Jenkins, ND representatives travel to Uganda

Trip results from full forum on global health

By KAITLYNN RILEY
Associate News Editor

Four months after he listened to three speakers discuss the global health crisis at the Notre Dame Forum, University President Father John Jenkins led a group of delegates to Uganda to see firsthand the village the University will partner with through the Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative (NDMDI). Notre Dame's commitment to helping the poor in Uganda grows directly out of its mission as a Catholic university, Jenkins wrote in an online journal entry.

The University delegation spent a week in Uganda meeting with University President Father John Jenkins — arrived in the small village of Nindye on Jan. 9 to meet with local leaders and villagers about their participation in the Millennium Village Project. Needled in the Kibuli sub-county and Mpigi District of the small east-African country, Nindye and its 5,000 villagers will serve as the geographic area that Notre Dame and Uganda Martyrs University will work on the Millennium Development Initiative, on the fourth day of their visit to Uganda earlier this month.

Preventive action deters burglary

By KELLY MEEHAN
Saint Mary's Editor

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

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

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

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

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

Although Ross linked locked doors, closed blinds and functioning alarm systems to the decreased burglaries, not all students were immune to theft. Two of the three break-ins were at Stadium Club Condominiums did not get hit by burglars during the break.

Students enjoy New Orleans despite loss

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

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

Despite doubts about how Notre Dame would perform on Jan. 3, students flocked to New Orleans to cheer on the Irish and take in the spirit of the city. It's been nearly 18 months since Hurricane Katrina wreaked havoc on the Gulf Coast and New Orleans, but Notre Dame students who traveled to aid in the cleanup process still encountered the remnants of destruction in the ravaged city.

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

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

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

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

What's the first thing that comes to your mind when you hear the term "MLS"?

The acronym for a medieval language-studies program? An abbreviation for miles? Hopefully, last week's signing of David Beckham by the Los Angeles Galaxy for the sum of $250 million over five years will enlighten the average American that "MLS" is in fact stands for Major League Soccer. 

Yes, the U.S. has its own professional soccer league, and it has been doing quite all right for itself without spending the GDP of a nation on a global superstar. Expansion, soccer-specific stadiums or stadium deals for eight of the league's 13 franchises and a new $100 million advertising deal with Adidas all point toward an economically stable and growing sporting league. But these signs are not nearly enough to indicate that MLS will ever become relevant in the overcrowded American sporting market.

Enter Beckham.

Let's get one thing straight from the beginning. Signing David Beckham will not instantly turn MLS into a mainstream American sport, just as the signing of Michael Jordan did for the NBA. MLS' on-field product will not nearly enough to indicate that MLS is ever going to become relevant in America. 

What Beckham has given MLS is an identity of sorts. The attention created by the Beckham signing, however, will be the first step toward an economically stable and growing sporting league. But these signs are not necessarily those of The Observer.

Chantelle Bryant
freshman
Pasquerilla West

"Seeing my boyfriend." In addition to a top story discussed on prominent shows such as ESPN.com in addition to a top story discussed on prominent shows such as ESPN.com.

Priscilla Do
freshman
Pasquerilla West

"Sleeping in for 11.5 hours." 

Genevieve Dupuis
sophomore
McGlin

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

Danielle Keller
freshman
Cavanaugh

The Sugar Bowl.

Steph Nienaber
sophomore
Walsh

"Waking up to my golden retriever." 

Susie Skirtich
junior
Holy Cross

"Eating American food after being abroad." 

Members of the Notre Dame football team stand together and sing the Alma Mater at the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans Jan. 3. LSU defeated the Irish 43-14. Senior quarterback Brady Quinn, far left, played his last game for Notre Dame.

OFFBEAT

Couple has unexpected triplets

TUTTLE, N.D. — Lynette and Dusty Johnson expected to have another large baby, after their first two weighed more than 9 pounds. Instead of one large baby, they got three.

Triplets Marissa, Sillas and Anna were born Nov. 14. A community benefit was held last Sunday to help with medical costs and living expenses.

"It touches our hearts that (our neighbors) put other people's needs ahead of theirs," Dusty Johnson said.

The Johnson's oldest child, Christopher, now 3, weighed more than 9 pounds at birth. His 1-year-old sister, Abigail weighed 10 pounds, their mother said.

Lynette gave birth to the triplets at home, and her midwife quickly prepared for a multiple birth after Marissa, the first of the three, was born and she realized more babies were on the way.

Dog saves owner from fire

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. — A savvy Labradoodle has one owner. It was weird. I was saved seconds later and she made noises I'd never heard before," Carpenter said. "I opened my eyes and it was just orange.

The floor-to-ceiling wall heater in the 50-year-old, two-room cottage was on fire, and Carcerano rushed out in socks and pajamas just as the entire place went up in flames.
ND mourns economics professor

By DENIS GAUDET

ND mourns economics professor

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

Goulet, a native of Fall River, Mass., joined the Notre Dame faculty in 1979. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in philosophy from St. Paul's College in 1954; a master's degree in social planning from IRBED in Paris in 1966; and a doctoral degree in political science from the University of São Paulo, Brazil, in 1963. He married AnaMaria Reinaldo de Rocio, Brazil, the following year.


A highly respected member of the Notre Dame community, Goulet was a faculty fellow of the Kellogg Center for the Study of Religion, Culture, and Public Life. He served on the Kellogg Advisory Board and directed the Kellogg Institute for International Studies for many years.

Goulet is survived by his wife, AnaMaria, their daughters, Andreas and Sinane; sons-in-law, Eric Anderson of Chicago; four grandchildren; and two brothers, Jean-Louis Goulet of New Hampshire, and Andre Goulet of New Hampshire.

Editorial Board

Wednesday, January 17, 2007

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS page 3

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES

Project to improve ND-town relations

By SONIA RAO

Improving town-gown relationships was the focus of the Council of Representatives (COR) meeting Tuesday night, as student body president Lizz Shappell shared developments in the upcoming Community Summit project.

"Everything is under control," Johnson said. "We have lots of people volunteering to help us out [with the events]."

She also said she wants to keep student government involved in the search process for a new director of Student Activities.

"I want you to know that we aren't going to leave [BOG] out," Johnson said.

Contact Lizz Harter at charet01@nd.edu

In other BOG news:

- Saint Mary's is in the process of changing its e-mail system. Students must switch to the new Zimbra Zmail system by Jan. 30. Links and a five-minute overview can be found on the Saint Mary's UHome page.
- Heritage Week is Jan. 21 through Jan. 27. There will be events each day, culminating in the Heritage Week dinner Friday evening.
- Plans have been finalized for the Saint Mary's Formal on Feb. 3. The event will take place at the Palais Royale in downtown South Bend from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. The theme is "All That Jazz," and tickets will be on sale starting today for $10 per person.

Contact Liz Harter at charet01@nd.edu

In other COR news:

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

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

"The most underrepresented student in the white male business student, he said.

Contact Sonia Rao at sa010@nd.edu
Service

continued from page 4

Concerns (SCS), because Notre Dame has a facility in Uganda. MLA in the Sugar Bowl, the CSC felt that it was the time for the group to coordinate with the Alumni Office, instead said Bill Purcell, director of Notre Dame’s SCS specialist for the CSC.

"We c o n f i d e n t l y  t e m p l a t e d  to the student volunteers to organize themselves," he said. "But since the Alumni Office was involved in a lot of things because of the bowl game, working at similar sites in different areas, it made sense for the task force to allow them to organize themselves.

The task force works with Catholic Charities, a subdivision of Catholic Charities of South Bend, an organization that assists uninsured, elderly or disabled people with food, clothing, medicine, and other necessities. Relying completely on volunteers, Catholic Charities assigns approximately 15 individuals per house, and provides them with educational materials and a mentor to get them the help they need.

More than 30 alumni volunteers, each teamed up with task force to clear out St. Mary’s of the Angels school in East New Orleans, a Catholic school for impoverished girls.

"It was a lot of fun getting to work with the alumni," said Father Bob Dowd. "The first floor of the school was completely destroyed, we were able to clear out the entire floor and floor with an expanded classroom.

Other Notre Dame students have also made their way down to New Orleans to volun-

Deva spent eight weeks last summer gutting homes. Dowd said a group this winter to gut homes in the West Bank area of the city.

"This gathering was certainly the highlight of our visit," Dorcey said. "And we learned a lot of things about Ugan-

day, Dowd said. Members will be sent out for the Church.

"It’s about the villages acting as a community of people, being empowered and allowing them to be in control of the project," Dowd said. The Millennium Village Project team will be facilitating and the villagers need to be driving.

Nindye was chosen to be the village Notre Dame supports in its Millennium Village Project by Ugandans and faculty at the Uganda Martyrs University, where student leaders of the task force is based.

"They chose the village, they formed a selection team," Dowd said. "We wouldn’t know what the village is, or who would know where to begin.

Before visiting Nindye, Dowd and the rest of the task force arrived in Ruhiira, a village in the Isingiro district of Uganda where a Millennium Village Project was launched in March.

Dowd described Nindye village as a village of more than 300 villagers. 20 percent of whom are involved in farming. The remaining 80 percent of the residents are involved in agriculture, growing bananas, maize and corn.

The village, located 15 kilometers from Lake Victoria, has a mix of religions present, with probably more than 50 percent b e i n g Catholic," Dowd said. "We just saw a lot of rosaries hanging from there.

Dowd said that Nindye is a small group of villagers that are living under the tree. But "We think it is important to be involved in an area that includes more than just Catholicism so we can serve all people. We are serv-

ing the Church and this is good for the Church.

While to an extent, Notre Dame is serving the people of Nindye, Dowd said the idea will be just reciprocated to the villagers.

"They will be more than the people who they will be set-

ting priorities," he said. The people, Dowd said, will participate in both physical and financial.

"They desire to contribute — the villagers contribute in any way they can," he said. "At the end of the project is to be provided by the villages themselves. It was as high as 20 to 25 percent in Ruhiira and that shows how enthusiastic they are.

Notre Dame will help facilitate and support progress by "providing expertise when requested if possible" and by providing education on the opportunity to do research in the village that can accomplish the goals of the task force.

The work that takes place in Nindye depends on the needs of the villagers and the priority they would be.

In Ruhiira, villagers decided the school needed repair, addition of additional classrooms, new latrines and a school lunch program. Other projects cited included the cleaning and better stocking, and better ways of accessing and purifying water. The school also needed to be opened.

In Nindye, I imagine that the priorities will not be all that different — the challenges will be different," Dowd said.

"The idea is to empower people, to give them the ability to sustain themselves," Dowd said. "To promote human solidarity, it’s important to listen and to learn.

Father Robert Dowd
NDMDI Director

"We went to learn about how the Millennium Village Project works, to visit villagers, to talk to the team," Dowd said. "We have to adopt the posture of learners. That’s what learning lessons are about.

We learned that in order to facilitate discussions in dorms.

Additionally, in late March, Dr. Johnson Nkuwu, the country coordinator of Millennium Village Project, and David Siriti, the science coor-

"We realized ... that a lot of things would be different," Dowd said. "It was just incredible to see rebuilding process, so it’s very positive about the future of the city.

"We are part of this is to be provided by Catholics and outside partners. For "every good action, there just for the bowl game, we were there just for the bowl game, and we were a little taken aback by that," he said. "We had spent almost 40 hours gutting out houses, living in shacks and we sponsored our own travel. We got to see what New Orleans was really about."

But these circumstances haven’t discouraged Hoskins, who is taking over the task force this semester while Schneeman studies abroad. He hopes to attract more volunteers during spring break and over the summer.

"Based on our experiences, we felt a whole spectrum of emotions," he said. "But aside from the politics, it’s our aim this semester to help New Orleans get on a fast road to recovery like Mississippi has."

Contact Rohan Anand at ranand@nd.edu

Contact Kate Antonacci at kantonac@nd.edu
INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Israeli army chief of staff resigns

JERUSALEM, Israel — Israeli army command­er Lt. Gen. Dan Halutz, under fire for losses in last summer’s war in Lebanon, has resigned, the Defense Ministry said early Wednesday.

Halutz has been under pressure to step down since the end of the 34-day war, which failed in its goals of defeating the anti-Israel militant group Hezbollah and bringing its missiles and mortars fire into spotlight attack on an opposition newspaper editor and two谢谢，继续阅读。
Fans

continued from page 1

Irish.

Christianson said the atmosphere of the game changed drastically for the Irish in the third quarter.

"It was definitely a lot somber in the second half," she said.

Sophomore band member Tony Ginocchio said the atmosphere at the game was dismal—much more so than last year's Fiesta Bowl.

The Ohio State fans last year were a lot more respectful than the LSU fans," Ginocchio said.

Holly Christianson
junior

Ginocchio said. "It was an extremely harsh environment, which made it hard to get through, but we just played louder.

The most disappointing part about the game, Ginocchio said, was that players seemed to "give up."

Ginocchio, the trombone player, is the third generation in his family to play at a Sugar Bowl. His grandfather played for Western Virginia's band, and his parents played on the Notre Dame Drum Line in 1981. All Notre Dame band games resulted in big losses for the band's friends.

Nearly all of the 380 students in the band played at the Sugar Bowl, Ginocchio said. The University paid for airfare and hotel rooms for all band members and gave them each a $200 stipend, he said.

While in New Orleans, the band visited the Holy Cross High School — the second establishment featured on the Holy Cross priests after Notre Dame. There, the band donated instruments to the school to help rebuild its music room, which was destroyed in Hurricane Katrina.

"The entire high school came out to witness the first day band practice in New Orleans," Ginocchio said.

"It was a nice welcome, jumping into the culture," Bone said.

Bowl games resulted in big losses for the band, Ginocchio said.

"It was a very interesting trip for us and a home game leading up to the game," said Bone.

"The atmosphere in the city was great, and there was lots of excitement to be in New Orleans for the first time," Bone said.

Tony Ginocchio
sophomore band member

Uganda

continued from page 1

ing with members of the Holy Cross community, touring schools, and seeing a current Millennium Village Project in the village Notre Dame will sponsor.

This trip was a chance for some of us in the Notre Dame community to begin to understand a particular community in Uganda, Jenkins wrote.

Jenkins was joined on the trip, which ran from Jan. 5 to Jan. 12 — by Executive Assistant to the President Frances Shavers, Associate Vice President for Marketing Communication Todd Williams and NDMDI Director Father Bob Durso. The NDMDI Director Tim Lyden, African Studies department chair Richard Pierre and sophomore Tess Bane.

"This trip was a chance for some of us in the Notre Dame community to begin to understand the needs of a particular community in Uganda."

Father John Jenkins
University president

Lyden, who visited Uganda earlier in the semester along with Dowd, said the trip was beneficial because it allowed Notre Dame representatives to see how the Holy Cross priests and brothers, the Uganda Martyrs University (UMU) faculty and administration, and the villagers themselves worked together.

"The whole point of the trip was to see where we are going to be working and see the people we are working with," Lyden said.

Reading reports about the country and the Millennium Project cannot replace the value of personal contact, he said.

The trip also allowed Lyden and members of the band to experience with the head of a University founded by the Congregation of the Holy Cross, to embrace the ties the school has with the Holy Cross Congregation present in Uganda, he said.

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**MARKET RECAP**

**Dow Jones**

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**THE OBSERVER**

**BUSINESS**

**Citrus disaster hits California**

**Prices for oranges, lemons, avocados expected to soar after record-low temperatures**

Associated Press

FRESNO, Calif. — Shoppers will feel the sting at the string of supermarkets this week as record freez freezes hit California's citrus groves and other farming areas, with prices for oranges, lemons, avocados and other produce poised to double or triple in coming weeks, according to industry officials.

"We may adjust the prices as we discuss the full extent of the damage in the coming weeks, but for now, if you buy an orange at the supermarket for 50 cents, expect to pay a dollar to $1.49 for it," said Todd Steel, owner of Royal Vista Marketing, which sells California citrus to supermarkets throughout the country.

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

Nearly every winter crop is affected by the freeze, from avocados to strawberries to fresh-cut flowers, but it's the state's citrus crop that stands to take the biggest environmental hit. California is the nation's No. 1 producer of fresh citrus and orange groves span about 86% of the state, producing 21 million tons of oranges sold in the U.S., according to the California Farm Bureau. Florida produces more oranges, but those are mostly processed for orange juice.

More than 70 percent of this season's oranges, lemons and tangerines -- nearly $1 billion worth of fruit -- were still on the trees in the nighttime temperatures in California's Central Valley dipped into the low 20s and teens on four straight nights beginning Friday. The freeze ruined as much as three-quarters of the California citrus crop, growers say; the fruit is threatened whenever the mercury falls below 28 degrees.

"Limited amounts were harvested before the freeze, so it's not like the markets are going to dry up right away," said Claire Smith, a spokeswoman for Sunquist Growers Inc., a Los Angeles-based cooperative owned by some 6,000 growers in California and Arizona.

Still, the diminished supply is bound to drive up prices, Smith said. Sunquist may import oranges and other fruit from South America and other countries. On Tuesday, a Vissalia-based citrus broker was selling 40-pound boxes of oranges for $12 to $13, depending on the variety. That's up from $6 to $14 a week earlier, and with the National Weather Service calling for at least one more night of frigid temperatures in many areas, prices could continue to escalate.

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

"Damage from the current freeze will likely surpass those from a three-day cold snap in December 1998 that destroyed 50% of California's citrus crop, a loss valued at $700 million, state Agriculture Secretary A.G. Kawamura said.

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

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

In Brief

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

Shouting "Stop the Korea-U.S. FTA," a group estimated by police at 3,000 people held a peaceful sit-down protest on a Seoul thoroughfare across town from the heavily guarded talks in a hotel. Protesters, including opposition lawmakers, who were allowed to protests near the site of the negotiations, were uped by police with riot clubs.

Nearly every winter crop is affected by the freeze, from avocados to strawberries to fresh-cut flowers, but it's the state's citrus crop that stands to take the biggest environmental hit. California is the nation's No. 1 producer of fresh citrus and orange groves span about 86% of the state, producing 21 million tons of oranges sold in the U.S., according to the California Farm Bureau. Florida produces more oranges, but those are mostly processed for orange juice.

More than 70 percent of this season's oranges, lemons and tangerines -- nearly $1 billion worth of fruit -- were still on the trees in the nighttime temperatures in California's Central Valley dipped into the low 20s and teens on four straight nights beginning Friday. The freeze ruined as much as three-quarters of the California citrus crop, growers say; the fruit is threatened whenever the mercury falls below 28 degrees.

"Limited amounts were harvested before the freeze, so it's not like the markets are going to dry up right away," said Claire Smith, a spokeswoman for Sunquist Growers Inc., a Los Angeles-based cooperative owned by some 6,000 growers in California and Arizona.

Still, the diminished supply is bound to drive up prices, Smith said. Sunquist may import oranges and other fruit from South America and other countries. On Tuesday, a Vissalia-based citrus broker was selling 40-pound boxes of oranges for $12 to $13, depending on the variety. That's up from $6 to $14 a week earlier, and with the National Weather Service calling for at least one more night of frigid temperatures in many areas, prices could continue to escalate.

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

"Damage from the current freeze will likely surpass those from a three-day cold snap in December 1998 that destroyed 50% of California's citrus crop, a loss valued at $700 million, state Agriculture Secretary A.G. Kawamura said.

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

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

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

The ministry said a preliminary investigation alleged that the 2005, Olmert favored business associates as finance minister during the sell-off of a controlling share of Bank Leumi, one of Israel's largest financial institutions.

If Olmert is indicted, he would have to step down pending legal proceedings. The Justice Ministry said the preliminary investigation alleged that the allegations based in a report by the state comptroller about the banksale led to the conclusion that a foundation with an audience has been built that would justify opening a criminal investigation."
Robbery
continued from page 1

occurred at Park Jefferson Apartments and the other was reported at 312 St. Peter Street, where Notre Dame senior Jeff Manship did not share the good fortune of his fellow off-campus residents.

Manship—who lost approximately $400 worth of electronics—said he "was kind of expecting it to happen."

The criminals broke through a first floor window and took a television and DVD player from Manship's second floor bedroom, along with stereo equipment and an Xbox from the first floor.

"It [stinks] knowing that some random creep was in my bedroom," he said.

Although Manship said he regrets having the only bedroom door without a functioning lock, he is grateful that the criminals did not take more of their valuable belongings.

Manship blames the robbery partially on the lack of an acti- vated alarm system—something landlord Mark Kramer said is key to deterring criminals.

Of the approximately 150 resi- dences Kramer rents to stu- dents, he said there's been only one attempted and one successful break-in.

"The attempted break-in was on Notre Dame Ave.," he said, "and they didn't get anything because the police were there within two minutes."

In addition to the SBPD, Kramer said he has a staff of off-duty police officers that patrols his residences during breaks.

Both SBPD and Kramer encourage students to make it seem like someone is home even when the house is vacant.

Many students said their homes seem "lived in" during break by leaving television sets and lights on, Kramer said.

Ross said students should try to take their valuable belongings with them, even if it seems inconvenient.

"If [students] just grab their laptop before they go, it will save them a lot of trouble," he said.

Although students also had the option of storing boxed valuables in the Notre Dame Security/Police building as part of the ND Safe Lock program, this opportunity will not be available during spring or Easter breaks, said Assistant Director of NDP Dave Chapman.

Despite the lessenened number of break-ins during winter break, off-campus residents must remain vigilant during the school year, Ross said.

Ailing Castro taking steps to smooth transition of power

Havana officials deny reports that Cuban leader has cancer; repressed opposition remains silent

Associated Press
WASHINGTON—Cuban President Fidel Castro, ailing and in a wheelchair for some time, continues to take steps to prepare for a potential transition of power.

Cuba's government official said Tuesday.

The senator added that the meeting, which took place on the sidelines of the 52nd annual U.N. General Assembly, focused on bringing the U.S. and Cuba closer together for improvements in relations.

Negroponte said this opportunity will not be available during spring or Easter breaks, said Assistant Director of NDP Dave Chapman.

Despite the lessenened number of break-ins during winter break, off-campus residents must remain vigilant during the school year, Ross said.

A Cuban diplomat in Madrid said the El Pais report was false. "If anyone has to talk about Castro's illness, it's Havana," the diplomat said, speaking on condi- tion of anonymity because of off- ficial policy.

U.S. officials will not disclose how they glean clues to Castro's health. But American spy agencies employ physicians who study public statements and images, public statements and other information coming out of Cuba and other countries.

Some intelligence officials believe Castro has suffered from diverticulitis, which can cause explosive bowel movements, especially in people over 60. Others believe that Castro has cancer of the stomach, colon or perhaps the pancreas.

Yet Cuban officials told a delega- tion of U.S. lawmakers visiting last month that Castro did not have cancer, and the Spanish ambassador who came to check on him said the same.

Havana's public position is that Castro is alive, healthy and will return to power, which U.S. ana- lysts doubt.

Negroponte said last week it is an open question whether Castro's death could trigger a popular demand for democratic change.

"What is not known is whether people are holding back—maybe we're not seeing the kind of ferment yet that one might expect to see once Mr. Castro has definitively departed the scene," said Negroponte, who has been nomi- nated by President Bush to be deputy secretary of state.

Pressed further on whether the U.S. knows anything to expect in Cuba, Negroponte added: "We don't know in large measure because it is a repressive society. They've repressed their opposition so we've seen very little of these years, so people aren't exactly speaking up.

Despite uncertainty about the future of Cuba, the island's Communist government will control the island. And the head of the Defense Intelligence Agency, U. S. Gen. Michael Maples, said President Bush probably will maintain power and probably will have a new brother dies—"at least for the short term."

"Raul Castro has widespread respect and support among Cuban military leaders who will be crucial in permanent government succession," Maples said in writ- ten testimony to the Senate Intelligence Committee.
Campfire queen
Cycling champion
Sentimental geologist*

Learn more about Marjon Walrod and tell us more about you. Visit pwc.com/bringit.

Your life. You can bring it with you.

*connectedthinking
"War is over". The American people, as well as the whole world, are longing to hear those three small words sang by John Lennon decades ago. Unfortunately, war is not over. Rather, it seems as if there is no end in sight. And with the President's recent surge of over 20,000 troops to the Middle East, a continued long war is in the foreseen. The increase in troops has raised a lot of questions among the American people, Democrats in office, as well as several Republicans. Will the surge of troops be beneficial? Can this war be won? Will the iras quis fulfill their promises made to us? The more our senators and representatives ask questions, the more accountable the administration will be held, and the more representative the democracy in America will be.

Proposals to Americans. The 2006 midterm elections proved to the Bush Administration that America was ready for a change and an end to the ongoing conflict in Iraq, and proved that apathy in America is not as prevalent as previously thought. Although Bush's anthem before the elections was that we are winning the war, Americans were not fooled. Democrats were elected and took control of the House and Senate, and a clear war plan and withdrawal of troops finally seemed tangible. However, just two months after the elections, progress, as well as frustrated voters' hopes were crushed. Bush announced last week that he intends to send over 20,000 more troops to the Middle East. The President is either not up to date on current troop polls about his approval rating, or he has some ulterior motives. Nonetheless, Americans citizens are concerned, and members of Congress from both parties have started to question the President's agenda. Bush's new proposal, his apparent ulterior motive, appears to be an effort to better his legacy, not the situation in Iraq. And because a re-election is at no concern for him, he can do whatever he wants to save the face of his wartime presidency. NBC's Meet the Press host Tim Russert said after the President's address, "Bush bet his presidency on the war in Iraq, and today he made that bet double or nothing." Bush's decision to go to Iraq has proved to be unsuccessful thus far, so he is now committing more troops, insisting that more troops will lead to victory. If the President's new plan fails, the public's poor opinion of him from here on out will most likely stay the same. Yet if Bush's new strategy does improve the situation in Iraq, public opinion of him and the war will also improve, and thus he will hold the legacy of being a successful wartime president. Bush has nothing to lose.

Members of Congress, however, have their jobs on the line until the elections in 2008 and cannot afford to make mistakes. Republicans have an exceptionally high number of seats up for re-election, and with America closely watching the government's war plan, this time is now for candidates to make their case. And happily, for us voters, our representatives are now starting to listen. Before now, our elected officials were too concerned with patriotism, party loyalty, and re-election than the well-being of Americans and the rest of the world. In 2004, Hillary Clinton and John Kerry both supported the war out of fear of losing votes. Although they had doubts about the legitimacy of intelligence reports on weapons of mass destruction and were hesitant about breaking ties with the UN, they voted in accordance with the President to appear patriotic, and to further their careers. On the other hand, high-ranking political leaders such as Tom Daschle have demonstrated that being unpatriotic when questioning and opposing the President's plan, and as a result were not re-elected into office. While they have long been opposed to Bush's war plan but too chicken to act. Democrats, as well as many Republicans, are now beginning to publicly oppose the President's new strategy.

A recent USA Today/Gallup poll indicated that only 12 percent of people polled want a troop increase. Although among the 75 percent of people who are frustrated and depressed about the recent call for more troops, I feel that we have reached a turning point for democracy in America. Elected officials are finally paying attention to the polls and listening to the voices of the people they represent, and therefore change is likely to occur. Bush's legacy, however, seems as though it has no chance for improvement. The more he acts in opposition to public opinion, the more his approval rating will plummet. Our senators' and representatives' approvals, however, will skyrocket. By being a true representative of the people and by staying true to their commitments on what is best for the United States, Congress has the opportunity to show America that our voices are being heard, and that our cares and concerns do matter.

While "War is Over" is not yet the tune to America's new political rhythm, the song's following line, although often overlooked, holds the key to success: "War is over... if you want it." The American people wanted it, as demonstrated by the midterm elections. Congress wants to satisfy and represent the wants of the American people. And hopefully soon Bush will too, and concentrate more on what is best for America, not his legacy.
Let's start with a math problem: What is the value of 1 + 1? The answer is 2. Now, let's consider the same problem: What is the value of 1 + 1? The answer is 1. This is a common mental error people make when making some sort of political claim is the refusal to examine what their support for a certain public policy necessarily implies. Support of minimum wage laws, for example, is an example of this type of thinking.

Minimum wage laws have been around for so long that most Americans insincerely accept them, if not support, such laws. Many view them as an acceptable government policy in the “war on poverty.” Democrats are especially notorious for recommending the increase of the minimum wage, although many Republicans also support its increase as well. However, virtually none of these same Democrats would argue with a simple statement that a person owns himself, indeed, most of the supporters of the minimum wage claim also that a woman has a right to seek an abortion because she is the owner of her body. But the claim that a person owns himself and the claim that there should be a minimum wage are entirely incompatible, for no one can own the minimum wage necessarily implies that the person cannot also believe in self-ownership. Like the front side of a coin, the claim that there should be a minimum wage law is readily apparent to all that witness it, but its unspoken rejection of self-ownership, like to back side of a coin, is not so obvious but implicit in the first claim.

In order to see why it is impossible to simultaneously support both minimum wage laws and the axiom that you own yourself, it is necessary to see why accepting the idea of self-ownership automatically rules out support of the minimum wage. If it is true that man owns himself and that ownership means the right of control over something, then he is free to do anything he wants with his own property (his person and possessions) except those actions that infringe on the right of others to do the same. This means that because man is the sole owner of his body, he is free to use it in any way he sees fit to support his life as long as the third parties are not offended by the rights of others. Murder, slavery, and rape are subsets of the same crime: taking control through the use of the body of another without the person’s consent. All actions that violate a man’s right of self-ownership are inherently wrong because they deprive the person of the right to control his own body. Because a man owns his own body, and is thus free to use it in any way he wish­es, he has the right to agree to rent his body to a firm in exchange for money, goods, or services, or any sort of other compensation. If the workers have not stat­ed no one’s rights; it is the right of the worker to contract his labor out to others since he owns himself and it is the right of the owners of the firm to buy the labor of the worker using some form of compensation as long as the worker is not forced into the deal.

Minimum wage laws necessarily violate a man’s right of self-ownership because they deprive the person of the right to control his own body. Pretend that the government imposes a minimum wage of $10 per hour but I agree to work at In-N-Out Burger for $9 per hour at a rate at which the company agrees to pay me. I should be able to contract my labor out to any company at any compensation level that I want, as long as the company consents by virtue of the fact that I own myself and therefore have the right to do with it what I please. Similarly, the owners of a firm have the right to buy the services of other workers at a rate which is acceptable to both parties by virtue of the fact that the firm itself does not accept the minimum wage denies employer and employees these rights.

In the case of these minimum wage laws, you can also make the same case for a belief in self-ownership necessarily leads to a rejection of minimum wage laws; it is impossible to support both. If one denies self-ownership, all morality goes out the window, for there cannot be any right to own oneself, and morality is built on the fact that actions which violate another’s person are wrong.

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

Mark Poyer is a junior finance major and associate editor of the College Libertarians. Their website is http://college libertarians.blogspot.com. He is currently studying abroad in England and can be contacted at markpoyer@nd. edu

Letters to the Editor
Death penalty debate
Norman Timberlake lives each day with the belief that he is being tortured by a machine. He thinks that this machine is trying to kill him in order to prevent word of its existence from spreading. This, he believes, is one of the two main reasons why the state of Indiana will be executing him this Friday at midnight.

In 1992, Norman was a stick-up gang man who perpetrated a terrible crime, shooting and killing Indiana State Trooper Michael E. Greene in 1993. However, his death will not bring healing, happiness or any improvement to our society. Instead we will all be left standing with the knowledge that the government killed someone who has a right to seek an abortion because he is the owner of his body. But in this case, in order to see why it is impossible to simultaneously support such governmental policies, it is necessary to see why accepting the idea of self-ownership automatically rules out support of the minimum wage. If it is true that man owns himself and that ownership means the right of control over something, then he is free to do anything he wants with his own property (his person and possessions) except those actions that infringe on the rights of others to do the same. This means that because man is the sole owner of his body, he is free to use it in any way he sees fit to support his life as long as the third parties are not offended by the rights of others. Murder, slavery, and rape are subsets of the same crime: taking control through the use of the body of another without the person’s consent. All actions that violate a man’s right of self-ownership are inherently wrong because they deprive the person of the right to control his own body. Because a man owns his own body, and is thus free to use it in any way he wishes, he has the right to agree to rent his body to a firm in exchange for money, goods, or services, or any sort of other compensation. If the workers have not stated no one’s rights; it is the right of the worker to contract his labor out to others since he owns himself and it is the right of the owners of the firm to buy the labor of the worker using some form of compensation as long as the worker is not forced into the deal.

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Hollywood lauds its best at Golden Globes

Annual awards show recognizes achievement in film and television

By CASSIE BELEK

The Best Actress race is clearly cemented, with Mirren’s imminent glory, despite the lack of on-screen scandal, the Globes remain more fast-paced and even more entertaining than the Academy Awards. The Golden Globes are often seen as the precursors to the Academy Awards, held in March.

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

Musical or Comedy Series for his role in “30 Rock,” beating last year’s winner Steve Carell.

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

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

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

Even with an open bar and bottles of champagne on every table, the evening continued without any drunken mishaps of Danny DeVito proportions. Annette Bening was never seen without a glass of champagne in her hand and Baron Cohen’s co-star, Ken Davitian, was seen drinking directly from a bottle of wine after the man behind “Borat” relived the bawling memories of their nude wrestling match on stage.

Prince failed to show to accept his award for Best Original Song for “Song from the Heart” from “Happy Feet,” leaving presenter Justin Timberlake to stumble around before crouching down to Prince’s height and accepting the award for him.

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

Contact Cassie Belek at cbeck@id.edu
LSU's star quarterback, JaMarcus Russell, completed touchdown passes of 11 and 58 yards and ran for a 5-yard score en route to earning game MVP award. "I have great respect for their great quarterback, Brady Quinn," Tigers coach Les Miles said. "I just think I have the best quarterback in the country."

After two Colt David field goals, Russell threw a second 56-yarder, this time a touchdown, to freshman Brandon LaFell with 18 seconds left in the third quarter to extend the LSU lead to 34-14. On the first play after starting Irish cornerback Terrail Lambert collided with Notre Dame line-backer Maurice Crum and briefly left the game, Russell attacked the back-up corner, Irish freshman Darren Walls. LaFell beats Walls deep, and safety help from Irish senior Chilo Moncrief Ndukwe arrived too late.

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

Notre Dame's only strength on the night, its rushing attack, fell victim to an LSU lead that forced Weis to abandon the ground game because you need touch-downs right away."

While Notre Dame had just one successful rushing half, the Tigers ran over the Irish all night, and the LSU ground attack wore down the Notre Dame defense in the second half. Led by tailback Justin Vincent's 71 yards on just seven carries and Williams' 108 yards on 14 attempts, the Tigers averaged 6.6 yards per rush. Williams capped the game's scoring with a 20-yard touchdown run with 2:27 left in the fourth quarter to give LSU its decisive 41-14 advantage. Both Weis and Irish strong safety Tom Zbikowski said LSU ran from four-wide formations more than the Irish were expecting. "They did a nice job of going in and out from spreading the field with three wide receivers to four wide receivers, and I think they called a nice game and put a lot of pressure on our defense," Weis said.

Notre Dame started slow, gaining two first downs on its opening possession before a failed fake punt run gave the ball to LSU on the Irish 34. And the Tigers attacked immediately, Russell connected with Doucet for a 31-yard gain. Running back Keiland Williams ran for the score on the next play, and LSU had an early 7-0 lead. The Tigers then took a 14-0 lead on Russell's 11-yard strike to wide out Dwayne Bowe halfway through the first quarter. But Notre Dame responded with an eight-play, 80-yard drive that concluded with a 24-yard touchdown throw from Quinn to Irish sophomore David Grimes.

The Irish and Tigers exchanged punts and missed field goal until Quinn found Samardzija on the right side of the end zone for a 10-yard score, and momentum seemed to be back in favor of Notre Dame. But Russell immediately struck with his bomb to Doucet, and the rout was on.

"Right now, we're just a nice, solid team. That won't cut it. We want to be an upper-echelon team."

Charlie Weis
Irish coach

player of the game
JaMarcus Russell

stat of the game
245
Yards rushing LSU gained against the Irish defense. Notre Dame couldn't even slow the Tigers.

play of the game
Russell's 58-yard pass to Early Doucet
The deep ball with two minutes left put LSU in position to go up at halftime and put the Irish away.

quote of the game
"But Russell immediately struck with his bomb to Doucet, and the rout was on."

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler@ld.edu
C- 43
D- 6.6
D+ 1.7

report card
quarterback: Quinn had his worst game since Charlie Weis took over the offense. He made one stupid decision that led to an interception and failed to connect with open receivers on crossing routes.
running back: Walker's 3-yard second half miss-kicking. The junior got just four carries after the half but made the most out of his first-half touches. He hit holes hard and showed explosiveness.
receiver: Grimes made a good play on his TD catch, but Samardzija committed a stupid taunting penalty and McKnight didn't make anything happen. The two seniors were disappointments.
ofensive line: Quinn had to scramble at times, but Morton and Santucci pulled to perfection on running plays. Walker's tall total in the first half reflects this unit's efforts.
defensive line: After Landri left with an injury, LSU regularly dominated the Irish front four. The only positive of the night was Russell's fumble, which was as much a result of the corner blitz as it was of front-four pressure.
linebackers: Brockington and Thomas had a difficult time in pass coverage, and LSU's 6.6-yard rushing was a testament to this unit's inability to aid in rush defense.
defensive back: The Irish secondary couldn't keep the LSU receivers in front of it. Russell lofted passes to his receivers and McKnight was best long on multiple occasions.
special teams: Even if the fake punt was a good call, it was poorly executed. Price punted fairly well, but Gioia couldn't get the job done. But for the game, Minter was no worse than Weis.
overall: The biggest disparity in the Irish wasn't in talent; it was in quality preparation. LSU was ready to go. The Irish looked lost.

1.70
adding up the numbers
Brady Quinn's completion percentage in the Sugar Bowl. The mark was his lowest since 2004.
4
Rushing attempts by Irish running back Darius Walker in the second half. Those were the final four carries of Walker's Notre Dame career.
Number of points the Irish scored in the second half. Notre Dame had not been shut out in a half all season prior to the Sugar Bowl.
2
Number of 58-yard passes LSU quarterback JaMarcus Russell threw in the game. Russell also completed a 31-yard throw.
LSU's rushing average. The Tigers pounded the ball for 245 yards and 16 first downs on the ground.
8:43
Yardage advantage the Tigers had over Notre Dame. The Irish gained just 291 yards to LSU's 577.
Consecutive bowl losses for Notre Dame. Though not an official record, the streak is the longest in NCAA history.

NEW ORLEANS - The Notre Dame fans have fed Bourbon Street. The Allstate banners have come down in the Superdome. And LSU has stopped scoring. (I think.)

It's now time to look at what turned the Irish from confident underdogs into bags of Tiger Bait ready for use at the Baton Rouge noon.

They couldn't block, couldn't tackle and couldn't complete passes from one first-round draft pick to another.

Starting the burst of life that shut Notre Dame back into the game in the second quarter of last Wednesday night's Sugar Bowl, the Donners were terrible.

As usual, LSU was marvelous. The Tiger running backs raced over and around the Irish defense. LSU quarterback JaMarcus Russell threw for 300 yards and a pair of touchdowns and used his almost-300-pound body to run for another score.

The Tigers were the most talented team in New Orleans. There's no doubt about that. Russell must have been raised on another planet - he made former Seattle's quarterback Terry Bruback (a bruiser himself) look like David Grimes during a FOX network promo.

The LSU defensive line, led by All-American tackle Glenn Dorsey, pushed the Irish around like most experts.

Even Brady Quinn couldn't keep the Irish afoul. The toughest player on the field fought to keep from breaking down during his post-game interview. He's done all he can and more this year. If there is anyone to blame for the loss, it's not him. All signs point to Weis.

FRANCESCA SETA/The Observer

Wednesday, January 17, 2007
The Observer • IRISH INSIDER

One question: where's the fire?

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

It's the same lack of hunger and confidence that has hurt Notre Dame for the past several years. One of the biggest criticisms of former coach Tyrone Willingham was that the Irish were blown out every time they played more talented competition. Remember the Michigan (38-0), USC (45-14) and Florida State (37-10) losses in 2003? Besides an obvious upgrade on defense, it's hard to say there was a huge difference between those defeats and recent losses to Ohio State, USC and LSU.

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

Weis can sell tickets. He can woo recruits to South Bend. He can develop quarterbacks and vastly improve an offensive line.

But questions remain about his ability to motivate players for a crucial game. It's been two years since the decade's second Return to Glory began. Has anything really changed?

Even Brady Quinn couldn't keep the Irish afoul. The toughest player on the field fought to keep from breaking down during his post-game interview. He's done all he can and more this year. If there is anyone to blame for the loss, it's not him. All signs point to Weis.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgillon@nd.edu
Irish fire Minter after torching

Report: NY Jets defensive backs coach to replace two-time coordinator

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

Wednesday, January 17, 2007

Irish fire Minter after torching

Irish safety David Bruton catches Tigers receiver Early Doucet from behind during the fourth quarter of the Sugar Bowl. LSU had 332 yards passing.

Weis: Nine seniors apply for fifth year

Landri does not return to game after injury; field goal money goes to N.O.

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Nine Notre Dame seniors applied to the faculty board on athletics for a fifth year of eligibility, Irish coach Charlie Weis announced last week.

If the faculty board accepts all nine, the key returners for the Irish will be standout tight end John Carlson, safety Tom Zbikowski and center John Sullivan.

Also applying for a fifth year were starting linebackers Travis Thomas and Joe Brockington, nickelback Ambrose Wouden, punter Geoff Price, defensive tackle Trevor Laws and reserve defensive lineman Dwight Stephenson, Jr.

Carlson was one of three finalists for the Mackey Award in 2006, given annually to the nation's best tight end. Despite missing the final two games of the regular season, Carlson had 47 catches for 634 yards and four touchdowns. Before the season, he had just 13 receptions for 87 yards playing behind Anthony Fasano, now a member of the Dallas Cowboys.

Though Zbikowski didn't have an interception, he finished with 79 tackles, a 25-yard fumble recovery for a score and a 52-yard punt return. He averaged 9 yards per punt return.

Sullivan started all four games since his sophomore season. He played in 37 straight games for the Irish.

Though starting in the defensive backfield, Thomas saw action on offense, defense and on special teams. He had 13 carries for 81 yards — including a 43-yard scamper on a fake punt against Penn State — to go along with his 25 tackles.

Price finished the season with 50 punts and an average of 42.4 per boot. Laws had 62 tackles in the 2006-07 season, including 75 solo — in 16 regular season games, four interceptions and nine passes defended.

As a unit, the Jets secondary surrendered 201.4 yards per game in 2006. A year earlier, the Brown-led unit was second in the NFL, allowing an AFC-low 172.2 yards per game.

Brown, 36, received a degree in English from Michigan in 1993 and first coached at Virginia, where he led the Cavaliers special teams. He is a graduate of Chicago's Julian High School, a Public League school on the city's south side.

During his playing days in the NFL, Brown had three interceptions in 16 games. He had two with the Jets and one in 1998 with the Jets. In college, Brown also had three picks — one in each of his final three seasons.

This will be the first college coaching job for Powlus, a former Notre Dame quarterback. He will help coach Notre Dame freshman quarterback Jimmy Clausen, whose many analysts say is the most hyped Irish recruit since Powlus arrived on campus in the fall of 1993.

Powlus finished his Notre Dame career with 20 school records, including marks in total offense (7,479 yards), passing yards (7,602), completions (558) and pass attempts (969) — all of which were broken by outgoing Irish quarterback Brady Quinn.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu
Before the game, Charlie Weis used his confrontational style to make a point how the Irish "didn't come here to be competitive." By the end of the night, Irish fans wished they would have done just that. Brady Quinn ended his career on a low note, and Weis explained how Notre Dame was only a "nice" team — not an elite one. A BCS blowout made that evident for the second straight year.

Bayou bungle

Before the game, Charlie Weis used his confrontational style to make a point how the Irish "didn't come here to be competitive." By the end of the night, Irish fans wished they would have done just that. Brady Quinn ended his career on a low note, and Weis explained how Notre Dame was only a "nice" team — not an elite one. A BCS blowout made that evident for the second straight year.
**Saturday, January 17, 2007**

**DVD Reviews**

**Depp, ‘Dead Man’s Chest’ sail onto DVD**

By SEAN SWEANY

Assistant Scene Editor

Robotic pirates have been singing it for 40 years — “Yo, ho, ho, ho, a pirate’s life for me.” The theme song from the popular Disneyland attraction “Pirates of the Caribbean” is known worldwide for bestowing a “pirate’s life” to its bard. This past summer, Walt Disney Pictures had a pirate’s life at the box office and with the release of “Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest” on DVD, it was a pirate’s Christmas as well.

The sequel to the hit 2003 film “Pirates of the Caribbean: Curse of the Black Pearl” again took viewers on a whirlwind ride with Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) and crew across the high seas of the Caribbean. “Dead Man’s Chest” picks up soon after the events of the first movie, with the arrival of the soon-to-be wedded Will Turner (Orlando Bloom, “Kingdom of Heaven”) and Elizabeth Swann (Keira Knightley, “King Arthur”) on the charge of avenging Jack Sparrow. In what turns out to be an epic quest for their freedom, the two must work with sparrow to obtain the Dead Man’s Chest from Davy Jones (Bill Nighy, “Love Actually”), which controls the fates of dead souls.

The plot is grand, and slightly confusing, but this is intentionally done with the knowledge that this third film, to be released in May 2007, will wrap up the numerous loose ends concocted in “Dead Man’s Chest.”

**Captain Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp) runs from the natives in “Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest.” The film was the top grossing movie of 2006.**

Director Gore Verbinski (“The Weather Man”) handles the enormous production, including its complex story, with a deft touch that balances action with softer moments akin to the first movie and ultimately gives a greatly entertaining film.

Perhaps Verbinski’s biggest accomplishment is that he elecns even better performances from his actors than in the first “Pirates” film. Bloom and Knightley cease being merely background characters and become compelling, rounded characters. Bill Nighy, who is frequently recorded and overlaid with a CGI figure, is delightful as Davy Jones, even though the character is completely computer animated.

The movie, however, belongs to Johnny Depp and could just as easily be titled “The Captain Jack Sparrow story.” Depp steals every scene he appears in, and more pronounced than in the first film is this: what helps “Dead Man’s Chest” accomplish a difficult feat — to exist as a sequel but rival the first film in a series in 2006.

The two-disc collector’s edition of this film has a treasure trove of special features and is a must have for even the most casual fan of the films. Numerous special features include in-depth featurettes on Jack Sparrow and the film’s top-notch production design, which endured hurricanes, tropical storms and budget problems while filming the picture.

An “Anatomy of a Legend” feature looks at the process behind creating the Davy Jones character, showing the technology the filmmakers used to bring the otherworldly creature to life. A very unique feature examines how Disney added the iconic characters of Sparrow and Captain Barbossa from the “Pirates” films to the original, 1966, Disneyland attraction.

The video and sound of “Pirates” have an excellent transfer onto DVD, especially the Hans Zimmer score, which is as good as the first film’s soundtrack. The incredibly lifelike CGI in the film — from Davy Jones and his otherworldly crew to the Kraken — are crisp and detailed even on the small screen.

Amidst skepticism about its success potential and criticism of its length and twisted plot, “Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man’s Chest” triumphed, becoming one of the most successful films of all time while delighting audiences and critics alike. As a middle film of a trilogy, “Dead Man’s Chest” serves as a stepping stone for the third film, but ultimately succeeds because it can stand alone against its forebear as one of the best swashbuckling films of all time.

Contact Sean Sweany at ssweany@nd.edu

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**‘Descent’ finds acclaim at top of horror film list**

By ERIN McGINN

Assistant Scene Editor

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

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

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

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

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

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

The decision to change the ending for the American version has been seen as controversial that the disc includes a featurette in the special features section entitled “Skepticism/Skepticism” in which the reasoning for the change is examined.

Also included in the special features are approximately 20 minutes of deleted and extended scenes, a fairly humorous blooper reel, storyboard-to-scene comparisons and an almost hour-long “making-of” featurette.

The unrated DVD also has two great commentary tracks with the crew is more technical, while the one with the actresses is much more anecdotal.

“The Descent” excites science-fiction fans both on the surface level — with monsters hiding in the dark — as well as driving deeper into more psychological fears. Without letting up for an instant, the movie manages to stay a thrilling ride from the beginning until the end.

Contact Erin McGinn at emcginn@nd.edu
PITTSBURGH — No. 6 Pittsburgh pulled away midway through the second half behind Aaron Gray's strong inside play and Ronald Ramos' perimeter shooting, wearing down Connecticut in a typically rugged Big East rivalry game for a 63-54 victory Tuesday night. Gray, helped by an injury that kept Rodney Stautner out of the lineup, had 22 points and 19 rebounds. Ramos went 4-for-4 from 3-point range while adding 17 points as the Panthers (17-2, 5-0) won their seventh straight. They are the only team still unbeaten in conference play.

Gray missed by a rebound of becoming the first Pitt player with as many as 20 points and 19 rebounds because of poor shooting — the Panthers made it 3-for-21 from the floor. But the Huskies went scoreless for 4 1/2 minutes shortly after that during a 7-0 Pitt run, a nightmare for Levance Fields' 3-pointer. The Big East's two most successful programs since 2001 had no team to close to them in regular-season victories — are known for their intense, physical styles. This one was no different, as was evident when Thabeet caught an elbow from Gray above his eye less than 2 minutes into the game.

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

Indiana 71, Iowa 64

D.J. White tied career highs with 23 points and 12 rebounds to lead the Indiana Hoosiers to a victory over the Iowa Hawkeyes on Tuesday night. Roderick Wilmont had 15 points and Armon Bassett scored 10 for the Hawkeyes (13-4, 4-1 Big Ten), who won their fourth straight conference game to tie a 2:41 loss at No. 7 Ohio State. Adam Haluska, the Big Ten's leading scorer entering the game, finished with 21 points and Tyler Smith added 17 points and six assists for Iowa (10-8, 2-3), which rallied from a 21-point deficit in the second half to make the game close.

The Hoosiers, who improved to 10-0 at Assembly Hall this season and snapped a four-game losing streak against Iowa, took charge early in the first half following Haluska's layup that put Iowa ahead 10-6.

White rebounded and put back a tie score and sparked an 11-0 run by Indiana over the next seven minutes. Lance Stemler's 3-pointer gave the Hoosiers a 10-2 advantage with 7:30 left.

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

Wilmont made three 3-pointers and scored 11 points, as White added eight points and six rebounds to lead Indiana in the first half. The Hawkeyes shot 33 percent from the field and committed 10 turnovers before the break.

Boston College 82, Miami 63

Sean Marshall scored Boston College's first nine points as the Eagles opened a 20-point halftime lead on Tuesday night and coasted to a victory over Miami. Marshall finished with 20 points and Jared Dudley scored 18 for BC (13-4, 5-0 Atlantic Coast Conference), which won its fourth straight game since losing two fouls in the first 12 minutes. Miami (9-10, 2-3) was unable to build up its lead and fell behind 42-22 at the break.

Virginia 103, Maryland 91

Mamadi Diane scored a career-high 26 points and Sean Singletary added 25 and seven assists Tuesday night to lead Virginia past Maryland, ending the Cavaliers' three-game losing streak. Virginia (10-6, 2-2 Atlantic Coast Conference) blew a 20-point first-half lead, allowing Maryland to close within three early in the second half. But the Cavs scored 12 straight to make it 70-55 with 5:05 remaining, and from there the Terrapins (12-4, 13) couldn't get closer than eight.

Mike Jones led Maryland with 16 points, Greivis Vasquez made three-pointers and scored 17, Ekene Ibekwe also had 17 before fouling out in the closing minutes. Two free throws by Ibekwe pulled the Terrps to within 56-55 with 14:36 to play. After Virginia turned the ball over and Jamil Tucker hit his third 3-pointer in as many tries for the Cavaliers.

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

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

The Hurricanes' Keaton Copeland fights off a double team against Boston College Tuesday night. The Eagles were able to hold on for the 82-63 win at Silvio O. Conte Forum in Boston.

A dunk by Jason Cain gave Virginia a 30-3 lead with 2:45 left in the first half, but then the Cavaliers self-destructed, turning the ball over on four straight possessions. The Terps scored the last 3 points of the period, with Vasquez making all of his eight first-half points in 30 seconds.

Western Michigan 86, Central Michigan 76

Joe Reitz scored 26 points to lead Western Michigan to a victory over Central Michigan on Tuesday night. Four starters reached double figures for the Bronco (17-7, 2-2 Mid-American) who won their sixth straight home game with their highest point total of the season.

Sekond Reads

January 17, 2007

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 1114 South Dining Hall. Classified ads must be prepaid. The charge is 3 cents per word per day, including all quotes. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

Monday, January 14, 2007
Men's Basketball Associated Press Top 25

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Men's Basketball ESPN/USA Today Top 25

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

Tedford extension valid through 2013

The Associated Press

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

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

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

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

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

The Bears have reached the top 10 in three straight seasons while appearing in four consecutive bowl games — winning three — for the first time in school history.

Cal's share of the Pac-10 crown this season was its first conference title since 1965, and Tedford also has beaten archival Stanford five straight times.

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

Tedford is best known for his acumen in tutoring quarterbacks, both at Cal and during his time as an offensive coordinator at Oregon and Fresno State.

The former Canadian Football League quarterback has sent Trent Dilfer, David Carr, Akili Smith, Joey Harrington, A.J. Feeley, Kyle Boller and Aaron Rodgers to the NFL.

IN BRIEF

Armstrong urgesלות to support cancer research

Des Moines, Iowa — Lance Armstrong urged Iowans on Tuesday to support a presidential candidate who is dedicated to expanding cancer research.

In a speech to 1,500 guests of the Greater Des Moines Partnership's annual dinner, the seven-time Tour de France champion described the power of the people who want to lead the free world.

"This is a very important state for a lot of reasons, most notably for your ability to be able to engage with the people who want to lead the free world," he said.

Armstrong said his "new role" in life is finding a cure for a disease that kills 600,000 people a year.

Crede signs one-year contract extension

Chicago — Third baseman Joe Crede and the Chicago White Sox agreed Tuesday to a $4.94 million, one-year contract and avoided arbitration.

The 28-year-old batted .283 last season with 30 home runs, 94 RBIs and had a .978 fielding percentage in 150 games.

The deadline for exchanging salary-arbitration figures was Tuesday, and there has been speculation that Crede's time with the White Sox might be nearing an end. He is eligible for free agency after the 2008 season.

"We certainly have a track record of trying to lock up core guys prior to reaching free agency — the key thing being that we have Joe under control through the 2008 season, so it's not an immediate concern to address," assistant general manager Rick Hahn said.

Federer into third round of Australian Open

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

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

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

Federer maintained his record of never dropping a set against Bjorkman. "Jonas is a great guy, he always puts up a good fight," said Federer, who is chasing a 10th Grand Slam title.
Gostkowski fills big shoes for Pats

Associated Press

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — Pressure rolled off Stephen Gostkowski's back as smoothly as the football flew off his foot and sent New England to another AFC championship game.

Bill Belichick didn't hesitate to send Gostkowski out for the winning field goal at San Diego. The Patriots coach had done that so many times with Adam Vinatieri.

And, just like Vinatieri, the cool rookie came through in a big playoff game.

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

"He's doing great," Tom Brady said. "Cross your fingers, hope it lasts another week."

The kick, as important as it was, was a prelude to an even bigger game Sunday — against Vinatieri and the Indianapolis Colts, with the winner going to the Super Bowl. Vinatieri's kicks already have won two of them for the Patriots, one on the final play of a 20-17 win over St. Louis in 2002, the other with 4 seconds left in a 32-29 victory over the Colts.

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

So far, so good for the 22-year-old rookie.

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

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

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

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

"If you can't handle pressure, you shouldn't be in the business," he said the day he was drafted. "You want to be able to kick that game-winning kick, because that's where people fall in love with you."

Saint Mary's beats Alma 130-103 to capture first conference victory

By BILL BRINK

Saint Mary's relays teams in the 200-meter freestyle with a time of 2:04.12 and the 200-meter freestyle in 2:04.19, Niemann won the 50-meter freestyle in 27.08 seconds and the 200-meter backstroke in 2:22.75. Gerbeth took the 1,000-meter freestyle in 11:25.73 and the 200-meter medley relay in 2:24.04.

Saint Mary's relay teams also performed well, winning both races. The 200-meter medley relay team, consisting of Niemann, Jen Lehied, Meredith Lierz, and Kelly Tighe, took first with a time of 2:04.93. The 200-meter freestyle relay, swum by Gerbeth, Lierz, Niells and Tighe, took first with a time of 1:50.40.

This was the team's first meet after a hard training trip. "You can't usually see the best times," he said. "They knew they had the opportunity to win the meet, and heart and determination won close races."

Although the majority of the races this season have been won by the same four swimmers, every member of the team has contributed. Freshmen Jacinthe Cottrell took fourth in the 500 freestyle, finishing 27 seconds ahead of Alm's Kelly Marks. The finish was not consequential in the individual race, but very important in the scoring, says Dombkowski.

"It was her best time of the season. It was neck and neck, and she pulled it out in the end. It was one of the biggest meets of the season by twelve seconds. Even though it's fourth place, the team gains two points instead of one. If all swimmers win little tiny battles, it makes a difference in the long run."

Between fifth and sixth place is a big battle, a swing of 26 points in the meet.

"This meet was also the first conference meet the Belles have won since the 2004-2005 season."

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

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

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ND SWIMMING

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

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Writer

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

Meanwhile, the No. 16 men's team spent its winter break training in Boca Raton, Fla., and Duquesne in a quad meet Saturday. The three wins improved Notre Dame's their record to 8-0 this year in individual meets, their best start since the 1974-75 season.

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

Notre Dame then went on to defeat Cleveland State, Xavier, and Duquesne in a quad meet Saturday. The three wins put the Irish off to best start in past 30 years.

The No. 19 ranked women's team scored 1074 points in Ann Arbor, finishing behind No. 13 Indiana (1446.5 points), but ahead of No. 10 Michigan (1052.5).

"This was great. It's always great to perform well in a big event like this," women's head coach Carrie Nixon said.

Notre Dame entered the final event of the meet, the 400-yard freestyle relay, with a small lead over the Wolverines. Even though Michigan managed to take the top spot in the event, the Irish scored better overall.

The team of senior Katie Carroll, freshmen Sarah Pallard and Rebecca Grove, and sophomore Christa Riggins placed third in the event for the Irish while Notre Dame's four other relay teams shattered fifth, sixth, ninth, and seventeenth respectively.

"It's always great when you beat Michigan. They were huge rivals of ours," Nixon said.

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

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

Fellow senior Julia Quinn swam a season's best time in the 200-breaststroke, while junior Caroline Johnson set a season best time in the 50-yard freestyle (23.57), good enough for third. She also placed seventh in the 100-yard freestyle and fifth in the 200-yard medley relay.

"Katie had a great meet," Nixon said. "Julia swam the breaststroke two seconds faster than at this time last year and the 50 and 100-yard freestyle breaks were almost six seconds faster for breakout swims for Caroline."

After competing in last month's U.S. open, the team spent most of winter break training in Houston.

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

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

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

Contact Chris Hine at chine@nd.edu

SMC BASKETBALL

Kessler gets award for self-confidence play

Junior guard leads team to fourth place in MIAA standings

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

After a 1-6 start that included a four-game losing streak, Saint Mary's has gone 4-3 since Dec. 6. Since a 72-69 win over Calvin en route to third in the MIAA standings, the Belles have defeated Adrian, Alverno, Tri-state and Kalamazoo and lost to Hope, Olivet and Calvin en route to a 4-3 conference record for fourth in the MIAA.

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

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

"Mainly, we built up our strengths and capitalizing on other's weaknesses. They will travel tonight to Hope, Olivet and Calvin en route to a 4-3 conference record for fourth in the MIAA."

"We're maturing. We're a lot better than at this time last year and the 50 and 100-yard freestyle breaks were almost six seconds faster for breakout swims for Caroline."
Walker
continued from page 24

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

While Walker will not gradu­
ate this semester, he said he
will be only four courses shy of
earning a degree. His mother,
Laverne, said the family dis­
cussed the academic repercus­
sions of the decision at length.

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

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

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

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

His most valuable assets for
NFL teams, however, may be
his soft hands. The native of
Lawrenceville, Ga., was third
on the team this season with 56
catches for 391 yards. He fin­
ished his c a re e r w ith 109
receptions for 816 yards.

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

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

With freshman running backs
James Aldridge and Munir
Prince devel­
oping – and
coveted tail­
back recruit Armando Allen
arriving on
campus for the
spring semes­
ter, Walker
may have
faced more of
a challenge for
the majority of carries in 2007.

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

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

Contact Ken Fowler at
kfowlerl@nd.edu

Former Irish tailback Darius Walker scores his first career
touchdown against Michigan Sept. 11, 2004. Walker ran for
3,249 yards and 23 touchdowns in his Notre Dame career.
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Red Storm
continued from page 24
said, "She was clicking." Allen's play also helped spark her teammates, including freshman guard Ashley Barlow, whose 3-pointer with 6:16 left in the half got the run started. "When [Allen] gets going, it gives everybody confidence," Barlow said. "We just gotta keep getting her the ball." During the first half, the Irish who turned the ball over a season-low 10 times all game -- gave the ball away just twice, compared to St. John's 11 first-half turnovers. Still, McGraw was not comfortable with Notre Dame's 44-34 halftime lead. "I was a little worried," McGraw said. "We were only up 10 ... (after) playing as good as we could play. I'm glad we were able to extend the lead in the second half." The Irish quickly began pulling away in the second half. Notre Dame made each of its first five 3-point attempts, including two each from Allen and Barlow who finished with 14 points -- in a 15-2 run to start the half that extended the lead to 61-39 with 12:44 to go. After an 0-6 start from behind the arc, the Irish went on a 7-for-9 stretch that spanned halftime.

"Normally we stop shooting after a bad start," McGraw said. "We did a better job in the second half against their zone moving the ball." The Irish also emphasized working the ball inside in the second half, and center Melissa D'Amico scored eight of her 10 points in the second half. D'Amico also finished with a career-high 11 rebounds, and tallied the third double-double of her career.

USFA
continued from page 24
Columbus.
Because of Ghattas' injury, he had limited success in December's USFA event in Richmond. The senior sabre struck in top form this weekend, though, posting a tie for third place. Ghattas finished behind only Mike Montsela of Ohio State and two-time Olympian Keeth Smart of New York City.

"Patrick Ghattas is improving tremendously," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "He made a great jump forward in a strong field, too. He's showing he should be taken seriously for the national team.

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

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

Irish guard Melissa Lechlitner drives to the basket in Notre Dame's 84-51 loss to Indiana Dec. 2.

"She had a size advantage," McGraw said. "In the second half we got it in a little more and she hit the boards harder." The Irish also clamped down on the Red Storm's field goal offense. After shooting 56.5 percent from the field in the first half, St. John's went just 9-for-24 from the field after halftime. Of its 31 second-half points, only 19 came from the field. "I think in the beginning we handled their pressure well, but their pressure wore us down," said St. John's head coach Kim Barnes Arico.

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

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

Contact Eric Better at erbetter@nd.edu

Notre Dame junior foil Melanie Bautista competes against Ohio State Feb. 26, 2006 at the Joyce Center.

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

In the women's epee, Irish freshman Kelley Hurley took sixth at the competition, while senior Amy Orlando was No. 15 and sophomore Kimberlee Montoya finished No. 24. Bednarski noted Hurley's potential and her development in her short time at Notre Dame.

Rounding out the top Irish finishers, sophomore Mark Kubik took 11th in men's foil.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu

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

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

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

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

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

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

Contact Dan Murphy at d murphy6@nd.edu

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Jamar Nutter cut the lead to six at 44-38. Seton Hall switched to the full court press after the half, unsettling the Notre Dame offense and allowing the Pirates to pull within three. But six straight points by Irish junior forward Rob Kurz pushed the Irish lead back to nine at 50-41 with 16:17 left in the game.

Notre Dame continued to extend the lead, pushing it to as many as 21 after Harangody's layup with just under 11 minutes left.

The Irish lead was 17, at 60-43, when the Pirates made a run. Nutter hit a three and freshman guard Eugene Harvey had two consecutive steal-and-scores to cut the lead to 10.

The Irish stopped the bleeding with two free throws from Peoples, but a five-point score from junior forward Brian Lang and another layup by Harvey cut the lead to single digits at 79-70 with 3:44 remaining.

At that point, however, the Pirates went cold, allowing the Irish to coast to the final margin.

Senior guard Colin Falls played only 19 minutes and scored just four points due to the foul he committed.

"He should be fine by tomorrow," Brey said. "By four o'clock or so it should be out of his system, in time for practice."

The win was Notre Dame's 13th straight at home this season.

Notre Dame 61, West Virginia 58

West Virginia forward Frank Young's shot last ditch effort with one second left fell short, giving Notre Dame its second Big East win of the year and handing the Mountaineers their first conference loss Jan. 9 at the Joyce Center.

The Irish had built a comfortable 52-45 lead with five minutes to play, but an 8-0 West Virginia run cut the lead to just two and brought back painful memories of last minute double digit losses in the 2005-06 season.

But the Irish didn't fall apart. Freshman forward Luke Harangody hit two free throws to extend the lead to four, and, after a defensive stop, senior guard Russell Carter hit a jump shot to put Notre Dame up six.

A three pointer by Young brought the Mountaineers to within three and the West Virginia forward grabbed the rebound after Irish senior forward Rob Kurz missed the front end of a one-and-one. But Carter cut Young off and forced him to take a contested runner that fell well short of the rim as time expired.

Carter led all scorers with 19 points, while fellow senior Colin Falls hit four 3s and totaled 14 points.

Notre Dame 95, Stony Brook 66

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

Carter led the Irish with 22 points.

Notre Dame 101, Rider 51

Notre Dame hit triple digits for the first time this season against Rider at the Joyce Center. Kurz led the Irish with 23 points and Harangody added 18.

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

Notre Dame 88, Army 47

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

Notre Dame 86, Portland 69

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

Notre Dame 94, Elon 63


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

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

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

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FOOTBALL

Junior tailback Walker declares for NFL draft

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

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

"I sat down, spoke with the folks and all of the people who have influenced me and have supported me and everything," Walker said. "Wrote down the pros and cons, all that type of thing, and just really feel like, you know, it's the right thing for me to do at this time. It's the right thing for me to go on and to go to the NFL, now rather than wait."

While hoping to keep some things "private," Walker said he did not make a "blind move."

"It's definitely something that I put time and research in, something that I feel is right," he said.

"Darius Walker and his parents informed me of his intent to make himself eligible for the NFL Draft," Irish coach Charlie Weis said in a statement read to the media by Brian Hardin, Notre Dame director of football media relations. "He guaranteed me that he would graduate from Notre Dame in the

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Storming the Johnnies

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

By ERIC RETTER
American Sports Editor

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

Allen was 14-for-19 from the floor, the highest field goal total for any Irish player since Katrina Gaither made 16 on Jan. 9, 1995.

"My teammates were looking for me and my shots were falling," Allen said. "I wanted to be aggressive the whole 40 minutes this game.

Despite Allen's efforts, Notre Dame opened slowly, and the Red Storm held a slim lead for much of the early going behind 54.5 percent shooting from the floor. But after St. John's forward Tiama Stein's 3-pointer gave the Red Storm a 27-23 lead with 6:32 to play in the second half, the Irish offense took over the game.

Notre Dame rattled off a season-best 19-0 run over the next 4:48 to take a 42-27 lead before Kia Wright's layup ended the Red Storm drought with 1:52 to play in the half.

"I think it was mostly Charal [Allen, who had eight points during the stretch]," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said."

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

Irish junior forward Rob Kurz drives in Notre Dame's 99-85 win over Alabama Dec. 7 at the Joyce Center.

THE OBSERVER

Wednesday, January 17, 2007

SPORTS

FOOTBALL

Junior tailback Walker declares for NFL draft

By KEN FOWLER
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American Sports Editor

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

Allen was 14-for-19 from the floor, the highest field goal total for any Irish player since Katrina Gaither made 16 on Jan. 9, 1995.

"My teammates were looking for me and my shots were falling," Allen said. "I wanted to be aggressive the whole 40 minutes this game.

Despite Allen's efforts, Notre Dame opened slowly, and the Red Storm held a slim lead for much of the early going behind 54.5 percent shooting from the floor. But after St. John's forward Tiama Stein's 3-pointer gave the Red Storm a 27-23 lead with 6:32 to play in the second half, the Irish offense took over the game.

Notre Dame rattled off a season-best 19-0 run over the next 4:48 to take a 42-27 lead before Kia Wright's layup ended the Red Storm drought with 1:52 to play in the half.

"I think it was mostly Charal [Allen, who had eight points during the stretch]," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said."

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

Irish junior forward Rob Kurz drives in Notre Dame's 99-85 win over Alabama Dec. 7 at the Joyce Center.

HOCKEY

Sweep of Lake Superior moves ND into first

By DAN MURPHY
Sports Writer

With a sweep of Lake Superior State last weekend, Notre Dame moved into sole possession of first place in the Great Lakes Invitational in Ann Arbor, while the No. 16 team takes second in an invitational in Ann Arbor, while the No. 16 team was held to five wins in Dave Poulin's second game — including 17 in the final stanza — to keep the Lakers at bay and secure Notre Dame's spot atop the conference.

The No. 3 Irish went 7-1 over Christmas break to improve their overall record to 19-4-1 and 13-2-1 in the conference.

Sophomore Erik Condra beat Lakehead goalie Jeff Jakaitis on the first shot of overtime Friday and 4-1 on Saturday night.

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Irish forward Rob Kurz drives in Notre Dame's 99-85 win over Alabama Dec. 7 at the Joyce Center.

SMC BASKETBALL

Belles junior guard Allison Kessler named MIAA Player of the Week.

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

SMC SWIMMING

Saint Mary's 130
Alma 103

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

FOOTBALL

LSU 41
Notre Dame 14

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