment that the original provided a decade ago. Even though the current installment of “American Gladiators” has not been able to, and may never, match entertainment and competition of its predecessor, this new 21st-century installment is still very much worth watching.

Contact Jay Fitzpatrick at jfitzpat@nd.edu

The views expressed in Scene and Heard are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

NBC has reinvented the American Gladiators of yore.
By CORBIN HICKS

Lupe Fiasco was given the tough task of following up a debut album that was produced by Jay-Z and nominated for a Grammy. While the hip-hop artist doesn’t deserve a classic this time around, it’s safe to say that he has exceeded expectations.

Since releasing his debut album, much has changed in the life of Lupe Fiasco. Gone are the incessant comparisons and references to skateboard ing. Fiasco has had to deal with a bevy of recent personal struggles and obstacles — including the deaths of his father and his good friend, rapper Stack Bundles. Also, his mentor, business partner and close friend Charles "Chilly" Patton was sentenced to 44 years in prison after a conviction on drug charges. These have not been the best 12 months for Fiasco.

However, it hasn’t been all negative. Average listeners and critics alike hailed his debut as an instant classic. He almost effortlessly became an icon for lyricists, his debut album as an instant classic. He already has his own name on the cover of the album’s debut, "Hip-Hop Saved My Life," which was released in 2007. The album’s first single, "Ground Control to Majic City," was a Tony-winning hit. Lupe’s songwriting abilities.

Lupe Fiasco’s follow-up effort, "The Cool," shakes off any fears of falling victim to the sophomore slump. The album begins with a spoken-word intro that discusses the subjectivity of "genius" and the ways that it is perceived in society. Fiasco claims that what may be "cool" for one person could strike fear into the hearts of others. This track is followed by a solemn tribute to his incarcerated mentor.

The grave seriousness of these first two tracks is eased somewhat by the hip-hop, double-time rhythm used in "Go-Go Gadget Flow," where Fiasco proclaims that Chicago is the "best city in the whole wide world." The brooding theme returns on the next track, "The Coolest," and we begin to see a trend that is littered throughout this album. Obviously, Fiasco has been dealing with some personal demons, and his songwriting reflects these struggles. The subject matter on this album is very dark, but it is not unbearable as the music alternates between the lively and the moody.

The next song is "Superstar," which was the album’s first single. Most of the Notre Dame student body remembers this as one of the unknown songs that Fiasco performed when he stopped by for "The Show." The next track is "Paris, Tokyo," which has an old-school, A Tribe Called Quest vibe to it. In this song, he explains all of the different kinds of places that he would take a special lady.

These places include Paris, Tokyo, New Orleans, Brazil and various other exotic locations. Next is perhaps the song that stands out the most. "Hi- Definition," which features a guest verse by Snoop Dogg, is by far the most commercial attempt on the album. It is not hard by any means, but it throws off the continuity that the album has built up so far.

After "Gold Watch" are two of the best story-telling tracks to ever come from a rapper. "Hip-Hop Saved My Life" is a detailed description of the life of an aspiring rapper and the journey that they endure in order to reach stardom. By the way, if you hear a song with a screwed-up hook that you know where it came from, the next six months, you may have a better life. These topics could be stand-alone songs, but the fact that he is able to combine all three of these emotional stories into one song — that is actually an enjoyable listen — speaks to the wonders of Lupe’s songwriting abilities.

The rest of the album is solid. The subject matter varies drastically from child soldiers to the average day of a cheeseburger, but it still maintains the album’s somber undertone. Its versatility makes this effort thoroughly enjoyable and the tough subject matter easy to digest. Lupe’s latest might not win a Grammy, but it’s worth a spin. Contact Corbin Hicks at chicks20@nd.edu

"The Cool" is Lupe’s follow-up to his Grammy award winning debut album.

"Intruder Alert" goes where very few rap songs go in the span of the song. Fiasco covers three topics that are considered taboo, exposing on the vulnerability and heartache that certain situations causes people who become engulfed by tough circumstances.

The first verse deals with a female rape victim, the second verse discusses a drug addict and the third verse talks about a father sending his infant daughter to the United States so that she can have a better life. These topics could be stand-alone songs, but the fact that he is able to combine all three of these emotional stories into one song — that is actually an enjoyable listen — speaks to the wonders of Fiasco’s songwriting abilities.

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ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING

Irish host WVU in final home meet

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame gets one more chance to take on Big East competition before the conference championships when it faces West Virginia Saturday in the Shamrock Invitational.

The Irish have almost a month off before the Big East meet, which will begin on Feb. 20. This is our last run-through," coach Carrie Nixon said. "We really want to hone and fine-tune our swimming skills.

Irish take to the pool for their last regular season meet of the season at the Rolfs Aquatic Center, and for the seniors, this will be their last opportunity to compete in a home meet.

"They are a little nostalgic," Nixon said. "They are pumped and sad at the same time.

West Virginia will be Notre Dame's third Big East opponent this season. "It's a good chance to fix your muscles and boost your confidence against an in-conference team, and that's always great," Nixon said.

This will be only the second meeting between the two schools, with the Irish winning big in a 222-147.5 romp in last year's Shamrock Invitational.

This year will still be a challenge for the Irish, assistant head coach Joel Wilhelms said. "West Virginia has some great swimmers," White said. "We always like to focus on being faster than the Big East.

This last competition will give the team a preview of what we can expect in the Big East championship.

In her final year, possible Olympic hopeful Caroline Johnson has been a top performer for the Irish. Nixon praised the effort Johnson put forth over the past four years. "She has been a joy to coach from day one," Nixon said. "She has had a huge impact on the team and I cannot say enough.

The Irish are swimming well, as they hold the fastest times in the conference in five individual events and one relay.

Freshman Amerynn Miller holds the record in the 50-yard backstroke, junior Christa Riggins in the 200 freestyle, junior Casey Wagner in the 1,000 freestyle and senior Sam Maxwell in the 100 breaststroke and freshman Kailey Case in the 200 freestyle.

The Irish also have at least a top-four time in every event. That will be important in the Big East championship, which favors depth over flair.

Saturday's meet will consist of a morning and an evening session, the first beginning at 9:30 a.m. and the second at 4 p.m.

Contact Jared Jedick at j Jedick@nd.edu

SMC SWIMMING

Belles face Calvin after tough losses

By PETE REISENAUER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's hopes to rebound after two tough losses last weekend when it travels to Michigan to face MIAA power Calvin tonight.

Coach Ryan Domkowski said that although the losses to Hillsdale and Olivet brought his team together and taught it what it needs to do to beat a top-tier program like Calvin, which captured the MIAA title last season.

"Even though we came up on the losing end the last two meets in a row, I think that this weekend may even push us to be a better team than we would have," Domkowski said.

The team will need its best effort as it faces undefeated Calvin, ranked no. 4 in the MIAA.

The Belles believe they are on the cusp of becoming a great program, and a win over Calvin could help them get there. To improve on their strong performances in the losses, the Belles will need top efforts from co-captains senior Kelly Tighe and junior Melissa Gerbich. Saint Mary's will need sophomore Lindsey Nelis and freshman Casey Niezer to have another solid meet.

The meet starts at 7:30 p.m. at East Grand Rapids High School in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Contact Pete Reisenauser at preisena@smu.edu

PGA TOUR

Tiger two back at Buick Invitational

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Tiger Woods delivered the score he expected in his 2008 debut, just the game.

Despite playing from the sand, rough and behind a few trees early in his round, Woods began a much-anticipated season on Thursday with a 6-under 69 on the tough South Course at Torrey Pines. That left him two shots behind Matt Kuchar, who took the top spot on the leaderboard as he goes for his fourth straight title in the Buick Invitational.

Woods didn't totally off the tee, but I hung in there," Woods said. "Shooting 67 is always going to feel pretty good on the South Course.

The Belles believe they are competitive, having won two meets in a row, and then finished his round with consecutive birdies to become the first player since Davis Love III in 2000 to have the first-round lead while playing the South Course.

"I won't top that for awhile," Mattson said. "Brad Adelson has had a high score in the 600-yard event, so there are two more than two strokes easier.

"They are big because before I was trying to qualify for the NCAA, I was really trying to focus on the NCAA championship," the competitive swimmer said. "I want to help everyone get a job to gain experience? Need a job to gain experience? Need a job to gain experience?

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**NFL**

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**USCHO.com/CSVT Division I Poll**

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Associated Press

**FIXFORDOUGH, Mass. —** For once, not even the paparazzi could find Tom Brady. Or his boot. They staked out the locker of the Patriots quarterback for 45 minutes before the media access period ended on Thursday. Then they focused for the 15 minutes they were allowed into practice and found two quarterbacks, Matt Cassel and Matt Gutierrez.

That was quite a change from early in the week when Brady walked through a bunch of videographers and photographers near the New York home of his girlfriend, supermodel Gisele Bündchen. On Monday, they took pictures of him wearing a protective boot on his right foot. Later in the day, he walked without the boot into a nightspot with Bündchen. Video on Tuesday also captured him without the boot as he headed for and entered a car.

"I'm going to put on a boot and see if you all follow me around," New England halfback Heath Evans joked before practice.

Brady, the NFL MVP, reportedly has a minor ankle sprain that shouldn't keep him out of the Super Bowl on Feb. 3 against the New York Giants.

Coach Bill Belichick and several players treated the Brady-boot saga with a mixture of stonewalling and smiles.

"I don't have any comment on it," Belichick said in a news conference before the Patriots held their first practice for the Super Bowl.

"The injury report will be out next Wednesday and we're excited to give that to you. That form will be filled out completely and I can't wait to give that to everybody.

"I know you're anxious for it, so when it's due on Wednesday, we'll have it for you. Don't worry about that.

"My wife, in the Super Bowl, fans were concerned about the boot on Brady's foot, defensive end Richard Seymour was more taken with the bouquet in Brady's hand.

"Every channel I turned to, there it was, magnifying in on the boot," he said. "To me, the good part was the flowers. I wasn't in on the boot."

Other players commented, or declined to, in more typical Patriots fashion. Stay away from anything controversial and never discuss injuries.

"I didn't see the video and I don't know anything about it," safety Rodney Harrison declared.

Cornerback Ellis Hobbs was no more forthcoming.

"That has nothing to do with me, man," he said.

"Next question."

**Clemens' hearing pushed back until February**

WASHINGTON — Roger Clemens' meeting with a congressional committee investigating steroids in baseball was pushed back until Feb. 5.

Clemens originally was asked to appear Saturday for a deposition or transcribed interview with staff members from the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. That panel has called a Feb. 13 news conference before a tearful goodbye to the NFL during a tearful news conference in a meeting room where the Buccaneers played a high-light film of some of his most memorable plays.

"The Bucs all-time touchdown leader, who played at Purdue from 1992-95, spent the 2007 season on injured reserve with a neck problem that was not related to a career-threatening injury that required surgery in 2003. He held little hope for a return, but still had difficulty saying his career was over.

"Though mentally I feel like I can continue, physically I can't," he said.

"The second injury to my neck will prevent me from playing football ever." Sharapova returns to Australian Open final

MELBOURNE, Australia — A year after losing the Australian Open final in embarrassing fashion to Serena Williams, Maria Sharapova is looking unstoppable in her quest for a third Grand Slam singles title.

But it doesn't happen in Saturday's final at Melbourne Park against Serbia's Ana Ivanovic, she won't lose too much sleep over it.

"From the beginning of the tournament, you want to go a step further than you've done in the past," Sharapova said after her 6-3, 6-1 semifinal win over Jelena Jankovic on Thursday.

"That's always your goal, and your mantra going into a tournament. If it's not this Saturday ... if it doesn't happen, hey, it's life."

The way Sharapova is playing, she can afford to be introspective — six straight-set wins, including one that ended No. 1 Justine Henin's 32-match winning streak in the quarterfinals.

**In Brief**

**Beloved Bucs fullback retires after 12 seasons**

Tampa, Fla. — Tampa Bay's A-Train has made his final run.

Six-time Pro Bowl fullback Mike Alstott announced his retirement after 12 seasons Thursday, saying goodbye to the NFL during a tearful news conference in a meeting room where the Buccaneers played a highlight film of some of his most memorable plays.

The Bucs all-time touchdown leader, who played at Purdue from 1992-95, spent the 2007 season on injured reserve with a neck problem that was not related to a career-threatening injury that required surgery in 2003. He held little hope for a return, but still had difficulty saying his career was over.

"Though mentally I feel like I can continue, physically I can't," he said.

"The second injury to my neck will prevent me from playing football ever."
Come explore the life of zeal of the Congregation of Holy Cross with an evening of prayer and conversation with Holy Cross religious and other discerning men.

Feb 1
DISCERNMENT
with Fr. Jim King, C.S.C.
Fr. Tom Eckert, C.S.C.
& Seminarian Thomas Haan
from Old College

Feb 8
PRAYER
with Fr. Nick Ayo, C.S.C.
& Fr. Michael Wurtz, C.S.C.

Feb 22
COMMUNITY
with Fr. Peter Jarret, C.S.C.
Fr. Austin Collins, C.S.C.
Fr. Gary Chamberland, C.S.C.

5:30-7:30 p.m.
beginning at Log Chapel
with dinner to follow at the Coleman-Morse Center

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e-mail vocation1@nd.edu
MEN’S SWIMMING

Swimmers face West Virginia in final tune-up

By CHRIS DOYEN
Sports Writer

Coming off losses last weekend to Louisville and Northwestern, No. 22 Notre Dame will try to capture a win Saturday in its final meet of the regular season, an important test before the Big East championships.

The Irish will face West Virginia in the Shamrock Invitational, a meet that coach Tim Welsh said will be special.

"This is an important weekend for the team for several reasons," Welsh said. "It's the last meet of the season prior to the Big East championships, and it's the last home meet in this pool for seniors ever. It's our last chance to get everything right."

The Irish have competed against two other Big East schools in dual meets this season, notching a victory over Pittsburgh in November before dropping the meet against Louisville.

Last season, the Irish squared off against West Virginia, Oakland, Penn State and Connecticut in the Shamrock Invitational. The Irish posted a 2-2 mark to finish third in the meet, while the Mountaineers won, going 4-0.

Junior diver Michael Ruffin, along with sophomores John Lytle, Andrew Hoffman and Ross Moore, are some of the returning point scorers from last year's invitational. Their experience, along with contributions from a large freshman class, should help the Irish in their attempt to avenge last year's home loss to the Mountaineers.

The two teams also met at the 2007 Big East meet, where West Virginia, which ended its regular season undefeated, edged Notre Dame by 4 1/2 points to win the conference crown.

Contact Chris Doyen at cdoyen@nd.edu

Irish sophomore Andrew Deters competes Jan. 18 against Louisville at Rolfs Aquatic Center.
Runner face first big test at ND Invitational

By ALEX BARKER and ANDY ZICCARELLI
Sports Writers

For the first time this season, the Irish will face legitimate Big East competition when they suit up for the Notre Dame Invitational today at the Loftus Sports Center. The Irish will host conference foe Marquette and Big Ten opponent Michigan State.

"This weekend's competition will be a major step up from previous meets," Irish coach Tim Connelly said. "It will be a big step up in competition and a difficult challenge for us." The timing of the Invitational could not be better for the Irish, who will not be battling health issues for the first time this season. "Coming off a lot of injuries and illnesses this fall, we now have almost everyone back and training consistently," Connelly said.

Sophomore Lindsay Ferguson and senior Julie Opel will run the mile after being held out of last week's meet. The Irish grabbed three of the top four spots, but couldn't take the top spot in the division's absence.

Connelly said his team can use the meet to improve their personal best times before the Big East meet.

"We still have a very long way to go to be close to our full potential. The big focus for us will be to continue to improve and continue to compete hard," Connelly said. "If we compete well against better competition, our times will continue to improve and we will start to work our way into a position where scoring well at the conference meet becomes realistic. We need to take a step in that direction.

Irish athletes will use this meet as another opportunity to qualify for the Big East championships in February. So far this season, the Irish women have set 30 qualifying marks for the conference event.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker@nd.edu and Andy Ziccarelli at azicare@nd.edu

Commodores look to avenge last year's loss

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

After a close 4-3 defeat last year, Vanderbilt is looking to avenge its loss against Notre Dame this weekend in Nashville, Tenn. The No. 9 Irish are aiming to thwart those plans as they face a very talented No. 16 Commodores team.

Coach Jay Louderback doesn't want to overlook this weekend's dual match against a solid opponent.

The Commodores are "very good," Louderback said. "They're ranked No. 16, but they're better than that. They are definitely a top-10 team. Last year they didn't finish in the top 10 because they had a couple of kids injured, but now that they're back, they have a lot of depth. Another thing about them is that they have experienced, only nine of them are freshmen and the rest are seniors and juniors.

Notre Dame is coming off a decisive 6-1 victory over Louisville last Sunday and wants to keep its momentum going.

To do that, the Irish will need big contributions and solid play from sophomore Cosmina Ciobanu, who is the highest-ranked player on the team at No. 62. Right behind her is senior Brooke Buck, No. 64 in the nation. Three other Notre Dame players round out the top 100, including No. 82 junior Katie Potts, No. 88 sophomore Colleen Rielly and No. 89 sophomore Kafi Kriss. In addition, the powerful doubles duo of Buck and junior Kelley Tefft remain the No. 3 combination in the country.

Despite Notre Dame's individual talents, Louderback would rather have this weekend's dual match be an overall team effort.

"For us all year it has been about everybody," Louderback said. "Everyone is going to have to be in the match as opposed to one or two individual players. We are also very deep so we are extremely lucky, but we need everyone in the matches.

This week gave the Irish an opportunity to jell as a team. "We had a great week of practice," Louderback said. "We were all fired up coming after the Louisville win and we had Sunday off. The rest of the week was great, though.

Louderback wanted to focus on certain tactics to employ against Vanderbilt.

"This semester we started working on a couple of drills," Louderback said. "These drills try to get our players to keep their balls deeper in the court closer to the baseline. This way, our opposition won't be able to be as aggressive in their attack.

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

"SALESIAN LIFE IS VERY APPEALING TO YOUNG MEN WHO SEEK TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THIS WORLD.

Sean Hogan, Notre Dame, 04

I write this to encourage those young men who might wish to study at St. John's Seminary for something more than just a job. What you do as a seminarian is to serve God and His people.

A very special thank you to the Alumni, Notre Dame of Ohio, and the current students for their support.

St. John Bosco, founder of the Salesians, declared the patron of the young because of his work for poor and lost/talented young people. Salesians meet the youth where they are in schools, youth centers, parishes, and everywhere else they go. Salesians are a life that offers men a great response to young people, reaching and preparing them to be good Christians and humble citizens.

Working with the Salesians has changed my life. I am now preparing to join them and become a Salesian priest.

Contact Alex Barker at abarker@nd.edu and Andy Ziccarelli at azicare@nd.edu

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The Observer.
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**MEN’S LACROSSE**

**Starting spots up for grabs in opening exhibition**

By MICHAEL BRYAN

While Sunday’s opening game against Robert Morris is an exhibition, the Irish have plenty to play for with several starting positions still up for grabs.

Notre Dame, ranked fifth in Lacrosse Magazine’s preseason poll, will begin the season with a home non-conference against the Colonials at 10 a.m. The Irish will look to build on a strong 2007 campaign that featured an NCAA Tournament appearance and the team’s 10th Great Western Lacrosse League title.

Notre Dame coach Kevin Corrigan said he was looking forward to seeing his players go up against new competition.

“I just want to see our guys going up and down, playing in the roles we’re looking to fill,” Corrigan said. “When you compete against yourselves every day there are things you don’t get to see.”

Robert Morris enters South Bend in just its fourth season as a varsity program. The Colonials struggled last season, going 3-9 and ending the season on a seven-game losing streak.

Key returnees for Robert Morris include senior captains Andrew Watt and John Kennedy, whose mammoth presence in goal will challenge the Irish offense. The 6-foot-2, 330-pound Kennedy recorded an 11.78 goals-against average last season in six games, while Watt led the Colonial offense with 22 goals and 30 points.

While the Irish return seven of 10 starters from last season’s 11-4 team, Corrigan said there are still battles for starting positions.

“We still have competition at some positions,” Corrigan said. “A lot of guys will be trying to win jobs or work on new roles.”

Returning in for the Irish is senior captain Joey Kemp, a preseason All-American selection and the 2007 GWL player of the year. A four-year starter for Notre Dame, Kemp has a 26-11 record and 7.43 goals-against average for his career.

Senior Sean Dougherty, another preseason All-American, anchors an Irish defense that gave up a program-best 6.66 goals per game last season.

Two-sport athlete Will Yeatman, the 2007 LaxPower rookie of the year, will return as the leader of a strong Irish attack. Yeatman, who also plays tight end on the football team, led Notre Dame in points as a freshman with 21 goals and 23 assists.

Joining Yeatman on the attack will be junior Ryan Hoff, who landed a team-high four goals against the Irish last year. Even more impressive than Hoff’s scoring might have been his accuracy — he posted a .500 shooting percentage on the season.

Corrigan said while the team has high expectations, players are focused on meeting daily goals in practice.

“We want to take everything we’re doing up a level, and do it on a daily basis,” Corrigan said.

Notre Dame will have one final tune-up Feb. 2 with an exhibition against Bucknell before beginning the regular season Feb. 16 against Loyola.

**FENCING**

**Irish travel to NYC for elite duals**

By KEN FOWLER

Notre Dame fences in New York this weekend for the most important regular-season competition on almost every elite team’s schedule.

The Irish take on the major powers of the sport in the NYU Duals this weekend, meeting with a slew of top-10 teams — Ohio State, St. John’s, Columbia, Yale and Northwestern — among others.

The only top team expected to be at the competition is Penn State. The Nittany Lions and Irish will fence at the Northwestern Duals on Feb. 2.

“It will be good to try out our possibilities,” Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. “Other teams will not say everything yet, even if we win or lose — but I hope the kids will fence well.”

Notre Dame will be without sophomore All-American épéeist Kelley Hurley, who will be competing in a World Cup event in Europe. The team will rely heavily on freshmen, who are expected to compete about half of the two dozen fencers slated to compete.

The Duals is similar to NASA’s Daytonla 500, in that it is an early competition with significant consequences for the remainder of the season.

“It will give us an opportunity to see how strong the others are and what the strong side of our team is.”

Janusz Bednarski

Irish coach


“For us, it would be like an NCAA final and we want to see how we can be accounted for,” Bednarski said. “It will give us an opportunity to see how strong the others are and what the strong side of our team is.”

Because of Notre Dame’s victories at the open invite two weeks ago and its national rankings (No. 1 among women’s teams, No. 3 among men), Bednarski said, there will be added expectations for the Irish.

“It’s a pressure for sure. Kids, knowing we are going to the strong tournament, are very nervous — some of them,” Bednarski said. “It’s also an opportunity to deal with stress.”

The Irish left for New York Thursday morning and were scheduled to arrive in the city by Thursday night. The team will go sightseeing in the Big Apple during the day with alumni, including former fencers, tonight.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfwolf3@nd.edu

**ARRESTED DEVELOPMENT**

an exhibition about male adolescence at an all-women’s college

JANUARY 25-FEBRUARY 22, 2008

Moreau Art Galleries, Saint Mary’s College

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all events free and open to the public
Virginia continued from page 24
both times. Last year, the Irish lost to the Cavaliers 6-1, and they fell 4-3 two years ago when Virginia was again ranked No. 1.

"We proved it can be done," Bayliss said. "We've had them on the ropes the last couple of years, but our freshmen have never been under that kind of pressure. It will tell us a lot about our team to see how well they handle the pressure this weekend."

Last weekend, the Irish played in a home doubleheader. In the opening match, Notre Dame defeated talented Penn State 5-2. It capped off the day with a 7-0 win over Toledo. Coming through for the Irish was the doubles team of senior Sheeva Parbhoo and junior Brent Headlegen, winning both of their matches.

"They return as well as any-one in the country, and have made great improvements at No. 1," Bayliss said.

While Parbhoo and Headlegen make the obvious splash at the top of the lineup, a quieter force has been brewing at No. 2 doubles, senior Andrew Roth and freshman Stephen Havens. Roth is putting his game together after injuries plagued his early years at Notre Dame.

"They're determined work ethic, Bayliss said, and has more than the list of the rankings. - along with being an emotional sparkplug.

Although the Irish came out with wins in their opening matches, they found some places they need to work on as well.

"Stephen Havens needs to stay in longer rallies," Bayliss said. "[Freshman] David Anderson is still working on attacking with his forehand more often. He is also working on coming to net more.

While these players are gearing up to face Virginia, one player isn't quite ready to see action. Freshman Matt Johnson is still sidelined because of a strained pectoral muscle. He has begun serving this week but will take more time to get back into playing shape, Bayliss said.

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabarek@nd.edu

Bowling

continued from page 24

"I expect it to be a playoff-type situation because they're playing at a very high level right now," Jackson said of the Falcons, who are more accountable - along with being an emotional sparkplug.

Although the Irish came out with wins in their opening style, they have a lot of success and gained a lot of confidence, and it's up to us to handle the style we play into this type of game," Jackson said.

"After a tough weekend series with No. 1 Michigan, in which the Irish lost a 3-2 heartbreaker on Friday before getting waxed 5-1 on Saturday, Jackson gave his frustrated club just what it needed: not extra rink-time, not added power-play drills, nor bonus conditioning, but a little game of 'shinny.'

"We came in Monday not sure exactly what we were going to do," said junior right wing Erik Condra, who leads the Irish in scoring with 27 points. "Coach surprised us by saying we should go out and have some fun on the pond like we used to when we were younger, so we got our mittens and hats and hooded sweatshirts and went out there. ... Playing six-on-six, just having fun, having some hot cocoa out there - just getting back to our roots.

The timing may have been right for a quick break from the daily grind of a long, grueling season, as Condra believes the time now for the Irish to start elevating their game to a new level.

"This is the weekend we need this. It's about pushing a peak for the end of the season," Condra said. "We're shooting for a playoff spot and a little game of 'shinny,'

"Looking back to last year, we didn't have that many close, tough games," Irish senior defenseman Brock Shelahan said. "A lot of things seemed to go our way, and that might've hurt us in the playoffs. But this year we've been facing a lot more adversity this year, and hopefully that will help us in the long run."

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UConn

continued from page 24

18-0, 5-0 Big East and most recently beat No. 3 North Carolina at home on Monday. Regardless of the challenge the Irish face, Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said the chance to play the best team in the nation at home on national television - ESPN2 will tele-

view the game - will indicate how her team compares with the rest of the Big East.

"It's important for us to come out and see just how far we have to go this season to get to be up there in the Big East," McGraw said during a conference call with reporters. "We need to focus on making sure we've got the right chemistry."

The Irish (15-4, 3-2 Big East) have sometimes hidden behind the offensive play of guard Melissa Lechlitner. She's scored 18 of his 24 points in the last two games, against Cincinnati and Georgetown. Lechlitner's 14.5 points per game and 47.1 percent from the field.

"We have a little bit of an attitude that our scoring's going to be off, so let's just keep scoring and get the ball back and outscore them," McGraw said. "And we really can't do that against good teams, and that consistency's the word that Jackson, and he saw signs that the unit's coming along with being an emotional sparkplug.

"We're getting some scor- ing chances, and it's not as if we can really ask," said Jackson, who hinted at minor changes for the Irish to start after injuries plagued his start.

"I think there might be some teams in the league that feel we're not very good. We're not. We lost to Connecticut right now, but I think it's a challenge for us and opportunities for us to show to the No. 1 team in the confer- ence. It's great to see Notre Dame on national TV, it makes it an even bigger opportunity," she said. "It's a great stage in the league because they set the standard throughout the conference. I think most of us would love to be where they are."
Irish guard Tory Jackson looks to pass in Notre Dame's 84-65 loss to Georgetown on Jan. 19.

Nova
continued from page 24

Georgetown team last weekend. Villanova does not have any players taller than 6-foot-1, but the Wildcats feature a quick, guard-oriented system.

"It's a different team than Georgetown," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "They're nowhere near as big but they're fast and they'll shoot it. And they'll drive it and they'll spread us out with a lot of speed."

One of the biggest challenges for the Irish defense will be Wildcats sophomore guard Scottie Reynolds, who is the reigning Big East player of the week after scoring a combined 46 points against DePaul and Syracuse last week.

"He's a heck of a player," Brey said. "We've gotta really be aware of him because he's the guy that kind of makes them go."

But in an 80-68 win over Villanova Wednesday, Rutgers proved that Heynolds can be contained. Rutgers held the Wildcats' star to 16 points on 5-of-19 shooting.

"I think [defending him has] gotta be by committee," Brey said. "We'll change it up. You gotta throw a lot of different looks at him."

Brey said he thinks the Irish can exploit Villanova's lack of size by giving touches to their big men, senior forward Rob Kurz and Harangody.

"I do think we can get the ball inside and establish our inside game more successfully than we could against Georgetown," Brey said. "So we definitely want to try and do that."

Kurz and junior forward Ryan Ayers, who both grew up in the Philadelphia area, are looking forward to playing in the Wachovia Center.

"It's gonna be a great environment," Ayers said. "I'm just excited to play in front of my family and friends."

Despite the many extra ticket requests he has received from family and friends, Ayers is not distracted from his goal of helping the Irish to their first conference road win.

"As long as we play like we've been playing at home we'll win," he said. "We have to translate our home identity onto the road."

Kurz and Ayers, who both grew up in the Philadelphia area, are looking forward to playing in the Wachovia Center.

Ayers said he is also excited to see Villanova red-shirt freshman Andrew Ott, who was Ayers' high school teammate at Germantown Academy.

"It's gonna be a great environment," Ayers said. "I'm just excited to play in front of my family and friends."

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The Belles take on the Flying Dutch at 3 p.m. Saturday at Angela Athletic Center.

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Belles guard Alison Kessler attempts a shot in Saint Mary's 74-71 win over Tri-State on Jan. 19.

Hope
continued from page 24

team they haven't beaten since the College joined the MIAA in 1997.

In the teams' last meeting, Saint Mary's struggled to keep up with Hope, shooting only 36.2 percent to Hope's 46.8 percent.

"Hope comes into the game still undefeated and top in the country," Henley said. "We need to find a way to slow down Hope's transition game and play solid team defense."

The Belles take on the Flying Dutch at 3 p.m. Saturday at Angelo Athletic Center.

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The Observer is now accepting applications for new cartoonists.
Contact Maddie Hanna
at mhanna1@nd.edu

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

Across
1. Deadlock
8. Watches in 38
15. Watched for
16. Luxembourg
17. Tropical spots
18. Plant material
19. Broadening
20. Beta tester, e.g.
21. Commandment word
22. French city
25. Neighbor of
26. French city
27. Relatives of the
28. Renaissance
30. Without
32. Beer stopper
34. Wayne W., wood
35. Tear
36. With 14-Down
40. Actor ... Cobb
43. titan's place
44. Of a durable wood
47. For good
48. Judge's order
49. Actor
50. Word
51. british ends
52. Flow in a coulee
53. Some programs, six?
54. Loathsome sort
55. Flow in a coulee
56. Zealots have
58. Bart, to Maggie
59. Feather
60. Away
61. Away

Down
2. Cigar
3. Watch
4. Watch
5. Bite-the-bullet
6. Leader of the
7. Plant
8. Schmoozes
9. Song
10. Gist
11. Each
12. Missouria
13. Missouria
14. See 36-Down
15. Went for 39
16. Much work to
17. Where
18. French city
19. Commandment
20. Used for fuel
21. Where
22. Annual art prize
23. Singer John and
24. Piltdown
25. Name of players
26. Renaissance
27. Material novelist
28. Material novelist
29. A boot
30. Unclear
31. "salome" role
32. Material novelist
33. Guam's Bay
34. German
35. History
36. With
37. Keeping
38. "Bling Bling"
39. Hand tool
41. Titan's place
42. Blade
43. Used for fuel
44. Of a durable wood
45. Covering
46. Unhesitatingly
47. Hand tool
48. Judge's order
49. Actor
50. Word
51. British ends
52. Flow in a coulee
53. Some programs, six?
54. Loathsome sort
55. Flow in a coulee
56. Zealots have
58. Bart, to Maggie
59. Feather
60. Away
61. Away

Across
1. Yes, you can eat... 2. Yes, it is 3. Can't imagine why not

TASTES LIKE FAILURE

RICH PROTIVA & ANDY SPANGLER

Hey seniors Out who have girlfriends, planning on the knot any time soon? Well, if you are, why not propose in the most romantic way possible? In this romantic

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The Observer • TODAY

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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Road worries

After two dismal losses away from home, Irish face Villanova in Philly

By FRAN TOLAN
Sports Writer

Following blowout losses to Marquette and Georgetown in its only two Big East road games, Notre Dame is confident the third time will be the charm in the quest for a conference road win.

The Irish feel good about their chances as they head to Philadelphia to take on No. 18 Villanova (13-4, 3-3) at the Wachovia Center Saturday.

"We're finally going to get over this road hump," sophomore forward Luke Harangody said.

"We'll be fine .... We just gotta go out there and show what we can do.

The Irish (13-4, 3-2) have won all three of their league home games but are coming off a 19-point loss to a physical Notre Dame's 77-46 win over Michigan on Dec. 2.

Sophomore forward Luke Harangody is swarmed by defenders in Notre Dame's 84-65 loss to Georgetown on Jan. 19. The Irish will try for their first conference road win against Villanova on Saturday.

see NOWA/page 22

HOCKEY

Eagles could be the cure for ailing Irish

By MATT GAMBER
Sports Writer

Heading into a weekend home-and-home series with conference foe Bowling Green, something's got to give for struggling No. 9 Notre Dame.

Not much has gone right lately for coach Jeff Jackson and the Irish, who are in the midst of a 2-5-1 slide, are coming off consecutive losses for the first time in nearly two years and have seen their power-play unit give up more goals than it has scored during an 0-for-38 stretch.

That said, Notre Dame has dominated the No. 21 Falcons (12-10-0, 9-7-0 CCHA) recently, posting a 9-0-1 mark over the last 10 meetings, including a pair of wins earlier this season.

The Falcons are surging, however, and now find themselves just five points behind the fourth-place Irish, who are clinging to a top-four slot in the conference, with which comes a first-round bye in the CCHA tournament.

see BOWLING/page 21

SMC BASKETBALL

Hungry Belles seek revenge

By MEAGHAN VESELIK
Sports Writer

After an upsetting four-point loss to Calvin on Wednesday, Saint Mary's will have a tough time rebounding with a win Saturday when it takes on conference rival Hope.

The Flying Dutch (16-0, 8-0 MIAA) lead the MIAA and post-ed a 75-58 win over the Belles (6-8, 4-4 MIAA) on Dec. 21.

Saint Mary's had a strong effort to defeat Calvin, narrowing the Knights' 24-14 lead with eight minutes remaining in the first period to 31-30 at the half. As the Knights continued to score in the second half — led by junior forward Marcia Harris, who finished with 23 points — the Belles managed to stay close, pulling within 63-62 with 1:11 to go.

Still, they were unable to snatch the win.

"Our team played very hard against Calvin," Belles head coach Jennifer Henley said. "We had some opportunities to come home with the win, but we had too many turnovers, especially in the first half." Saint Mary's had 20 turnovers, 13 in the first half. But Henley said the Belles were able to stay close thanks to their rebounding and 92.9 percent performance from the free throw line.

Up next for the Belles is a second chance at making history as they attempt to top the undefeated Flying Dutch, a team in the nation.

see HOP/page 22

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

No. 1 Connecticut comes to town

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame hasn't fared well against teams ranked in the top five this season. The Irish have lost to Maryland and Tennessee, both ranked No. 3 at the time of the games.

And after coaches and players alike expressed the need to improve the defense after an 81-60 loss to DePaul Tuesday, a third loss in six games, the prospect of facing the No. 1 team in the nation catches Notre Dame at a bad time.

The Irish have their work cut out for them against Connecticut, which visits the Joyce Center at 7 p.m. Sunday. The Huskies are undefeated

see UCONN/page 21

MEN'S TENNIS

ND set to duel with Cavaliers

By KATE GRABAREK
Sports Writer

Notre Dame has a chance to see how it stacks up against the toughest competition in the country Sunday when it hosts No. 1 Virginia at noon at the Eck Tennis Pavilion.

"We will need to play our best match to have a chance," coach Bobby Bayliss said. "They have two new guys that I haven't seen play yet, but they will go to Illinois on Friday, so we'll know a little more about them by then.

Virginia will field a strong lineup against the Irish. The Cavaliers' top doubles team of Treat Harris and Somdev Devvarman is also No. 1 in the nation.

Notre Dame has played Virginia each of the last two years, but the Irish fell short

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