Ugandan initiative to provide aid, research

University awaits selection of partner village, develops related intellectual, charitable projects

By MARCELA BERROS
News Writer

The Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative (NDMDI) partners the University with a Ugandan village in an initial five-year venture that will attempt to build up every institution in the region — ranging from the healthcare and education systems to the HIV/AIDS prevention programs, to the water supply systems and the village's infrastructure. The effort, say those involved, will require the work of the entire Notre Dame community.

We will work with local institutions and villagers to...

TIM LYDEN, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF THE NDMDI, STANDS WITH A GROUP OF SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN IN Ruhirira, Uganda.

SMC, ND see increase in app-based apps

Hundreds from the College show desire to study internationally

By KATIE KOHLER
News Writer

With more than 200 Saint Mary's students heading overseas to study every year, graduates of the College — 4.8 percent of whom have gone abroad — can call the world their classroom.

Elaine Meyer-Lee, director of the Center for Women's InterCultural Leadership (CWIL) at the College is proud of the numbers Saint Mary's boasts, but sees an opportunity for them to rise even higher.

"When you have that many participating [in abroad programs], it internationalizes the home campus as well," she said.

University notes rise of student interest in less popular locations

By KATIE MCDONNELL
News Writer

With 938 applicants applying to 27 programs spanning the globe, Notre Dame is poised to continue its climb among top universities for study abroad programs in the 2007-08 school year, after being ranked sixth in the nation for participation percentage by the Institute for International Education.

Down only slightly from the 959 who applied to study abroad this academic year, next year's number of applicants is typical in the trend that finds 50 percent of Notre Dame students spending either a summer, semester or year overseas for in...

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Group debates bowl ticket policy

By SONIA RAO
News Writer

The media frenzy surrounding the BCS selections found its way into LaFortune, where the Council of Representatives (COR) discussed student ticket privileges for football games during its meeting Tuesday night.

Members brought forth student concerns about the lotteries for Sugar Bowl tickets, expressing the apprehension that with a "one ticket per I.B." policy, it is possible for a student to win tickets, but not his friends.

TC, Castle Point warn residents differently

By EILEEN DUFFY AND BECKY HOGAN
News Writers

Since an amendment to the South Bend disorderly house ordinance passed in the summer of 2005, designed to crack down on off-campus housing violations, some apartment complexes have changed their policies regarding eviction of residents.

Before the ordinance was amended, tenants were allowed three reported noise violations before the city of South Bend could send them a notice to abate. Now, the ordinance allows the city to send a notice to abate after just one reported noise violation.
INSIDE COLUMN

A final word.
Or two.

Self-righteous rant begins ... now. I first realized I was talented in high school, when I was already using college-ruled paper. Since that day, I calmly hid my time to step into the lime-light of the only inde-pendent news source for the Notre Dame community, and in my freshman year I met a person that would irrevocably change my next four years. After I dumped her, I met Erik Powers. My first conversation with Erik was a lewd joke with the punch line "a shark killed with an axe." A bit of wit and famously inappropriate last names propelled us into candidacy for the presidency of Our Lady's student body. Five hundred five votes and several children's drawing books later, Erik and I were cartoonists with a knack for the unnecessary. Cashing controversy was never our main goal, but it sure found us. Editors, Coach Wells, some girl Annie, maybe Jesus and of course Saint Mary's all let us know that we were doing something right. I understand that each complaint may have contained some validity, and I have learned from them some valuable lessons. After all, stereotypes are not representative of individuals, but they are, quite often, hilarious.

This past semester I have enjoyed the opportunity to skewer my own Notre Dame experience. I thank everyone that has taken time to read Jocular, even if they were really just stumped by the Jumlah or Crossword, and I thank Erik Powers for unknowingly taking the blame for my bad work.

For over a year-and-a-half I have spent more time with Microsoft Paint that my family, friends or school work. I mostly learned that the undo button will only work three times, and that my roommates would chuckle at Guernica if it got me to shut up, but I would do every bit of it over again.

Over break, Erik and I will work on a book of every strip ever published or censored, and maybe you will find a laugh or two in it. For now it is time to leave the daily Notre Dame world and focus on a career that doesn't involve pan handling from my parents. I cannot be the only one here for having been given the opportunity to have a daily voice here on campus.

When I first arrived on campus, my rector challenged me to leave a mark on this campus. He probably meant something more heretical, but what can you expect from a self-proclaimed high Anglican? I hope that the comic strip has enhanced your Notre Dame experience because the opportunity to share it with this whole community (including Saint Mary's) has certainly made mine.

... And buy the book in case I can't get a job.

Contact Ace White at aweile@nd.edu

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

CORRECTIONS

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

QUESTION OF THE DAY: WHAT DO YOU WANT FOR CHRISTMAS?

Jim Bochnowski
Junior Fisher

"World peace. No, just kidding. Revenge on my enemies."

Mike Ball
Grad student off campus

"Parole."

Nate Barbera
Senior off campus

"A rhinoceros."

Anne Barbera
Freshman Lewis

"Lots of snow and R.J."

R.J. Kornhaas
Senior off campus

"A Sugar Bowl victory."

Katie Crawford
Junior Welsh Fam

"I want reassail juice."

Several members of Lyons Hall sing a short Christmas concert in the dorm's chapel Tuesday before heading to South Quad for a night of Christmas caroling.

IN BRIEF

Today is the last day of classes for Notre Dame students. Study days are Thursday and Friday. Finals week begins Monday.

Jeff Jackson, the head coach of Notre Dame's hockey team, will discuss the first part of the season and upcoming games at noon today at Legends.

The Notre Dame women's basketball team will play Purdue tonight at 7 p.m. in the Joyce Center.

Christmas at the CoMo Benefit Concert by the ND Celebration Choir is tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the first floor Colemaine Morse student lounge. International students will provide reflections of Christmas in their home countries. There is no admission charge, but a freewill offering will be sent to St. Jude's Primary School, Jinja, Uganda.

All full-time faculty and staff are invited to a Christmas open house Thursday by University President Father John Jenkins and officers of the University. The event lasts from 2:30 to 5 p.m. and will be held on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th floors of the Main Building.

The Notre Dame Glee Club will perform its Christmas Concert on Friday from 9 to 10:30 p.m. in the Leighton Concert Hall of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

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

OFFBEAT

Flatulence forces plane to land
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — It is considered polite to light a match after passing gas. Not while on a plane.

An American Airlines flight was forced to make an emergency landing Monday morning after a passenger lit a match to disguise the scent of flatulence, authorities said.

The Dallas-bound flight was diverted to Nashville after several passengers reported smelling burning sulfur from the matches, said Lynne Lowrance, spokeswoman for the Nashville International Airport Authority. All 99 passengers and five crew members were taken off and screened while the plane was searched and luggage inspected.

The FBI questioned a passenger who admitted she struck the matches in an attempt to conceal a "body odor," a Lowrance said. She had an unspecified medical condition, authorities said.

Officers keep record of beautiful women
STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Two Swedish border control officers risk disciplinary action for keeping a photo collection of "exceptionally beautiful" women that passed through their checkpoint, police officials said Tuesday.

The officers, who were working at a ferry terminal and in Stockholm, made photocopies of the women's passport photos and placed them in a binder. They also noted the date of birth next to each entry, the Stockholm police department said.

The binder contained instructions on how to compile the collection, and orders to make backup copies in case the binder would go missing or be confiscated by "evil-minded bornes," police said.

Information compiled from the Associated Press.

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Information compiled from the Associated Press.
Service group discontinued

Indiana chapter of Holy Cross Associates program ends after 27 years

By JOHN TIERNEY

At its triennial meeting in June of 2006, the Indiana chapter of the Congregation of Holy Cross decided to discontinue its lay service organization — the Holy Cross Associates (HCA) — after 27 years of existence.

Father Gary Chamberland, Holy Cross task force director and a visiting professor of theology at Notre Dame, says the HCA was discontinued for practical reasons.

“We have concerns over the program’s financial balance and its appeal,” he said.

Chamberland cited the program’s limited number of applicants — only 12 to the domestic program by the March deadline for the HCA’s report to the chapter — as a sign that it possibly has run its course.

HCA Acting Director Steve Holte — who made it clear that it was the Congregation’s decision to suspend the HCA, not his — said the program was no longer sustainable.

“What Father Chamberland said might be true about the Chile program, but it’s not true about the domestic program,” Holte acknowledged.

HCA has acknowledged that financial balance is always hard to achieve in a volun­teer program, but he disputed Chamberland’s claim that the HCA has limited appeal.

“We can always take more associates,” he said. Currently, Holte said, there are 14 domestic associates in the HCA.

According to Holte, the primary reason for the discontinuation was that the program was no longer working.

“I can’t speak for the Holy Cross, but we’re under the assumption that they want to renew ties with us and reenergize their interactions with the associates,” Holte said. Holte insisted, however, that “everything is tied to the Holy Cross community.”

The HCA is primarily connected to the greater Congregation of Holy Cross through its “co­facilitators” — a Holy Cross priest and a lay alumnus of the program. These co­facilitators attend one dinner each week at the associate house and help associates “draw personal meaning from their daily activities,” according to Holte.

Associate houses are located in local communities that have strong Holy Cross presences, and Associates are encouraged to get involved in the local Holy Cross parish as lectors, Eucharistic ministers and cantors.

Despite the decision, Chamberland believes there is a future for lay service activities in the Congregation of Holy Cross.

“We’re viewing the HCA as going on a one­year hiatus after this year. We’ve discontinued the program with the hope that something that encourages lay service will get resurrected,” he said.

Both Holte and Chamberland agreed that the pending discontinuation of the HCA does not invalidate the past 27 years of work that the program accomplished.

“We praise the efforts of the HCA and we believe there are good things in place, but it’s time to assess the program’s direction,” Chamberland said.

The Associate program, which attracts participants in their first few years out of college, focuses on four basic pillars of community, serv­ice, spirituality and simple living. These pillars shape the daily experience of the associates during their year­long commitment as active members of the program.

Despite the arrest of long­term commitment from the Congregation of the Holy Cross, Holte expects current commitment to remain.

“Our level of support to associates in the field won’t change, and I hope that the Holy Cross level of support to the HCA doesn’t change either,” he said.

The associate community is still unsure of the direction that the Holy Cross will take to continue its commitment to lay service.

“We’re still just trying to figure out what exactly the chapter wants from us,” Holte said.

Chamberland, who served as an associate from 1984 to 1985, wants to see a Holy Cross lay service program continue in some form.

“Time as an associate was one of the strongest periods of formation in my life,” he said.

Contact John Tierney at j tierney@nd.edu

—in the Church.

Campus Ministry plans ND Prayercast project

By AARON STEINER

Religious organizations and Notre Dame continue to integrate communications technology with faith to reach increasingly savvy congregations — and Notre Dame’s Campus Ministry is no exception to the trend.

Following the spread of wireless technology, radio and the Internet, Campus Ministry offers several opportunities for spirituality outside of tradi­tional settings. The Basilica of the Sacred Heart continues to broadcast a weekly mass on the Hallmark channel, and next semester, Campus Ministry hopes to kick off a new project called ND Prayercast — the University’s answer to the growing pop­ularity of what some call Godcasting.

“Godcasting,” a term coined by the San Diego­based Godcast Network, describes the use of video and audio technology to share sermons, scripture and other forms of worship in both private and public settings. The ND Prayercast project is intended to benefit those who can’t or can’t afford to broadcast or Prayercast,” Rocca said. “The danger ... is that the field won’t privatize.”

Liturgy has always implied involvement,” Warner said, explaining that the Prayercast should be used to supplement traditional worship.

Warner said he saw the Prayercast as an opportunity to spread the faith in a world dependent on technology.

“This is a medium we’d better be listening at,” Warner said, “to cultivate a spiritual life so that any person listening decides to go deeper.”

Contact Aaron Steiner at a steiner@nd.edu

Want to write for News?

Call Kate at 1­5323.
SMC
continued from page 1

Referring to a study done by the University of Minnesota, Meyer-Lee said the primary reasons students opt not to study abroad are the four F’s, family, fear, finances and faculty (or curricular challenges).

After surveying students at Saint Mary’s, the most prevalent obstacle for students nationally — fear — does not seem to be an issue.

"Although there are very occasional questions after highly publicized security concerns, our participation does not seem to have been dampened at all by general fear,” Meyer-Lee said.

CWIL also makes a conscious effort to give financial support, as not to hinder students from their potential experience.

While certain majors are not as flexible for studying abroad, most students can work around those obstacles if they begin planning early.

"The factor that was mentioned to us that did not come up in the [University of Minnesota study analysis] at all was such a high level of involvement in the Saint Mary’s on-campus community that students don’t want to leave it," she said.

Students can choose between 17 international programs, the most popular being Rome, Seville and Maynooth, Ireland. Students can also travel to more obscure places like South Africa and Austria, for example.

"Our menu is quite varied for a school of our size, yet all of our programs still retain the very close faculty and administrative oversight and quality that our students expect from Saint Mary’s," Meyer-Lee said.

CWIL, along with other administrative leaders at the College, encourages the growth of the international studies program.

"Our administration is fortunately very supportive of international study as an integral part of an excellent liberal arts education, and therefore our participation has very steadily grown over the past four years," Meyer-Lee said.

She said she attributes the program growth to a long and strong commitment to maintain and expand them, beginning with the Rome Program founded 37 years ago. This program attracts nearly 100 students annually and is the most popular location to study.

Peter Checca, Italian professor and co-director of the Rome Program, has noticed a significant increase in his program since 2002.

"The number of participants in the Rome Program has grown by about 20 percent since 2002," he said. "We expect further growth since, beginning this year, the department of modern languages will offer a major in Italian.

Typically, between 55 and 65 students participate in the Rome Program in the fall and between 50 and 45 in the spring. This year’s numbers are slightly lower, with 97 participants versus 108 last year.

While the Rome Program attracts the largest pool of applicants, programs in Spain and Ireland are also popular.

Karen Chambers, psychology professor and director of the Ireland Program, sees steady numbers heading into the program’s 30th year at the college.

Each year, about 20 students are selected to participate. This year, 16 students are studying for the whole academic year, five only for the fall and six only for the spring.

Students typically live with three or four roommates on the University of Ireland (NU) Maynooth campus.

Seville, Spain is another popular program at the college. This year, seven Saint Mary’s students and 10 Notre Dame students are studying through this program. There is also the option of a three- or seven-week session during the summer in Seville.

Jennifer Zachman, Modern Languages professor and Spanish foreign study advisor, recognized the increasing interest in the program.

"In a recent moving for those interested in studying in Seville next year, there were over 30 attendees," she said. "As more and more students see the importance of doing cultural and language immersions and the benefits of Spain as a major or minor, more and more students elect to study abroad.

Saint Mary’s students, Meyer-Lee said, continue to recognize the increasing interest in the program.

"If I have to write a second letter of warning, then that letter goes to the co-signer the second time, because they’re responsible for what occurs to that apartment also, so I let them know," Logan said for students. "For students, more often than not it’s their parents. And that, more often than not, rips it in the bud.

Logan said the third letter sent to a disruptive Castle Point resident asks them to leave.

Logan said she has not had to evict anybody for a ‘partying type’ violation this year.

Ann-Carol Nash, assistant city attorney for South Bend, said there’s often confusion surrounding the disorderly house ordinance.

"If conduct which is prohibited by the ordinance takes place and is verified by the police department, then I send a notice to abate to the occupant and the owner," she said.

At the first offense, she said, the decision to evict is left up to the landlord.

"I think there are some misconceptions about the disorderly housing ordinance," she said. "The landlord doesn’t have to evict tenants, but the landlord may be taking a risk if the offense is repeated.

Nash said once a student repeatedly violates the disorderly house ordinance, the city has the option to file a lawsuit against both the landlord and the resident, asking the court to impose a monetary fine on both parties.

"I really haven’t had to file any lawsuits this semester, although I have sent letters to abate," Nash said. "I’ve been pleased I haven’t had a lot of repeat actions by students.

For Schmaltz, the most common student offenses include failing to make payments on rent and utilities and violating the disorderly house ordinance.

"Ever since this school year, I believe that I have the best students living here," she said. "We have had no serious problems." Schmaltz said she believes Turtle Creek’s policy of encouraging a community environment built on principles of mutual respect, in combination with the South Bend ordinance, allow residents to quietly enjoy their homes.

"This has always been our policy and I would anticipate that other housing organizations, including other managers, the city of South Bend and even the University, would have the same expectations of their residents." Schmaltz said.

Contact Becky Hogan at rhogan20@nd.edu and Eileen Duffy at eduffy1@nd.edu.

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TEACHFORAMERICA
Gates seeks new Iraq approach

New defense secretary says military winning, but stabilization a major challenge

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Robert Gates, the White House choice to be the next defense secretary, conceded Tuesday that the U.S. is not winning the war in Iraq and warned that if the U.S. were not successful in the next year or two it could lead to "a regional conflagration."

At a Senate confirmation hearing that was long on praise for Gates and short on criticism, the man President Bush chose to replace Donald H. Rumsfeld said he is open to new ideas about correcting the U.S. course in Iraq. He said the war "could be his highest priority if confirmed as expected."

Gates, 63, said he believes Bush wants to see Iraq improve at"any" point where it can govern and defend itself, while seeking a new approach. "What we are now doing is not satisfactory," Gates said.

In my view, all options are on the table, in terms of how we address this problem in Iraq," he added. He did not commit to favoring any specific new course, saying he would consult first with commanders and others.

Asked point-blank by Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., whether the U.S. is winning in Iraq, Gates replied, "No sir." He later said he believes the United States is neither winning nor losing "at this point."

At the outset of an afternoon session of questions about Iraq and other subjects, Gates began by telling the committee he wanted to answer one question about Iraq: Is the war not winning in Iraq. He did not withdraw the remark but said he meant that it was clear that "what I am concerned about is an Iraq as a whole."

He said he did not want U.S. troops to think he believes they are being unsuccessful in their assigned mission.

Our military wins the battles that we fight," Gates said. "Where we're having our challenges, frankly, are in the areas of stabilization and political developments and so on."

At the White House, press secretary Tony Snow was pressed by reporters about Gates' answer that the U.S. is not winning in Iraq — one that seemed to be in conflict with the president's own position.

Snow said that Gates' testimony, taken in its entirety, shows he shares Bush's view that the U.S. must help Iraq govern and defend itself.

"I know you want to pit a fight between Bob Gates and the president, it doesn't exist," Snow told reporters.

"If you want to get a nuanced and full understanding of where Bob Gates stands on these issues with regard to the president and his policies and the definition of what it is to win in Iraq and what it takes, then I think you're going to find he agrees with Bush," Snow said.

The spokesman rejected any notion that Gates' assessment of the war would be demoralizing to U.S. troops. "What I think is demoralizing is a constant effort to portray this as a losing mission," Snow said.

"I don't think we will hear a discussion of whether Gates was or was not committed on questions about whether and when to begin a U.S. troop withdrawal, saying it depends on the conditions on the ground." He also said that if confirmed he would go to Iraq soon to consult with U.S. commanders.

Asked later whether announcing a specific troop withdrawal timetable would send a signal of U.S. weakness, Gates said it "would essentially tell the insurgent population how long they have to wait until we're gone."

The hearing was noncontroversial, with occasional hints of humor from Gates. Much of the questioning from panel members was focused on whether Gates would provide independent advice to Bush, and the former CIA director assured the committee that he would not shirk from that duty.

FRANCE

Big 6 talk about punishing Iran

PARIS — Six world powers gathered for talks Tuesday, divided on how to punish Iran's defiance of U.N. demands to suspend its nuclear program and facing a new threat from Tehran of retaliation if they opt for sanctions.

The United States, joining France, expressed willingness to hold closed-door talks in Paris would secure agreement for imposing sanctions against Iran. But Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said imposing wide-ranging sanctions would be "irreconcilable."

The talks at the French Foreign Ministry brought together diplomats from the United States, Britain, China, France and Russia — the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — as well as Germany and a representative of European Union foreign policy chief Javier Solana.

"We all want to cut off Iran's ability to seek support for its enrichment program," said Undersecretary of State Nicholas Burns, the U.S. participant at the discussions. Asked when he expected Russia and China to join the others in supporting a Security Council resolution, Burns replied: "This afternoon would be a good time."

But Lavrov suggested Russia was not ready to support broad sanctions.

We believe that to impose these kind of sanctions would be ... disproportionate to the real situation. We will achieve the opposite results," Lavrov said in Brussels, Belgium.

"We believe this is wrong. We will work in a more responsible way," Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad ratcheted up pressure by vowing Tuesday to stick by the nuclear program and issuing a new threat to downgrade relations with the 25-nation EU if European negotiators opted for tough U.N. sanctions.
COR

continued from page 1

"I know for my friends we've had a lot of concerns like [what to do if] only one of us gets in," said student President Liz Kozlow. However, Hall President Council co-chair Brian Lowery argued that the policy for obtaining the invitations is a perfect opportunity for various student organizations to coordinate their efforts to non-Notre Dame students.

"Any number of people entering the lottery and the invitation process, one ticket might go to a friend or family member rather than a student," Mr. Lowery said. "It's important for students to consider not only to have one ticket, policy," he said.

Student Council Student Board Manager Patrick Vassell agreed, recalling that "last year a lot of students were saying...yeah I'll buy one ticket and sell one. I think we'd be hard-pressed to say we haven't heard of people selling tickets even at face value."

The decrease in the number of home football tickets available for parents was also discussed. Next year, only two tickets will be available to parents for only one football game, as opposed to the previously offered four tickets to two football games. Student body president Lizzi Shapell said some students have expressed the sentiment that "limiting family tickets to two tickets is going to limit how many of their family members will be able to come in for student weekend and parent weekends."

Lowery suggested a correlation between the availability family tickets and the availability of season tickets.

"It's interesting that the parent tickets are being reduced at the same time they are implementing season tickets," he said.

Vassell agreed, remarking that "thirty-some years have passed since there's been season tickets, a ticket; it doesn't seem to be a fair correlation — at least for students."

In other COR news:

Club Coordination Council president Kenny Johnson highlighted various activities and responsibilities of the CCC as it was the organization spotlight for the week. Kilburn said the CCC focuses primarily on allotting money to various student clubs. Last year, club requests totaled $550,000, later brought down to $480,000. Kilburn said the CCC is automatically guaranteed 33 percent of the annual Student Union budget to divide among various organizations.

Shapell asked for any follow-up on last week's discussion about promoting more student involvement in student government. Several suggestions revolved around Web sites, including putting a link to student government on the Notre Dame homepage. Though there are plans to revamp the school's Web site, Student Body Vice President Bill Andrich said "the Web group is in charge of developing [Notre Dame's webpage] wanted to keep the homepage pretty clean so I doubt there would be a direct link on the homepage."

Contact Sonia Rao at sa21@nd.edu

Uganda

continued from page 1

increase agricultural productivity, connect [the Ugandan] people to information and markets, eradicate preventable diseases and expand access to basic health care and education," NDMDI director Father Robert Dowd said.

Fundamental to the vision of University Trustee Ray Corel is the idea that the school will work with constructive intervention strategies previously used in the Ugandan village in Buhirwa, southwest of the capital city of Kampala.

NDMDI assistant director Tim Lyden, a 2002 Notre Dame graduate, said he expected Notre Dame to be assigned to an exact village later this month, as the selection committee of Ugandan representatives and United Nations consultants was still in the process of choosing the University's partner village.

He said he knew the village would be located in the Mpigi district of the country, west of Kampala and close to the city of Nakati, home of Uganda Martyrs University — the nation's premier Catholic university.

Lyden said Notre Dame contacted Uganda Martyrs University to establish a relationship of cooperation and solidarity that will allow UN officials to utilize the local university's resources and knowledge of the region's community development needs.

"Uganda Martyrs University has strong programs in agriculture, public health, development studies and business, and Notre Dame has strengths in civil engineering, the biological sciences, the social sciences and business as well," Lyden said. "Together, the strengths of our two universities would be harnessed with the establishment of the Millennium Villages Project." Lyden said he thought the assets of both institutions would facilitate collaborative research projects and the study of the results of the project, as observed in the village once the partnership and the intervention model are determined and implemented.

"It is the goal of this initiative to provide faculty students, both graduate and undergraduate, with research and internship experience that contribute to human development," Dowd said.

"We have been contacted by dozens of students that have not only expressed interest and enthusiasm for the project but want to get involved and furthermore have proposed concrete ideas for fundraising, campus activities, independent research projects and advocacy options," he added.

One of the students that contacted Dowd and Lyden — and did become involved in the NDMDI — was sophomore Tess Bono, whose independent research project will examine the organization, mobilization and implementation of the Millennium Villages Project.

"As this is the first time a university has undertaken such a responsibility, I think it is essential to understand the process," she said. "I hope to better understand the steps of this process and to study them as a product of a thoughtful analysis that could be helpful as it applies to this project, but may also serve as a reference for other universities considering a similar endeavor." Bone said Dowd and Lyden allowed her to observe the activities and organizational meetings of the NDMDI's Student Advisory Council, which contributed considerably to her understanding of the project's progress on campus.

She also said the University has supported her desire to research African development and poverty alleviation, offering research grants, encouragement and academic avenues that provided the opportunity to pursue these interests — and to travel to the selected partner village in January with Dowd, Lyden and University President Father John Jenkins, among other Notre Dame representatives.

"I'm very grateful for this opportunity, and I think that Notre Dame students need to make Africa a priority as well because of the real ability to help that we have as a university," Bone said. "Our financial, intellectual and numerical base has great potential."

She said students should keep their eyes open next semester for the various opportunities to help Africa that will be available through different campus organizations, including Amnesty International, the Africa Fund and Justice Network and the MDG Task Force, among many other organizations.

The task force recently collected food for bed nets to prevent malaria mosquitoes in Africa.

"If not through active involvement in these organizations or donations, Dowd said students could still join the NDMDI project simply by "attending discussion groups, learning more about the situation and informing others about it."

He encouraged representatives on the Student Advisory Council to inform their electorates of the NDMDI's goals through presentations and discussions across campus and in the residence halls.

"Notre Dame can only be the Catholic university it strives to be if it devotes its time, talent and treasure to solving real world problems, problems that are dehumanizing and that prevent people from realizing their God-given potential, problems that are essentially the result of ignorance, indifference and injustice," Dowd said.

He and Lyden are working on the official NDMDI proposals that will be submitted to Jenkins and Chambers, and finalizing the details of the January excursion to the University's partner village.

Contact Marcela Bierres at aberrius@nd.edu

The Observer ♦ CAMPUS NEWS

Wednesday, December 6, 2006

Christmas at the CoMo

Benefit Concert for

Stude's Primary School, Jinja, Uganda

with the

ND Celebration Choir

and Christmas reflections by ND International students

Wed., Dec 6th, 7:30 pm

First Floor Coleman Morse lounge

Free Admission, but an offering will be taken.

2007-2008 Assistant Rector Applications

for

Undergraduate Residence Halls and

Fischer O'Hara-Grace Graduate Residences

are available

Office of Student Affairs
316 Main Building

For more information call the Office of Student Affairs at 631-6144
or go to http://osa.nd.edu for eligibility requirements and to download the application

Completed applications must be submitted by February 16, 2007
Big Apple clamps down on trans fats

NEW YORK — New York on Tuesday became the first city in the nation to ban artery-clogging trans fats at restaurants, leading the charge to limit consumption of an ingredient linked to heart disease and used in everything from French Fries to pizza dough to pancake mix.

"In a city where eating out is a major form of activity — either for fun or out of necessity — many New Yorkers were all for the ban," said Jones, a cup of coffee at Dunkin' Donuts on Tuesday morning. "I want to live longer!"

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 47.75, or 0.39 percent, to 12,331.60. A 2.5 percent increase from Coca-Cola Co. and a 2.3 percent rise from Walt Disney Co. helped the blue chip average.

Broader stock indicators also rallied. The Standard & Poor's 500 index gained 5.64, or 0.40 percent, to 1,414.76. The index hit a six-year high of 1,415.27.

Food and beverage rose at a rate that was far below a previous estimate, a development likely to ease inflation concerns of the Federal Reserve.

Productivity edged up at a 0.2 percent annual rate in the July-September quarter, according to the Commerce Department. That was slightly better than the zero change reported a month ago.

Wages and benefits per unit of output increased at an annual rate of 2.3 percent in the third quarter, much higher than the 1.8 percent advance previously estimated.

Analysts said this downward revision should cause fears at the Fed that wages pressures were threatening to send inflation sharply higher.

"Based on these numbers, the Fed can rest easy about the threat of inflation," said Nariman Behravesh, chief economist at Global Insight, the bank's forecasting firm. "The only debate now seems to be about when the Fed will cut interest rates.

Behravesh said if inflation remains benign and the overall economy continues to show weakness, the central bank might move as soon as March to start cutting rates.

After raising rates for two years to make sure inflation did not get out of hand, the Federal Reserve has left them unchanged since the summer with analysts expecting the Fed to remain on hold next week at its last meeting of the year.

The good news on inflation helped Wall Street rally for a second straight session. The Dow Jones industrial average rose 47.75 points to close at 12,331.60.

In other economic news, the Commerce Department said orders to U.S. factories plunged 4.7 percent in October, the third decline in the past four months, and the biggest drop in more than six years. The manufacturing sector is starting to experience the adverse impact from this year's slowdown in the overall economy with auto sales and home construction suffering.

People gather on New York's Broad Street for the lighting of the New York Stock Exchange 83rd annual Christmas Tree Monday.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies climbed 1.57, or 0.20 percent, to a new closing high of 797.42. The index also passed the annual rate of 0.2 percent, though the increase still topped an earlier estimate that had productivity as unchanged.

"I think more and more we've seen inflation start to roll over," said Jones, adding many investors have been concerned recently that growth would slow too quickly. He believes investors should remain cautious. "It's a little worrisome that more people aren't calling for a recession out there because I hate to see when everyone is thinking the same way."

Wren's call for vigilance comes on the 10th anniversary of remarks by former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan in which he famously asked how investors were to know when "irrational exuberance" had unduly escalated asset values.

The daghur Piers, former director of investment strategy and portfolio management for Prudential Investments, contends valuations are "still quite reasonable" and notes that earnings have held up strongly. However, he believes many investors are downplaying the risk of a pronounced economic slowdown.

"I don't see a recession coming but I think there is some risk that the slowdown is deeper than some investors have factored in."

In Brief

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winter career and fair internship & diversity reception

Thursday February 1

12:00 - 2:30 pm
diversity reception
a networking opportunity for students
and organizations embracing diversity
monogram room, joyce center
all are welcome to attend

4:00 - 8:00 pm
career & internship fair
joyce center fieldhouse
student ID required

find out more!
careercenter.nd.edu/dynamic.php?content=WCIF2007

The Career Center
university of notre dame

every college • every major • internships • full-time
La Alianza presents...

ACE goes Latin

A Latin dance party with free food and fun!

Wednesday, December 6th
Legends
9pm-12am

Free T-shirts to first 200 students

Enseñar es tocar vidas por siempre
Investigator increases interaction
Klimczak's revamped position aids Saint Mary's security director

By LAURA BAUMGARTNER
News Writer

In an effort to encourage student interaction and increase campus safety, Saint Mary's has expanded its security department by adding an assistant director. Stan Klimczak was promoted to this role last month after joining the security department in March.

Klimczak said the assistant director position will cover many duties that were previously performed by the investigator/programmer. He said the new role is essentially "an expansion of the investigator/programmer position."

"The position was created to enhance the security department to make it more efficient and to give the director more help with some of the things he needed assistance with," he said.

Director of Security David Gariepy echoed Klimczak's description of the role of the assistant director.

"The assistant director is not actually a new position, but it is a position which used to be called investigator, but has now and expanded responsibilities. The assistant director will continue with investigative responsibilities, but will be more heavily involved with training of officers and creating informational programs for staff and students," Gariepy said.

Gariepy also said the assistant director will serve as the director of security in his absence.

"My hope is that through the expanded duties of the assistant director, we, as a security department, will be better able, through training, to provide for a safer and more secure campus," Gariepy said.

Klimczak said he will face several challenges as he adjusts to his new job, beginning with the task of defining exactly what his role as assistant director will be.

Increasing student involvement and attendance is one of Klimczak's primary goals. He said the College currently has programs to educate students on domestic violence, alcohol abuse and drug abuse.

"The same basic programs that pretty much everyone has because those are the main things that are a threat or concern," he said.

However, Klimczak said he would like to change the way this information is relayed to the student body.

"Instead of dictating from the top down, saying you do this, I'd like to work with students and have involvement to create ways to present those programs," he said. "I guess some of the classes and programs haven't been attended and we want to increase attendance. I think the biggest thing to do that is to increase interest and involvement and make it more relevant to students.

Klimczak said he will be meeting with Vice President of Student Affairs Karen Johnson next week to discuss ways to encourage student interest and participation.

"Changes to the current system could include the creation of committees within each residence hall that would interact with security to generate programs for smaller groups within the hall," Gariepy said. "An additional night before finals," he said. "A second career I guess.

Contact Laura Baumgartner at lbauang81@simonmarys.edu

DeBartolo Hall
STUDY DATES AND TIMES:
December 7: 7am to 3:00am Midnight Snacks!
December 8: 7am to 3:00am
December 9: 7am to 3:00am
December 10: 7am to 3:00am

Finals Week: December 11-14 Rooms available except when reserved by the Registrar's office

December 15 DeBartolo Hall closes 30 minutes after last exam scheduled by the Registrar's Office

Midnight Snacks available during Study days.

See Building Support Personnel if you have specific needs: Room 103, 104.

Coleman-Morse: December 7-December 14
1st floor: 7:00am-4:00am
2nd floor: 7:00am-3:00am
3rd floor: 7:00am-12:00am

See Building Support Personnel if you have specific needs: Room 101

O'Shaughnessy: Rooms available for open study except when scheduled by the Registrar's Office.

December 7 & 8: 8:00am to 1:00am
December 9-12: 8:00am to 3:00am
December 13: 8:00am to 1:00am

Good Luck with Finals [$]
Letters to the Editor

A pharmacist’s right to religion

According to the fourth Indiana Senate bill:
No person shall be required, as a condition of training, employment, pay, promotion, or privileges, to do any of the following:

1) Agree to perform or participate in the per forming of abortions.

2) Dispense:
   a) A medical device or drug that may result in, or that is intended to result in, an abortion;
   b) A birth control device or medication.

Because birth control is often a religious issue, as is the case in Roman Catholicism, a pharmacist’s first amendment right to free exercise of religion must be protected. A pharmacist should not be forced to aid in an immoral act, the use of birth control or even worse, the use of possible abortifacients that prevent fertilized eggs from implanting in the endometrium. Numerous states across the nation have justly passed laws similar to Indiana’s with regards to pharmacists and the distribution of birth control, but several states have failed to protect a pharmacist’s rights.

Obviously there is more to take into consideration than the pharmacist’s rights; each time a pharmacist refuses to fill a prescription, a patient has been denied legally prescribed medication. According to the Supreme Court, as seen in Griswold v. Connecticut and Eisenstadt v. Baird, a woman’s right to access contraceptives is protected by her right to privacy. A woman’s right to access contraceptives is not right specified by the constitution whereas the right to free exercise of religion is. It only makes sense that a clearly stated first amendment right, the free exercise of religion, trumps a right drawn in the penumbra of the amendments, the right to privacy, in the pharmacist situation.

Furthermore, I live in Indiana and have not heard of any patient that was unable to attain her birth control medication. It is unreasonable to force a pharmacist to act against his or her religion in a matter so simple as life or death — especially when practicing or his or her religion does not truly infringe on another person’s rights.

Nicholas Lynch
Ironman
St. Edward’s Hall
Dec. 4

A dying history

Across the nation, military history is gasping its last breath. Fewer military historians are hired as professors and even fewer schools offer courses which study the conduct of war. Sadly, Notre Dame is among the universities sending a quiet crusade against military history. We have over 30 full-time history faculty members, but not one is a military historian. Even in their self-described interests, not a single professor lists “war” of any era, although half list religious, gender, and race relations. We are fortunate enough to have Lieutenant Colonel Jordan, but he teaches here for Army ROTC, not because the history department hired him.

A casual observer might point to certain courses, such as “America in the Civil War,” and claim that wars are still studied by Notre Dame students. The hard truth is that classes like “America in the Civil War” discuss everything from women to draft riots — everything, that is, except the war itself. In fact, a look at the syllabus for Notre Dame’s course on the Civil War reveals that not a single day of class focuses on any battle.

If you are a professor reading this article, you are likely pulling out your hair, screaming that battlefield tactics have no place in an academic classroom. Yet is “guerrilla generals”’ history really not relevant, or do academics simply not want it to be?

Integrating battlefield history back into our coursework is not only possible, it is essential.

Take, for example, the Battle of the Crater. We already read about the Emancipation Proclamation and runaway slaves joining the Union army. By shunning military history, however, we do not read about the black soldiers specially trained to spearhead the Union assault at Petersburg. At the last minute General Meade lost his confidence in the blacks and replaced them with white soldiers who had not been trained for the assault. The result: over 2,000 Union soldiers massacred.

Ignoring the tactical details of battles like Petersburg only weakens our history curriculum. Why did Meade lose faith in the black soldiers? Was this decision a question of prejudice, a loss of confidence in his sub-commanders, or perhaps a matter of political ramifications? These are provocative historical questions, but sadly, questions our students will never have to ask or answer.

Maybe instead of pondering those questions we should start by asking why our history department has not hired a professional military historian since Robert Kerby, in the 1970s? His classes were among the most popular in the history department, so why is it that after retiring he was never replaced? Or, in terms that General Meade might understand, why have Notre Dame and other top universities lost faith in the relevance of military history?
Controlling animalistic impulses

Asking the wrong question

The Viewpoint has been host to numerous disputes and controversies in its time, yet the question of whether or not human beings are animals caught me by surprise. Dan Amir, in his Nov. 21 Letter to the Editor ("Encourage chastity, not 'free talk") attempted to make the point, among others, that human beings are more than animals. He was trying to emphasize the fact that unlike animals, we have reason and free will, and we can use these to decide to go against what our baser passions sometimes tell us to do. When an animal's instinct tells it to have sex, it cannot disobey, because it has no higher reason or will to tell it otherwise. Humans, because we are rational animals with a free will, can disobey this desire. In fact this very mastery over our baser passions is a mark of our humanity.

In a discussion of premarital sex on campus (Joey Falco, Nov. 20, "Disloyal fathers"), perhaps this point needs to be raised. While it's true that some, perhaps even many, students are having sex outside of marriage, does the frequency of the practice make it morally defensible? Falco and others are right to bring our attention the problems of sexual assault, rape, venereal diseases and unplanned pregnancies, which often go unnoticed at Notre Dame and other campuses. Plays and movements such as "Loyal Daughters" and "The Vagina Batte." are the consequences of a larger problem, one which the very proponents of these plays often serve to exacerbate.

A culture of sexual "liberation," without definition of sex's proper place within society or one's life, will necessarily lead to a climate of sexual unrestraint. Amirli sought to remind us that we can rise above our animalistic instincts and choose to restrain our sexual impulses for a greater good. The question, then, is not if man is an animal, but whether we as a society can truly live up to our humanity.

Chris Spellman
Senior
O'Kelly Hall
Nov. 25

Choosing virtue

I would like to respond to many recent letters concerning whether or not humans are animals. Humans are indeed animals, but we are animals with rational and volitional capacities; that is, we can think and we can choose. Our most fundamental choice is to be rational or not, to think or to follow animalistic instinct. Our proper mode is to be free and rational persons choosing to act in accordance with reason and nature. Sure, we are able to act like brute animals, for this is part of the freedom of choice proper to us. But our perfection is found elsewhere.

In the words of Aristotle, "Man, when perfected, is the best of animals, but when separated from law and justice, he is the worst of all." What do we mean by "acting in accord with nature?" Nature in this sense is not wild. On the contrary, acting in accordance with nature requires that we act in a way which is best suited to our happiness as rational animals. How do we best achieve happiness? Anyone who has pursued wealth, pleasure, fame, or power to excess knows that they are empty and do not provide consistent or true happiness. Specifically with regard to pleasure-seeking, many students find themselves enslaved to their passions and unable to act freely — each week their need for sexual satisfaction increases. Indulging in the passions and allowing them to rule us turns us into brute animals. We become enslaved, irrational and out of control.

Happiness is ultimately found in virtue. The above things are good and must be seen as such. But virtue truly frees us and allows us to follow the lead of our intellect. The above things, when subordinated to and governed by reason, are truly good. Only when we seek the good freely and rationally are we able to achieve our final end happiness. And for us to be able to do that, we must first be trained in virtue.

But humans are not at first perfectly and independently free to choose virtue. We naturally tend toward following our passions and instincts, toward animalistic behavior. This does not mean that we are not free to choose virtue, but that it requires external help. Anyone who has ever raised a child knows that humans must be trained in virtue, trained to be free. In the words of St. Thomas, "Man is free insofar as he is rational." Our freedom cannot be achieved apart from reason. For our will to be strong enough to follow the dictates of reason, we must be trained in virtue so that the passions are rightly ordered.

With regard to the more recent letter citing Pope John Paul II: all humans have "higher capacities," but they may not be actively manifest in a particular human. Just because the rational and volitional capacities of the unicorn are not manifest, does not mean that they lack dignity as persons. The late Pontiff was not making the claim that all particular humans are rational or spiritually free to choose virtue. Instead he was saying that even if a given human behaves like a brute, by choice or by chance, he nevertheless has dignity as a human person. So, I would argue that in our culture and on college campuses in particular we lack the very "external help" which is so necessary for the development of virtue.

Let's not be deceived: in no way is the "dog," your average college student, under control, to use Dan Amir's analogy ("Encourage chastity, not 'free talk," Nov. 21). We tend to be enslaved to our passions. We need to choose to behave rightly, but we are not yet completely able to do this on our own. To succeed in choosing virtue, we need, in part, to be disciplined and trained in virtue externally, in addition to internal conversion.

We are able to choose virtue, but not without help. I humbly remind anyone in authority, either in families, in the Church, or at this university, that true leadership is found neither in completely muzzling wild dogs nor in letting them run free. Rather, a misbehaving and unrabited dog must be trained through active and systematic discipline. We can be separated from law and justice by our own choice or by the failure of our leaders. In either case, the result is the same: we become the worst animals of all.

Jon Buttaci
Senior
Maconno Hall
Dec. 2

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Alums deserve tickets too

I am writing this letter to respond to the request of Mr. Mueller (Dec. 4, "Parents deserve tickets") to give parents more football tickets. While I could not agree more that parents make a football team, I have to say that I think maybe Mueller does not realize how few tickets even alumn receive. The fact is that while I enjoy watching our team, even when we aren't the best, everyone (including me) is going to be more interested when the team is in the top five. There are only so many tickets to go around. I got shafted this year, so did my friends. In fact I think most alumi under the age of 30 got shafted. You have put in your dues before you can expect tickets. And, it is true that money talks to the administration. But, when you graduate and try to compare Notre Dame to other universities you'll find there is no basis. Notre Dame can continue to set up its minimum annual donation necessary to obtain tickets because I'll pay it and you, the current student, will benefit. Give the guys in the dressing room a break — they are trying to keep Notre Dame on top.

Carrie Graf
Alumna
Class of 2003
Dec. 4
A tribe of warriors in the jungle waits for their human prey in Mel Gibson’s “Apocalypto.” The film marks the directorial return for Mel Gibson after his drunk driving arrest in July.

The world of “Apocalypto” is one of primal, almost unfeigned beauty. Jaguar Paw (Rudy Youngblood) lives amongst his family and friends, a proud member of a tribe that has housed its history and surrounding lore of generations. But Jaguar Paw’s tranquil life is shattered when he and his brother are captured and sold to Mayan rulers.

Sitting atop thrones of opulent splendor, these monarchs demand human sacrifice to appease the gods and seek blessings for their flagging crops. Jaguar Paw’s end is one of hundreds freely offered to suit their ignoble means. As he mounts a futile escape, Jaguar Paw races towards his family and a life he hopes to preserve for his sons and their sons after them.

Riddled as a period piece by a director who has stamped his name on two of the most profitable enterprises from that genre, “Apocalypto” is a further evolution of Gibson’s craft. “Braveheart” and “Passion of the Christ” were unmitigated successes. The former won the Academy Award for Best Picture in 1996 and granted Gibson Best Director honors, and the latter drew in over $610 million worldwide.

But with a July arrest for drunk driving and a subsequent anti-Semitic grade still fresh media fodder, Gibson’s latest passion project has drawn the public eye for all the wrong reasons. Thankfully, “Apocalypto” is a film that rises above the storm clouds that surround Gibson, offering an experience unlike any other in recent years.

In an October interview with ComingSoon.net, Gibson cited his desire to make a chase movie as the principal motivation behind the film’s genesis.

“...And I thought, well, there’s all kinds of chases. There’s train chases, car chases, horse chases. I thought, a foot chase! ...That’s as minimum and as primal as it gets: it’s just feel, just running.” Gibson said.

“So of course then you start searching for an environment in which that could have happened.”

Primal is the most apt description for Gibson’s fight or flight thrill ride. The environment Gibson chose— the jungles of Mexico—is the perfect staging ground for a film that packs more adrenaline than a handful of Hollywood blockbusters. With foot races away from panters and hordes over jungle ravines, “Apocalypto” is a rush to behold, a picture that hinges on pure sensation rather than a deeper meaning—which is both its greatest strength and its hardest weaknesses.

Over its course, “Apocalypto” takes a sharp detour from the deep feeling and quiet poignancy that pervades its first half hour. Though Gibson settled on authentic Yucatec Maya to communicate the film’s deep sentiments, there’s nothing foreign in the profound love shared by husbands and wives, fathers and sons and extended families. When this harmony is broken, the ensuing bloodletting is visceral and unsettling, violence that spirals through to the very edge of the film’s conclusion. And perhaps that’s the point here—the heavy price of freedom.

Supported by lush cinematography and moving performances, this film is another demonstration of Gibson’s undeniable talent behind the camera. When the dust settles, will “Apocalypto” stand the test of time? “Foots” has. Sadly, “Apocalypto” hinges the fate of an entire civilization on the turmoil of one man’s life—a lofty goal, but one that’s ultimately short sighted. By film’s end, it’s hard to shake the feeling that Gibson’s greatest reason for creating the film was realized—that all he made was a chase film, and nothing more.

Contact Rama Gottumukkala at rgottuma@nd.edu

**The Passion of Mel Gibson**

If you’ve seen the trailer for Mel Gibson’s “Apocalypto,” you were no doubt intrigued. But what makes this film different from other Hollywood box-office-busters? The answer lies in the controversies surrounding director Mel Gibson. Although many people have trouble accepting the ethical decisions of Hollywood’s rich and famous, it rarely keeps them from attending films. But the controversy surrounding Gibson indicates that he might be an exception to this trend. Here are a few things to consider before going see Gibson’s newest flick:

If you, like most, are annoyed by Hollywood’s constant trouble with the law, consider this: Gibson has been arrested twice for drunk driving, and has a long history of drug and alcohol abuse. The first was in Canada, where he was fined $400.

The second occurred in the United States, where he received three years probation. A more politically oriented person might wish to consider that Gibson is actively against stem cell research, abortion, withdrawal of life support (as in the case of Terri Schiavo), and gay and lesbian equal rights. He is far from a peace person. Despite his general pro-life stance, consider how Gibson reacts to a critic. He says of an unauthorized author of a biography, “I don’t think God will put him in my path.”

For those who are socially aware, know that in 2005, Gibson raked in a heaping $185 million. Publicly announced donations (that could be easily located) amounted to a mere $11 million, about 6 percent of his total income. Oprah Winfrey donated 22 percent of her annual income in the same period, coming to a total of more than $50 million. Most devout Christians, Jews and Muslims consider an appropriate tithe to be about 10 percent.

Many Catholics show concern for Gibson’s religious ideologies, but his stances are potentially even more offensive to non-Catholics. Gibson’s version of Catholicism is one of the most striking aspects of his personal life. He is a part of the Catholic Traditional Movement (CTM), which concludes an official teaching statement of their origins in a quote from St. Pope Pius V (1570), “And if anyone could...ever dare to attempt any action contrary to this order of ours...let him know that he has incurred the wrath of Almighty God and of the apostles Peter and Paul.”

The CTM considers the most of the doctrines of Vatican II to be heretical, believes that under no circumstance should anything ever be changed in the structure of the Catholic Mass, that all Masses should be conducted in Latin, and that every pope since St. Pius V has been a “emptiness.”

CTM also believes that Mary is equal to Jesus in her status of mediator and redeemer. In order to support this movement, Gibson has founded his own church called “The Church of the Holy Family.” Membership is exclusive. This is not an attempt to start a boycott, but a call for people to spend their money carefully. If you are upset about paying your taxes because you don’t like what they are spending the money on, how is buying a movie ticket much different? Buying a movie ticket is a statement of support for the actors and directors of a particular film. Viewers are handing over their money to consecrately be expelled by how it is being used. And then viewers spend even more money pushing their old money through the court systems of California. More than ever, it is time to weigh entertainment and ethics against each other. In some movies, they can’t both win.

Contact Laura Miller at lmiller8@nd.edu

**Mayan warriors wait in the jungle for their human prey in “Apocalypto.” The film marks the directorial return for Mel Gibson after his drunk driving arrest in July.**

**Mayan warriors Jaguar Paw (Rudy Youngblood), center, and his father, Flint Sky (Morris Birdyellowhead), converse before a hunt in Mel Gibson’s “Apocalypto.”**

**PHOTO CREDITS:**

Mel Gibson’s “Apocalypto,” an epic fable set amongst the fall of a crumbling Mayan civilization, isn’t even a film at all. It’s an acclaimed television series from the late 1970s—Alex Haley’s “Roots.” The similarities between the two are numerous, not the least of which is their ability to burrow into the mind and gnaw at your conscience. With shocking imagery that bruises the senses, it’s hard to ignore what’s being said. The only difference is that “Apocalypto” comes with the kind of baggage that would sink a lesser film.

The tagline to “Apocalypto”— “No one can outrun their destiny”— applies just as aptly to Kunta Kinte, the emotional center of Haley’s generational masterpiece, as it does to Jaguar Paw, the lead of Gibson’s tale. Kunta’s destiny is sealed as soon as he’s sold to a slave ship heading for America. But when Jaguar Paw manages to flee his captors, a magnificent chase begins.

The next closest emotion pale to “Apocalypto” is Laura Miller

scene writer

Laura Miller
The Observer’s Christmas Gift Guide

by The Scene Staff

Books:

"I Like You: Hospitality Under the Influence" by Amy Sedaris
Actress and comedian Amy Sedaris dishes out her own humorous guide to hospitality complete with recipes and crafts. Chapters include "A Rich Uncle Comes to Visit" and "Lumberjack Lunch."

"The Audrey Hepburn Treasures" foreword by Sean Hepburn Ferrer
A must-have for any Audrey Hepburn fan, "Treasures" serves as a pseudo-scratchbook of Hepburn’s life. It includes reproductions of her birth certificate as well as letters she sent to friends and family.

"Treasure of Khan" by Clive Cussler and Dirk Cussler
The popular Dirk Pitt series returns in this latest Cussler book, where Pitt and friends must stop a murderous tycoon’s plans for world domination. The action ranges from Hawaii to Mongolia and Siberia in this adventure thriller.

"Thirteen Moons: A Novel" by Charles Frazier
"Cold Mountain" author Charles Frazier returns with "Thirteen Moons," the story of Will Cooper, a man whose remarkable life stretches from the great battles of the Civil War to the invention of the telephone.

Gadgets:

iRiverClix
An alternative to the iPod Nano, the iRiverClix includes features like a built-in FM radio tuner, voice recorder and alarm clock. It can also be integrated with both Windows Media Player 11 and MTV Urge.

iPod Nano
Now in a 4 GB size, the new Nanos can store more in a variety of colors. Rather than simply white, black or silver, the Nano can be green, pink or even red.

DVDs:

"Pirates of the Caribbean – Dead Man’s Chest"
Captain Jack Sparrow sails the biggest film of the summer into stores on a special-features loaded DVD. Fans can swashbuckle with the whole "Pirates" crew in anticipation of next summer’s third film.

"Saturday Night Live: The Complete First Season"
Finally, an entire season of "SNL" is on DVD and it comes in the form of the groundbreaking first season with the series’ original Not-Ready-For-Primetime Players. Included are all 24 episodes with original music and cast member screen tests.

"The Complete Superman Collection"
Finally, the male answer to the "Sex and the City" DVD collection — the ultimate grouping of Superman films brings Clark Kent back to life in stunningly redone visual splendor.

"An Inconvenient Truth"
With a package made from 100 percent post-recyclable materials, Al Gore’s environmental documentary features a captivating slide show that not only makes the viewer believe in the reality of global warming, but also in the reality of Gore’s coolness.

Music:

"Dreamgiris: Music from the Motion Picture"
The soundtrack of the much-anticipated, Oscar-buzzworthy musical "Dreamgiris" features the vocal talent of Beyonce and the powerhouse voice of Jennifer Hudson. Look for Hudson to steal the picture and the soundtrack.

"Eminem Presents: The Re-Up"
The latest project from Eminem features new artists Ca$his, Stat Quo and Bobby Creakwater. The album is compiled in a mix-tape fashion in order to promote its up and coming artists.

Video Gaming:

Wii: Officially the most unique and creative gaming system of the season, the Nintendo Wii has finally arrived. What makes the Wii so interesting is its wireless, motion-sensitive remote.

"Gears of War"
A great new title for the Xbox 360 gaming system, "Gears of War" uses cutting edge graphics to profile the quest of humankind to fight a monstrous race known as the Locust Horde.

"NCAA Football 2007"
With interactive elements such as living the life of a student athlete and maintaining a high GPA and also better football intelligence and gameplay, NCAA Football 2007 is the latest and most in-depth video game in the EA series.

"Tom Clancy’s Rainbow Six: Vegas"
The newest in a popular first-person shooter series, the sin-city version has received high rankings for its detailed graphics and realistic gameplay. The game takes full advantage of any next-generation console and is a must have for any gamer.
The Canadian pop-rock band Malajube strikes poses as unique and creative as its music. Its album “Trompe-l’œil,” all in French lyrics, embodies local Canadian tunes. "Trompe-l’œil" is still making relevant and thought-provoking music; the weekly charts from both the independent and mainstream music scenes. Many independent artists transitioned to mainstream record labels and began new chapters of their careers. Some new faces also made big splashes this past semester and left a lasting impression on listeners.

The Hold Steady: "Boys and Girls in America"

The Hold Steady’s first release for Vagrant Records builds off of the high points of their previous albums “Separation Sunday” and “Almost Killed Me.” Front man Craig Finn continues telling tales of love, faith and the odd gesture. "Almost Killed Me" is their first in five years. Many in-diepenent and mainstream music scenes. Many independent artists transitioned to mainstream record labels and began new chapters of their careers. Some new faces also made big splashes this past semester and left a lasting impression on listeners.

Malajube: "Trompe-Foil"

In recent years, Montreal has hosted one of the most interesting and successful music scenes in recent years. The Arcade Fire, Wolf Parade and Islands all started in Montreal. All three bands also have enjoyed breakthrough successes outside of Canada. Malajube is another one of these bands from Montreal, and employ the same elements that make other Montreal bands interesting and successful. Their musical talent overcomes a potential barrier given their French lyrics. "Trompe-Foil" is full of fun pop songs. The collection "Montreal -40°C" is an energetic and enjoyable jumble of keyboards, drums and lead guitars.

The Decemberists: "The Crane Wife"

In recent years, many hip-hop artists out of Chicago have found success nationwide. Lupe Fiasco is the next in the line of Chicago rappers to do this. Taking cues from Kanye West, Fiasco produced his debut album to completely take over the creative direction of his music. The result is a mix of Fiasco’s personal experience and his observations of life. The lead single “Kick, Push” discusses the problems of some of his friends, but emphasizes skateboarding as a way to escape everyday problems.

Contact John Siegel at jsiegell@nd.edu

Florida to "Food and Liquor"

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The Decemberists produce 12 tracks, weaving their way through Japanese folk tales and stories of family feuds. Lead singer Colin Meloy’s slightly nasal voice gives "The Crane Wife" a charming and personal quality. The Decemberists show that they have mastered the gamut of songs, from the love ballad “O Valencia!” to the epic and wandering “The Island.” The band gives a little help from Death Cab for Cutie’s Chris Walla. In the end, The Decemberists make a great album that balances the epic, the earthly and the odd.

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NEXT SEMESTER

Chris Thile and Edgar Meyer
Friday, January 19, 2007, at 8:00 pm
Tickets: $30, $25 faculty/staff, $25 seniors, and $15 all students
Bluegrass legend Edgar Meyer returns to DPAC, performing an evening of bluegrass with the help of Nickel Creek’s mandolin player Chris Thile.

New Orleans Jazz Orchestra
Saturday, February 3, 2007, at 8:00 pm
Tickets: $36, $30 faculty/staff, $30 seniors, and $15 all students
NOJO - the ensemble that defines and celebrates America’s own native musical form, jazz — presents “New Orleans: Then and Now,” directed by trumpeter Irvin Mayfield.

Hungarian State Folk Ensemble
Tuesday, February 13, 2007, at 7:30 pm
Tickets: $36, $30 faculty/staff, $30 seniors, and $15 all students
The Hungarian State Folk Ensemble performs a rich, colorful program of traditional Hungarian and Gypsy folk dances.

BROWNING
CINEMA

Directed by David Leaf
PG-13, 96 minutes
35mm print
Fri, Dec 8 at 7:00 and 10:00 pm
Sat, Dec 9 at 7:00 and 10:00 pm

Double Indemnity (1944)
PAC Classic 100
Directed by Billy Wilder
Not Rated, 107 minutes
35mm print
Sat, Dec 9 at 3:00 pm

Pierrot Le Fou (1965)
All You Need is a Girl and a Gun:
Pre-1968 Cinema of Jean-Luc Godard
Directed by Jean-Luc Godard
NR, 110 minutes
French Language with English subtitles
35mm print
Thu, Dec 14 at 7:00 pm
Sat, Dec 16 at 3:00 pm

Alphaville (1965)
All You Need is a Girl and a Gun:
Pre-1968 Cinema of Jean-Luc Godard
Directed by Jean-Luc Godard
NR, 99 minutes
French Language with English subtitles
35mm print
Fri, Dec 15 at 7:00 pm

Le Petit Soldat (1963)
All You Need is a Girl and a Gun:
Pre-1968 Cinema of Jean-Luc Godard
Directed by Jean-Luc Godard
NR, 88 minutes
French Language with English subtitles
35mm print
Sat, Dec 16 at 7:00 pm
Sun, Dec 17 at 4:00 pm

Les Carabiniers (1963)
All You Need is a Girl and a Gun:
Pre-1968 Cinema of Jean-Luc Godard
Directed by Jean-Luc Godard
NR, 83 minutes
French Language with English subtitles
35mm print
Sun, Dec 17 at 4:00 pm

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Special thanks to Tom Yoshokami from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, for initiating this project, and Francois Leloup-Collet from the French Embassy in New York.
Nowitzki, Mavericks get back to winning ways

Randolph ensures that return trip to Michigan is a happy one as his 31 points, 13 rebounds lead Portland over Detroit

The Observer • CLASSIFIEDS
Wednesday, December 6, 2006

**NBA**

Howard has developed into the perfect complement to Nowitzki, and the fourth-year swingman had led co-led Dallas in scoring in three of the last four games. On Tuesday, he and Nowitzki scored all of the Mavericks' points in a 13-4 run midway through the fourth quarter that gave them an 88-77 lead with 3:10 left.

With Nowitzki scoring a quiet 10 points in the first half, Howard picked up the slack with 17 points on 7-for-10 shooting.

"He has the ability to contribute when he's not scoring, and he's keeping the right level of concentration for longer stretches," Johnson said of Howard.

Vince Carter scored 20 points for New Jersey, which has lost seven of its last nine games but is still tied with Toronto atop the Atlantic Division at 7-10. Even with the league's hottest team in town, the Nets couldn't match the Mavericks' energy on either end of the floor.

"It just seemed like Dallas had a great sense of urgency and we weren't able to meet it," Nets coach Lawrence Frank said. "We just didn't seem, for whatever reason, to have a great deal of pop in our step."

Howard was 3-for-6 shooting from the field, 1-for-2 from 3-point range and 6-for-8 from the foul line to lead Dallas.

**Portland 88, Detroit 85**

Detroit basketball fans have fond memories of Zach Randolph's days at Michigan State. They aren't enjoying his pro career quite as much.

Randolph had 31 points and 11 rebounds for the Trail Blazers on Wednesday night, including a go-ahead basket with 15.8 seconds to go, and the Portland Trail Blazers snapped a five-game losing streak against the Detroit Pistons.

"This is a big win," he said. "You can't do better than this starting a road trip by beating one of the best teams in the league.

Randolph had a career-high 37 points in his last trip to the Palace on Dec. 20, 2005.

"I love playing in Detroit," he said. "I went to college around here, and I love coming back. Richard Hamilton sacrificed himself for Detroit, which lost its second straight after an eight-game winning streak.

"This was a horrible loss for us," said Chauncey Billups, who kept the Pistons close with eight points. "It's 14 minutes, and these are the kind of games that can haunt you late in the season.

Detroit also lost Sunday in Charlotte. The Trail Blazers and Pistons are a combined 12-24.

"We haven't had a sense of urgency in the last two games," Pistons coach Flip Saunders said. "When you win eight in a row, you start maybe feeling too good about yourself.

Juan Dixon's jumper broke an 80-79 tie with 2:13 left, and Billups gave the Pistons the lead with a 22-footer. Randolph responded with a driving jumper over Tayshaun Prince, putting Portland ahead 82-80.

Hamilton missed twice at the other end and back increased the margin to three with a pair of free throws with 2 seconds to play, keeping a 1-point air-ball at the buzzer.

"I'm happy," Portland coach Nate McMillan said. "We just beat an unbelievable team on the road after some disappointing losses at home."

**Houston 118, Golden State 90**

The game in hand, Tracy McGrady used the third quarter against Golden State on Tuesday night to polish his reputation.

McGrady scored 13 of his 31 points in the quarter as the Houston Rockets routed the Warriors.

"I was trying to do some explosive things that I haven't been doing all year," said McGrady, who hit 13 of 25 shots and dished out seven assists. "I'm just trying to take it to another level now.

McGrady showed no effects from the concussion he suffered after taking an elbow from teammate Dikembe Mutombo in Saturday's win over Cleveland. In a 30-second sequence in the third quarter, McGrady picked off a steal, drove for a broken layup, then hit a 3-pointer from the top of the key.

"I surprised myself tonight with some of the things I did," he said.

Yao Ming added 27 points and grabbed eight rebounds for the Rockets, who won six of their last seven games and six in a row at the Toyota Center.

Chuck Hayes grabbed a career-high 15 rebounds and Juwan Howard added 11 points and 11 rebounds for the Rockets, who shot 54 percent (42-of-84) against the NBA's worst defense.

Yao handled Golden State's big men, making 17 of 28 shots, most of them dunks and easy dunks.

"This is my job, man," Yao said. "They put single coverage on me. So all I had to do was catch the ball and go."

Houston was the fourth straight opponent to reach at least 108 points against Golden State. The Warriors came in allowing an NBA-worst 106 points per game.

Monta Ellis scored 19 and Baron Davis added 18 points for the Warriors, who've lost four in a row since coach Don Nelson earned his 1,199th career victory.

Nelson is trying to join Lenny Wilkins as the only coaches to reach the 1,200-win plateau.

"We didn't play well offensive­ly or pass the ball or execute our game plan," he said. "We proved we are not ready to play the best teams in the NBA."

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 204 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is $2 a word per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit and refuse all classifieds for content without offering refunds.
The Blues retire former right wing Brett Hull's number Tuesday as his father Bobby, far right, looks on. Hull, who was traded to St. Louis during the 1987 season and stayed until 1998, also had a street named after him.

**Blue honor Hull by retiring jersey**

Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — The Blues didn’t stop at retiring Brett Hull’s No. 16 jersey on Tuesday night. They also arranged to name a street after him.

Just the jersey would have been plenty for Hull, who thanked his enforcers for taking good care of him, admitted to his old coaches that he knew he could be a handful, and even thanked the media while bragging that his exploits certainly made their job easier. “To have an organization think that much of you is more than one guy can ask,” Hull said.

Hull’s nickname, “Golden Brett” was a takeoff of father Bobby Hull’s moniker, “Golden Jet.” The pair are the only father-son combination to each score 600 goals and 1,000 points, and now they’re the only father and son to have their jerseys retired in any sport. The banner with Hull’s number was slowly raised to the rafters to a Neil Young rock song with appropriate lyrics: “Old man take a look at my life, I’m a lot like you.”

The team also arranged to call the street that borders their arena “Brett Hull Way.”

Hull outscored his dad, 741-610. Bobby Hull’s No. 9 was retired by the Chicago Blackhaws in 1983. Adam Oates was among the 20 former teammates who attended the ceremonies before the Blues’ Red Wings game. The present Blues players all wore No. 16 during warmups, just as they all wore No. 2 during Al MacInnis’ Jersey Retirement Ceremony last April. “Brett, nothing compares to the three years I got to play with you,” Oates said. “It was the highlight of my career.”

Chairman David Checketts made honoring Hull a top priority when his ownership group took over last summer. He was hopeful that the occasion, which prompted the first sellout crowd of the season for a struggling franchise, often playing to half-capacity or less, would spur the beginning of a revival.

Hull recalled a fiery dressing-down from Brian Sutter, his first coach with the Blues, as pivotal in his career. The rookie said he thought Sutter was going to tell him, “Hey, am I lucky to be coaching you.”

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**IN BRIEF**

Ten finalists named for baseball Hall of Fame’s broadcast award

COOPERSTOWN, N.Y. — Dizzy Dean, Ken Harrelson and Joe Nuxhall are among 10 finalists for the 2007 Ford C. Frick Award, presented by the baseball Hall of Fame for major contributions to broadcasting.

Denny Matthews, Bill King, Tom Chey, Toby Kubek, Franca Laux, Graham McNamee, and Dave Niehaus also were candidates announced Tuesday. Harrelson, Matthews and Niehaus are the only ones still active. Fans cast more than 75,000 votes in November at the Hall of Fame’s Web site, with King (11,943), Nuxhall (8,049), and Harrelson (8,790) being selected for the ballot. The other seven broadcasters were chosen by a research committee from the museum.

Voters based selections on longevity, continuity with a club, honors, including national assignments such as the World Series and All-Star Game, and popularity with fans.

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**NASCAR to air on DirecTV in 2007 season, will debut at Daytona 500**

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The sport that already offers unprecedented fan access is going one step further in 2007, allowing DirecTV viewers to watch an entire NASCAR race from behind the wheel.

NASCAR HotPass will debut on DirecTV at Daytona 500 in February and offer fans at home the opportunity to watch a race from a driver’s vantage point. Subscribers will have access to five channels dedicated to individual drivers, who will change every week.

Each channel will have up to six cameras and two isolated announcers focusing solely on one driver for an entire race. Viewers will have access to in-car audio communication, real-time statistics and cameras covering every angle from inside the race car to the pit box and all around the track.

HotPass is the brainchild of Fox Sports chairman David Hill.
The Titans (5-7) are one of the NFL's hottest teams, winners of five of seven, with the last two featuring riveting comebacks. The playoffs, which seemed at least two years away, suddenly are a mathematical possibility, and Fisher's job couldn't be more secure.

"I said a long time ago that these guys are working hard, and they trust each other," Fisher said. "When you have those combinations of good things going on, things eventually will turn around."

Like this?

The Titans tied for the second-best comeback in NFL history in the final 10 minutes with 24 unanswered points against the New York Giants on Nov. 26. They then rallied from 0-14 in beating two-time NFL MVP Peyton Manning and the Colts with Rob Bironas' 60-yard field goal in the final seconds.

"It is almost like a statement to let people in our division and people around the league know that we are almost back to where we were," linebacker Keith Bulluck said. "So they know what happens when we start rolling."

Credit for the franchise's dramatic turnaround goes to Fisher, the coach other teams wish they could steal, and Vince Young, the rookie quarterback the Titans chose to rebuild around.

The franchise that had four playoff berths in five seasons slumped to nine wins combined the past two years, mired in a salary cap mess and forced to build through the draft. Steve McNair, the quarterback for 11 seasons, was too expensive and too old to do the extra work needed, and the Titans botched his departure in their worst move since deciding to play a season in Memphis.

Wanting to save money on a $23.46 million salary cap hit, they had a trainer tell McNair he couldn't work out in their building anymore and fought his grievance through arbitration. They let his agent negotiate with Baltimore after they drafted his successor in Young, then held off trading McNair until June, infuriating fans.

Publicly, Fisher said McNair gave them the best chance to win. Fisher already had Norm Chow at offensive coordinator, a coach known for developing quarterbacks.

But it was Fisher, only the 12th man in NFL history to coach 200 games with the same team, who changed some of his ways. He took the Titans away for training camp, moved up practice times and pointed out every positive. No bashing that might crush young spirits.

And Fisher started Young in the fourth game; the rookie has responded beyond anyone's expectations. He is 5-4 as a starter and became the first rookies in NFL history to coach 200 losses with the same team, who changed some of his ways. He

The Titans quarterback Vince Young evades Colts linebacker Cato June. Tennessee won Sunday's game 20-17.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — It's as close to "I told you so" as Tennessee Titans coach Jeff Fisher will ever get.

Fans wanted him fired. His owner wouldn't give him a vote of confidence. And the once-dominant franchise turned downtown hit its lowest point with suspensions and off-field issues to complement an 0-5 start.

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Mediocre NFC is a log jam

Philadelphia, Atlanta, New York and Carolina all alive with .500 records

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Going 500 wins fans upset, coaches in trouble and players released.

Except in this year’s NFC, where a break-even mark is looking playoff-worthy. Any winning record makes you a Super Bowl contender.

When the Philadelphia Eagles beat the Carolina Panthers on Monday night, it created a four-way logjam for the two NFC wild-card berths between those teams, the New York Giants and Atlanta — all at 6-6.

So while teams possibly headed for 10 wins in the NFC are wondering if it will be enough to get them into the Super Bowl chase, mediocrity — not parity — in the other conference might well be rewarded with a trip to the postseason.

"Well, it’s a crazy year, so anything is possible," Eagles coach Andy Reid said. "We’re just taking it one week at a time; we’re not going to worry too much about getting into the playoffs or anything else."

History usually hasn’t been kind to .500 teams. Since the NFL went to a 16-game schedule in 1972, seven 8-8 clubs reached the postseason, with the 1985 Cleveland Browns actually winning the AFC Central. The other six were wild cards.

But recent history has been more positive for such posers, with two 8-8s making it in 1999 (Dallas and Detroit) and two more in 2004 (Minnesota and St. Louis). Indeed, even a 7-9 finish could be good enough in the NFC, which brings St. Louis, San Francisco and Minnesota — all 5-7 and all decidedly average or worse — into the equation.

That’s the essence of mediocrity. It raises the question whether the lack of artistry on the field by these teams is offset by the excitement created in cities where next April’s first round would now be, the main NFL topic.

"That’s the way the NFC is this year, and because of that every game is like a playoff game," said Philadelphia kicker David Akers, whose 25-yard field goal beat Carolina on Monday night and created the four-way at 6-6.

"It was a playoff atmosphere out there," Akers said. "Next week is going to be the same thing, because each game is so critical to win going down the stretch. You never can tell and if you don’t give up, maybe good things will happen for you."

Really good things, such as division championships and byes, definitely will happen to teams with more wins than losses.

The Bears are 10-2, own the North title and could clinch home-field advantage throughout the conference playoffs this weekend.

Dallas, New Orleans and Seattle all are 8-4 and, with wins Sunday, could secure at least wild-card spots. Of course, the Cowboys host the Saints, so Dallas won’t get that prize right away. But as long as they get another victory, they all should be playing in January.

Maybe nobody. All four teams play each other twice.

Akers finished hosting Carolina and visiting Philly. The Panthers are home for the Giants this Sunday, New York follows that by hosting the Eagles, and Philadelphia finishes at home against the Falcons after three straight road games.

All are struggling — that’s how you get to 6-6, after all — and show few signs of putting together a winning streak this month.

Carolina (four) and New York (five already have had such strings, but the Panthers also have three two-game losing streaks and the Giants are mired in a four-game skid.

At least the Panthers don’t have the turmoil on and off the field that has plagued the Giants.

Nor does Carolina have the string of injuries plaguing New York, Philadelphia and Atlanta.

Still in there, but it makes it harder for Panthers defensive end Mike Tucker said of the 6-6 gridlock. "We have to play lights out. We’ve been here before and that’s what we have to get across to the younger guys and let them know there’s a sense of urgency." Not to mention a sense of mediocrity.

Give Urban Meyer some credit. At least he didn’t beg. Whined a bit, yes. Got everyone’s attention, sure.

Did every thing. Tim Dahlberg

AP Sports Columnist

To impress both his brethren and whoever the voters are, the other poll, the BCS uses to determine who plays for its mythical national championship.

The difference then was that Meyer got it, and Carr didn’t.

The difference now is that Michigan is going to the Rose Bowl and Florida is playing for the national championship.

The Gators may be flawed, but there was no great outcry outside of Ann Arbor, Mich., when the genie popped out of the bottle Sunday night and devised that Florida would play for the national college crown.

Meyer may have had to complain about anyway. The school, after all, is part of the BCS pact to ensure that big schools will long rule college football, not build million-dollar pocket projects to disturb the million-dollar poons in their poorer cousins.

That didn’t stop Carr from ranting before Florida was about to play.

"Meyer had the audacity to campaign for his team’s right to be in the game. What’s not mentioned, of course, was that by doing so Carr was indirectly making the case for his own team to be in the title tilt. Carr thought it was beneath his dignity to have to campaign for his team. Results of the poll were supposed to be the only thing that counted. Meyer has slipped a bit, that there’s no playoff in college football."

Did Meyer’s words matter? Tim Dahlberg

"We have to play lights out. We’ve been here before and that’s what we have to get across to the younger guys and let them know there’s a sense of urgency." Not to mention a sense of mediocrity.

The answer is yes it was directed at the system.

It wasn’t, of course. It was directed at the people at the BCS, the people and at something called the Orange Bowl Interactive poll who decided this. They decided because the computer model would not give them the information it regurgitated it all and redid the best that it could. The two teams were dead even.

Did Meyer’s words matter? Hard to say, because Florida built a pretty good case of its own on the field and won its most important conference game in the process.

It also helped that the team that plays last has the last chance to make a good impression and you can’t play two games after Michigan put its stamp on the season.

"That’s the way it goes," Meyer said.

Not a great appetite to see Michigan and Ohio State in a playoff. Call it unfair,Call it weird, but Ohio State was 12-0 and was selected off the chance to split the millions of dollars that big schools will long rule college football, not build million-dollar pocket projects to disturb the million-dollar poons in their poorer cousins.

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It wasn’t, of course. It was directed at the people at the BCS, the people and at something called the Orange Bowl Interactive poll who decided this. They decided because the computer model would not give them the information it regurgitated it all and redid the best that it could. The two teams were dead even.

Did Meyer’s words matter? Hard to say, because Florida built a pretty good case of its own on the field and won its most important conference game in the process.

It also helped that the team that plays last has the last chance to make a good impression and you can’t play two games after Michigan put its stamp on the season.

"That’s the way it goes," Meyer said.

Not a great appetite to see Michigan and Ohio State in a playoff. Call it unfair,Call it weird, but Ohio State was selected off the chance to split the millions of dollars that big schools will long rule college football, not build million-dollar pocket projects to disturb the million-dollar poons in their poorer cousins.

That didn’t stop Carr from ranting before Florida was about to play.

"Meyer had the audacity to campaign for his team’s right to be in the game. What’s not mentioned, of course, was that by doing so Carr was indirectly making the case for his own team to be in the title tilt. Carr thought it was beneath his dignity to have to campaign for his team. Results of the poll were supposed to be the only thing that counted. Meyer has slipped a bit, that there’s no playoff in college football."

Did Meyer’s words matter? Tim Dahlberg

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**NCAA Football**

**Amid heavy criticism, Bowden vows to return**

**FSU coach says he still has passion to win a national title**

Associated Press

**NEW YORK — Bobby Bowden took some shots in his 31st season at Florida State.**

His Seminoles went 6-6. His son, Jeff, resigned as Florida State's offensive coordinator after six years of being a lightning rod for criticism.

The 77-year-old Bowden called it his most "trying season." Don't think for a second it'll be his last.

"I could step out so easily," he said Tuesday, hours before he was to be inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame.

"It's a bit of a Bobby and Joe way at the ceremony."

"I don't want his wheelchair to get in the sideline during a game still recovering from leg surgery."

"It was strictly his move," Bobby said. "I would never have forced him out. Blood's thicker than water. Let me try it out first."
Bouchard wins game with little brother’s move

Wild right wing Pierre-Marc Bouchard slides the puck backhanded past Blackhawks goalie Nikolai Khabibulin in a shootout Tuesday to win the game for the Wild 3-2. Bouchard learned the move from his younger brother, Francois, who plays in the Quebec Major Junior league.

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Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — Already in coach Lindy Ruff's doghouse, Wild forward Pierre-Marc Bouchard needed a new trick to work his way out.

Marc-Bouchard scored the winning goal in a shootout to carry the Wild to a 3-2 victory over the Blackhawks on Tuesday night, snapping a four-game losing streak.

Bouchard scored the winner in the shootout, stuffing a backhander into the net past Blackhawks goalie Nikolai Khabinol to end a Colorado Avalanche 1-0 win over the Wild tonight.

"We've had a tough time bringing it out," Marc-Bouchard said.

"I've been working on it a lot," said Blackwaks coach Denis Savard. "It was a great moment. It's always fun to win like that, especially when you're down four games in a row."

Bouchard needed the shootout goal to avoid further irritating Wild coach Jacques Lemaire.

"I asked (Bouchard) to back check a few times in the third period and he wouldn't do it," Lemaire said.

Brian Rolston and Todd White also scored for the Wild and goalie Manny Fernandez stopped 27 shots for his first victory since Nov. 11.

The loss ended Chicago's three-game winning streak and prevented Savard from becoming the first Blackwaks coach to win his first four games.

Savard replaced Trent Yawney as head coach last week and was rewarded for his strong start with a contract extension through the 2007-08 season earlier in the day.

Brandon Bouchard scored his first goal of the season and Bryan Smolinski added a short-handed goal for Chicago.

"You'd like to get two points in a game like this, but our overall effort was great," Savard said.

"We know they'd play well tonight," Bouchard said.

"Bochenki sneaked a wrist shot past Fernandez to give Chicago a 1-0 lead in the first period. White tied it eight minutes later before Smolinski snuck away with the puck and notched a short-handed goal at the end of the first to make it 2-1 in favor of Chicago.

Rulston took a pass from Wyatt Smith and tied the game with a breakaway goal early in the second period.

Fernandez, who has played poorly during the last month, stopped two Chicago shots in the game's final seconds to help send the game into overtime.

He also received an ovation from the sellout crowd after stopping a Patrick Sharp wrist shot with 1:20 to play in overtime.

"Fernandez is enjoying the game again," Lemaire said. "The first part of the season he was happy and really enjoyed playing. He looked like that again tonight."

Khabibulin stopped 35 shots.

"We had some chances in overtime," Khabinol said. "Hopefully next time they'll go in."

The Wild have played without Marian Gaborik for 20 games, Pavol Demitra for seven and Wes Walz for 11. All three players have skated with the team in recent days, but it is unclear when any of the three will return.

Blue Jackets 3, Avalanche 0

Freddie Norrena got his second straight shutout and the Columbus Blue Jackets won in Denver for the first time in franchise history, a victory over the Colorado Avalanche on Tuesday night.

"We played OK at times," Lightning coach John Tortorella said. "You have to score goals. You're not going to win if you don't score goals."

After LeCavalier scored 53 seconds into the game, Briere tied it at 1-1 with 12:47 left in the first as the Sabres came from a 1-0 defeat to Washington on Saturday, have lost consecutive games this season.

"It was a game that we wanted to take a lot of pride in, in trying to win and stay away from losing two in a row," Buffalo coach Lindy Ruff said.

Vincent LeCavalier scored for the Lightning, who have lost four in a row. He has a goal in four straight games.

"We played OK at times," Lightning coach John Tortorella said. "You have to score goals. You're not going to win if you don't score goals."

After LeCavalier scored 53 seconds into the game, Briere tied it at 1-1 with 12:47 left in the first as the Sabres ahead at 10:34 before Briere made it 3-1 with 2:45 left in the first.

Drury's goal during a 3-on-1 game after Buffalo goalie Ryan Miller stopped an in-close chance by Brad Richards. Briere's second goal of the first was set up by Jochen Hecht, who stole the puck from Richards in the Lightning zone.
For an application, email Teamwork@nd.edu
Deadline: December 10th, 2006

Teamwork for Tomorrow
Michigan
continued from page 28

the Notre Dame defense is giving up to 13.5 goals per game.

Hensick is joined on the same line with senior David Rohlfis and junior Kevin Porter, who have 10 and 13 goals respectively. All three have been drafted to play in the NHL.

"The problem with Michigan is that you defend on Hensick," Jackson said. "They have too many weapons to focus on one guy."

The Irish defense added another aspect to its game this past weekend from freshman Kyle Lawson, who scored his first collegiate goal on a shot from the point in Saturday's 6-2 win over Alaska. Lawson also tallied an assist in the game for his eighth point of the year, tying senior Saw Bahin for the most points on the team by a defenseman.

Lawson also found out this weekend that he was selected to play for the U.S. National Team in the 2007 IIHF Junior World Championship in Leksand, Sweden over winter break.

"It's just an honor to be a part of the national team and hopefully we can go and win a gold medal," he said.

The New Hudson, Mich., native becomes the 10th Irish player to be named to the national roster. The last two players to make the cut were Rob Globoke and Brett Lebda - current NHL players - in 2001.

"That's a real plus for him, we'll miss him at Christmas time, but it's a good opportunity and a good sign for our program," Jackson said.

The tournament starts Dec. 26 and continues until the championship game Jan. 5. Lawson will miss a two-game conference series with Northern Michigan and possibly a Jan. 5 matchup with Robert Morris.

Notre Dame will then finish off its winter break schedule with a Jan. 24-25 series against Lake Superior State.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy@nd.edu

Florida
continued from page 28

practice that's not South Bend," associate coach Matt Tallman said.

Notre Dame will have little time to back in the Florida sunshine, as the team will train vigorously over the two-week period.

"We mostly do two-a-days for the time we are down there," Tallman said. "It's a better atmosphere mentally. We'll be outdoors in the sun."

Welsh said the team uses this opportunity to get in shape for its meet against Northwestern (currently No. 9 in the CSCAA poll) and the Big East meet Feb. 16-17.

"There's no time to get in shape once school starts again," he said. "You have to already be in shape."

After completing their training, the Irish will face Oakland in a dual meet Jan. 12. Notre Dame previously bested Oakland by 106 points in the Dennis Stark Relays Oct. 6. It will then head to Cleveland State to take on Duquesne and Xavier the following day.

"Oakland has improved much over the last few years," Welsh said.

Notre Dame is off to a fast start this season, winning the Stark Relays, posting a 4-0 record in dual meet competition - including its first win over Purdue in 19 years - and finishing third in The Ohio State Invitational last weekend.

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

Bulldogs
continued from page 28

"You tell her, 'Take it to the hole, make something happen,'" Henley said. "She has the ability to draw contact and is strong enough to take contact."

The team, however, struggles in the rebounding and turnover department. Saint Mary's has been out-rebounded in six of its seven games this season and turns the ball over 1.4 more times per game than its opponents.

A resolution on both issues may be imminent, however.

Against Carthage, the Belles scored 18 points off turnovers while holding Carthage to 15. And freshman Anna Kammrath has appeared as a bona fide glass player, averaging 11.3 rebounds per game in the past three games.

"Kammrath is stepping up, doing what we asked her to do," Henley said.

The Bulldogs are currently 3-1 (11-4 in the MIAA). Although without individual stars, the team averages 72 points per game and holds its opponents to 59 points per game. Freshman forward Kim Oleich leads the Bulldogs with 11.3 points per game and 11.3 rebounds per game. Shooting 50 percent from the field, junior guard Nichole Rouse sinks a blistering 62 percent of her 3-point attempts.

"I've got to stress the importance of team defense, keeping people off outside the paint, and locating shooters in transition defense," Henley said. "They're young and scrappy, they're playing a lot of different players and they have a lot of kids who can step up and knock it down. It comes back again to rebounding and our pressure defense forcing turnovers."

Contact Bill Brink at wbbrink@nd.edu
against McAlarney, who scored 18 points Sunday in the win over the Terrapins. "I think that will be the match-up," McAlarney said.

"But I think we'll probably play a little zone too ... It's a challenge, but I'm not backing down at all, so it's going to be fun." 

Notes:

♦ Irish coach Mike Brey has requested that fans wear black to Thursday night's game. Notre Dame wore black uniforms in Sunday's win over Maryland.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu
JOCRULAR

WHEN WHO'S CAR IS THAT?

YEP, NEVER WENT...

PRETTY SOON WE'LL BE GRADUATING...

AND THEN...

WILL PROBABLY GO BY JUST AS...QUICKLY...

YEAH, MAYBE...

I'M SCARED I DON'T WANT TO GRADUATE...

AND THEN...

HELLO...

NO...

CROISSANTWORLD

WE'LL MEET AGAIN...

WHEN...

YOU COME OR NOT...

AND THEN...

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☐ Enclosed is $100 for one academic year
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Name
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State
Zip

Henri Arnold Mike Argirion
That Scrambled Word Game
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Horoscope
EUGenia Last

Jumbles
That Scrambled Word Game
by Henri Arnold and Mike Argirion

Crossword
Alec White

CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1 Kind of pit at a rock club
2 Looks up
3 EEO
4 On the subject of
5 Make sense
6 U.S.'s Bono, e.g.
7 Start of aquip from a returning vacationer
20 Animal with a... tail...
21 Rumble, e.g.
22 Some hosp. cases
23 M.A.
24 New Haven student
27 Quip, part 2
30 Slips of tiny orbits
37 Norwegian saint
38 1960's Every Brothers hit
39 Ferdinand, e.g.
40 Whines
42 Hospital room
43 Ending with aero...
44 Lifesaver, maybe
47 Quip part 3
50 Sound during...fall ...
53 Sugar drink
55 “Spare me!”,... Hey...
59 Egypt's Sadat
60 Workers'...t-shirt...
61 It's not good to...t-shirt...
62 Monthly check
66 Discount
67 Bottom...

DOWN

1 Longtime name on “Today”
2 Workers' protection org.
3 Porn.
4 Brisk seller
5 Part of a dinosaur find
6 Sugary drinks
7 Lady off
9 Leakage
11 “Hey!... Hey!”
13 April Fool's joke
15 Marchers in single file
18 Kind of tradition
19 “Good” housewifey
24 Lottery player's happy shout
25 Nigerian language
27 Croc's head or...palm...
28 New Mexico county
29 What's it?
30 Root of diplomacy
31 Four-star ratings
32 Turn inside out
33 Carpet fiber
34 It may be within a judge's grasp
35 Start of a guessing game
36 Put under
41 Ear part
42 Diamond org.
46 Gambols
48 Common Spanish boys' name
49 Give...t-shirt
57 "Corno" usted!
58 Litigant
59 Hall-of-Famer
60 Roof
62 Sailing
64 "Underland?"
66 What

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

NAMING IT

EUGenia Last

Happy Birthday... The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

Join the more than 13,000 readers who have found The Observer an indispensable link to the two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.
Hockey

Irish trek to Wolverines' unfriendly Yost for grudge match

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame will face its third top-10 opponent of the year when it heads to Ann Arbor Friday night to take on Michigan at Yost Arena.

The No. 5 Irish (12-3-1, 7-2-1 CCHA) will play a home-and-home series with the No. 7 Wolverines (12-5, 8-3 CCHA) that finishes Sunday at 3:05 p.m. in the Joyce Center. Just one victory this weekend would be enough to match the team’s win total from last season.

"I know we would be better this year, but I didn’t think we would be this much better," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said.

A pair of victories this weekend would also catapult Notre Dame over Michigan into second place in the CCHA standings, and the team could surpass Miami for the overall lead, depending on how the RedHawks fare against Ohio State.

Jackson’s team will need to continue to play well in its own zone — the Irish lead the nation in team defense — in order to get by the explosive Wolverine offense. The Wolverines have scored 79 goals in the first half of the season — the third best mark in the country, behind No. 1 Minnesota and No. 2 New Hampshire.

"We have played some pretty big offensive powerhouses, so we just have to keep doing what we’ve been doing," Irish goaltender Dave Bolland said.

Senior T.J. Hensick leads the team — and the NCAA — in scoring with seven goals and 26 assists through 17 games. He creates more offense individually (1.92 points per game) than any other player.

ND Basketball

Men to roll with No. 4 Alabama at the Joyce

By KRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

After upsetting Maryland in Washington, D.C. Sunday, Notre Dame has to turn around and play one of its most important games of the season.

No. 4 Alabama comes to the Joyce Center Thursday in a game that will be crucial for the Irish come March. "That definitely makes us probably the hottest team in the country if we beat Alabama, and I think if we do win, that definitely will bump us into the top 25," point guard Charel Allen said.

see TIDE/page 26

Women host No. 9 Purdue tonight

By ERIC RETTER
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame will face its toughest challenge of the season tonight at 7 as it tips off against No. 9/10 Purdue at the Joyce Center.

The Irish (5-3) are coming off a 54-51 loss to Indiana at home Sunday, only their fifth non-conference loss at the Joyce Center in the past 12 seasons.

The Boilermakers (7-1) last played Saturday when they beat Gonzaga 69-44. They also played No. 7 Connecticut last week, falling 66-55 to the Huskies.

see PURDUE/page 26

Men's Swimming

Warmer waters await ND

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

The No. 16 Irish will be hard at work over Christmas break, going on their annual training trip to Boca Raton, Fla., from Dec. 29-Jan. 10 before taking on Oakland (Mich.) and Cleveland State Jan. 13.

"This is all about getting ready for February," Irish head coach Tim Welsh said. "It's a very hard work period for us."

The team will stay in hotels near the campus of St. Andrew's Prep School and take advantage of the school's outdoor facilities and weight rooms during its two weeks of training.

"Essentially it's a place to continue to play well in its own zone — the Irish lead the nation in team defense — in order to get by the explosive Wolverine offense. The Wolverines have scored 79 goals in the first half of the season — the third best mark in the country, behind No. 1 Minnesota and No. 2 New Hampshire."

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