ND builds on Ugandan partnership

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

By MARCELA BERRIOS
Assistant News Editor

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

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

“...we’ve done a lot of listening and learning over the last year, in order to really understand the people of Nindye and their needs. That was the first thing we needed to do,” Lyden said Thursday. “We didn’t want to just jump into this partnership without taking a breath to figure out what our next step would be and how we were going to do it.”

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

University President Father John Jenkins poses with Ugandan bishops in a visit to Kampala, Uganda’s capital, in January 2007.

Juniors contend alone

SMC candidates run unopposed for president, VP

By KRISTEN EDELEN
News Writer

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

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

“An unopposed race is something that is definitely not normal and will make for an interesting election because they still have to campaign,” said senior Maggie Siefer, former student body vice president and executive director of elections.

Shortly after the forum, Gruscinski and Falvey began knocking on doors across campus to promote their campaign locally.

“Even though there is only one ticket they are working just as hard, as if there were

Coalition slow to meet

Committee has yet to converse to discuss town-gown relations

By JOSEPH MAHON
Assistant News Editor

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

Student body president Liz Brown lobbied for the group as part of a compromise with the South Bend Common Council when discussing alternatives the proposed ordinance.

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

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

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

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

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

Brown, whose term ends April 1, said she would like to have the opportunity to

New students arrive for spring semester

ND admits 9 transfers, SMC admits 15

By MEG MIRSHAK
New Writer

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

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

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

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

“The Office of Admissions does not see this as a trend.”

Transfer Students at ND & SMC

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

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

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

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

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

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

Bifulco said there are three to six projects for each of the six divisions, and anywhere from five to 20 students working on an individual project.

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

Students present projects to companies in order to form partnerships.

ND SIBC launches projects

see ELECTIONS/page 9

see SIBC/page 4
INSIDE COLUMN

Waiting for George
Possibly as a result of the winter dol­

drives of Christmas vacation withdrawal, I have decided to approach this Inside Column with my current announcements. For the record, candidates cannot engage the word "change." They should con­
der one with my hometown team: the Bears.

First, political candidates can no longer

３rd, although going green is crucial

Fourth, the standard cable company for

Fifth, the writers' strike has prevented

Global warming critics can support their

reforms at the Washington level must

reforms must be changed to the global scale.

Nevertheless, any

Page 2

Friday, January 25, 2008

THE OBSERVER • PAGE 2

question of the day:

What movie/actor should have been nominated for an Oscar?

Meghan Newcomb

senior

off campus

"Journey to Jay's Lounge, starring Crazy Doug."

Anne Martell

senior

off campus

"Life at Waddicks."

Carolyn Plou

senior

off campus

"725 E Angela: Peace, Love and Tequila."

Jim Brady

senior

off campus

"A Night at the Torch."

Kaitlyn Conway

freshman

Farley

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

In Brief

Actors From The London Stage will present "The Taming of the Shrew" tonight and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in Washington Hall. Student tick­

ets are available for $12.

Prints from the Snite Museum of Art's collection that focus on artistic subjects from the 17th century will be displayed today from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit, "Rembrandt and the Art of Printmaking in Holland," will highlight the golden age of Dutch art, depictions of land­

scapes, portraits of animals and individuals in non-aristocratic social and economic classes, and scenes of their everyday life.

There will be a men's and women's indoor track invita­

tional tonight at 5 in Lotus Sports Center. Admission is free.

The Harlem Globetrotters will be playing tonight at 7 at the Joyce Center. For tickets, call 631-7156.

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

The Notre Dame Student Film Festival is taking place today and Saturday at 7 p.m. and 10 p.m. It features 13 short films made in classes during the past year by stu­

dents in the FTT department. From dark comedy to docu­

mentary, the films cover a wide range of genres. Tickets are $3 for ND students.

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

offbeat

RIBB! This green isn't part of salad

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

tuce she was preparing to eat.

"I jumped away," said 39-year-old Yvonne Brechbuhler, who described the green crit­
er as no bigger than the tip of her pinky finger.

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

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

Naked rug portrait found in dumpster

MCMASTERVILLE, Ore. — Tamera Bremer has her woven self-portrait back.

It's a bit stinky but the image is as curvy and naked as the day it was stolen. In October, the weaving was taken from an exhibit at Linfield College, where the Portland artist is an adjunct professor.

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

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

Information compiled by the Associated Press.

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

Contact Katlyn Smith at ksmit09t@stmarys.edu

CORRECTIONS

The Observer regrets itself as a professional publican and writer for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at 631-454-1155 so we can correct our error.

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

Contact Katlyn Smith at ksmit09t@stmarys.edu

local weather

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new york 33 / 19 philadelphia 35 / 19 phoenix 65 / 45 seattle 42 / 29 st. louis 33 / 9 tampa 65 / 48 washington 37 / 8
Rwandan dancers visit SMC
Michiana-based group makes second appearance on campus

By ROHAN ANAND
News Writer

Members of the Saint Mary's community attended a performance by the Berwa Organization at O'Loughlin Auditorium on Thursday night. This was the second time that the Rwandan dance group, consisting of about 30 members, performed at the College. "It's more of a local, regional group," said Richard Baxter, the College's director of special events. "They performed at Saint Mary's about a year ago in a much smaller, intimate setting, and I explored the possibility of having the group return for a larger audience."

Traditional dance and music play an important part in the lives of Rwandans. At the beginning of the performance, one of the leaders of the group said dance and music are a way to teach younger generations how to live in peace, love and harmony. All members of the Berwa Organization live in the Michiana area, where hundreds of Rwandans reportedly live. The name Berwa means "be proud" in the native Kinyarwanda language. The Berwa members ranged in age from 9 to 50. "They use dance to cope with what they have been through and pass the heritage of their dance styles on to their children," Baxter said. "Watching them perform these dances on a grander scale serves as a great lesson to us."

The performance began with the "inganzo" dance performed by younger girls, followed by the "Nyaruzi" dance performed by teenage girls. The second act consisted of the "Abakobwa b'Iwacu" dance that showed, in artistic movements, the typical day in the life of a Rwandan Movement. Following was the "Ingoma" dance performed by the Berwa drummers, and after the immersion was a series of acts depicting the Rwandan traditional wedding, the Rwandan naming ceremony, and the celebration of a child's birth. The performance concluded with a fashion show.

"It's uplifting to watch them dance, because it reaches their hearts," Baxter said. "It's hard to talk about dance and how it affects you emotionally, but you are so captivated by it." Baxter explained that watching them perform is very emotional, and you can't help but invest in the project. All proceeds from the event will be sent by the Berwa members back to their families in Rwanda, a nation that has been torn apart by genocide and civil war. Contact Rohan Anand at ranand@nd.edu

Heritage dinner to honor Moreau

By ASHLEY CHARINLEY
News Writer

Saint Mary's Board of Governance will host a Heritage dinner in Stapleton Lounge tonight at 6 to round out its celebration of the third annual Heritage Week. The week celebrates the history of the College, and tonight's dinner will honor Father Basil Moreau only days after the first celebration of his feast day since his beatification in 2007.

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

"The main purpose of the dinner is to bring the Sisters of the Holy Cross, faculty and students to converse and celebrate the heritage of the College," Hodges said. BOG is strongly encouraging student participation.

"The significance of the dinner is to pass down tradition, pass down themes of who we are as Saint Mary's women from people who have been pillars at Saint Mary's College," Hodges said. College vice presidents and BOG officials will attend the dinner along with the Sisters of the Holy Cross.

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

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

The dinner will be followed by a sock hop in the Student Center Lounge from 9 p.m. to 11. There will be an ice cream bar at the dance, and free T-shirts will be passed out in honor of Heritage Week. Another Heritage Week festivity this year will be guided tours of Bridgder House, a small building in the center of campus. The building was formerly the location of home economics classes at the College. The tours run from 3 p.m. to 5.

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

Contact Ashley Charrinley at acharrinley@saintmarys.edu

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**Dueling Pianos**

**Friday... Tonight!**

**10 PM**

No Cover

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**Dueling Pianos**

**Friday... Tonight!**

**10 PM**

No Cover
Transfers

continued from page 1

Joyce said, “Sometimes the application pool is different. A transfer student must complete one-half of his total degree requirements at the University. The number of juniors applying for transfer during the spring semester is usually less than the fall semester. But, occasionally, the Office of Admissions will receive an application from a first-semester junior who is off the normal four-year college sequence, Joyce said. Last summer, the admissions committee evaluated 572 fall-semester applicants. Of the 159 students admitted, 87 percent were sophomores.

At Saint Mary’s, the number of incoming students is similar to what the Admissions Office has seen in past spring semesters, said Summer Runyan, assistant director and campus visit coordinator of the Admissions Office.

Saint Mary’s evaluates transfer applicants on the qualifications that the student has completed two consecutive semesters of transferable college work. The applicant must have earned a 3.0 grade point average, Runyan said.

The Notre Dame seniors class experienced a net gain of students after gaining fall and spring transfer students, Joyce said. Transfer students register for classes after returning students and enter a lottery for on-campus housing.

All nine spring transfer students at Notre Dame obtained on-campus housing, and the remaining fall transfer students who were placed on a waiting list in the fall received on-campus housing assignments this semester, Joyce said.

Orientation sessions were held for transfer students at both Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s. Twelve students attended the Saint Mary’s orientation, which included information sessions introducing students to the campus and technology use at Saint Mary’s.

At Notre Dame, transfer students attended an abbreviated schedule of normal orientation events. The Transfer Orientation Committee, chaired by previous spring-semester transfer student Ashley Weiss and Colin Ethier, planned two days of activities beginning the Sunday before classes began.

Twelve previous transfer students were on the committee.

‘The members of the committee go out of their way to welcome the new students because they know what it is like to transfer,’ Joyce said.

On the first day of transfer orientation, separate panel discussions were held for students and parents, followed by a dinner in the Main Building. Transfer students and their families also joined University President Father John Jenkins for a Mass in the Log Chapel.

Contact Meg Mirshak at mmirshak@nd.edu

SIBC continued from page 1

"The projects, almost all of them except for the global development projects, are presented to the companies that we work with, mostly in Chicago," Bufalino said. "There was a group of students last semester that went to Goldman Sachs in New York and another group that went to Liz Claiborne in New York. We try to broaden out and get to other projects that are across the country.

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

"Artisans Opportunities International" is a project created two SIBC members and couple years ago, said Tina Tovar, global development division director. "They founded it and they went to Nicaragua and when they were there, they decided they wanted to work with hammocks.

The SIBC purchased the hammocks made by artisans, took them to the United States to be sold and used the profits from the hammocks to pay the artisans in Nicaragua, Tovar said.

Tovar said that she researched the needs of the artisans and determined the best use for the hammock profits when she visited Nicaragua.

"We found going visit homes everyday and kind of observe and talk to them about what their needs were," she said. "Basically our trip was mostly for research purposes."

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

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

SIBC chief financial officer Kadejea Gaines also spent time abroad with the program. She traveled to Uganda on the Uganda Project, part of the NDMDI.

Members of the Uganda Project found a group of women in which one had attended a seminar to learn how to dye fabrics to earn money.

The women live in an area heavily affected by HIV/AIDS, and part of the project will aim to create a sewing school where HIV orphans can learn a skill that can make them money when they are adults in the future," Gaines said. "Currently we are trying to research markets, importing and exporting the fabrics, and also determining what the fabrics can be made into."

Students and women in Uganda can benefit a great deal from this project, she said.

"Students in this project are learning how to build a business from the ground up. It is great for these women in Uganda because it is hopefully going to allow them to turn a profit and allow them to better their community," Gaines said.

The SIBC has developed more of an international focus recently. "It has changed in the fact that we’re more focused on our vision of peace through commerce ... and what skills we can use to develop the vision," Bufalino said.

Bufalino said that interested members can attend division meetings next week, and information about all projects is available on the SIBC’s Web site.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscoll@nd.edu

St. Thomas Aquinas

"Lessons from Aquinas on the War in Iraq"

Featuring Professor Timothy Renick Chair, Dept. of Religious Studies, Georgia State University

Author of Aquinas for Armchair Theologians

Saint Mary’s College • Notre Dame, Indiana

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

**U.N. set to increase sanctions on Iran**

The United Nations Security Council powers have agreed on an incremental increase in sanctions on Iran, including a new restriction on exporters doing business with the country, diplomats said Thursday. A draft resolution was also circulating among the nations monitoring of Iran's military and financial institutions, broader travel bans on Iranian nuclear scientists, and a ban on arms sales on the assets of people and banks linked to weapons proliferation, diplomats said. The Associated Press. Diplomats from the five nations with veto power -- the U.S., Russia, China, Britain and France -- spent a third day negotiating a final agreement on principles that would form the basis for a third round of U.N. sanctions on Iran. They were joined by Germany, which has long been involved in efforts to resolve the Iran nuclear dispute.

**Italian premier resigns after vote fall**

ROME — Italian Premier Romano Prodi resigned Thursday after his government lost a risky Senate confidence vote. The center-left government fell four votes short of the 160 needed for victory. The vote was 161-156.

Elected in April 2006, Prodi had a shaky government from nearly the start. But it lurched toward collapse after a small Christian Democratic party, whose votes were vital to a coalition majority in the Senate, yanked its support last week in the last squabbling among his allies.

**S Big-muscle GOP candidates compete for Florida**

But the Republican-controlled Senate voted 24-22 to allow U.S. troops in Pakistan to help fight the insurgency there if Pakistani leaders request more military assistance. Gates said Pakistani officials have made clear they do not want more U.S. troops in Pakistan and are not willing to conduct joint operations, but that if they do, "they desire to do so," Gates told a news conference.

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

"We're not aware of any proposals that the Pakistanis have made to us at this point," he said. "This is clearly an evolving situation. And what we have tried to communicate to the Pakistanis and essentially what we are saying here is we are prepared to look at a range of cooperation with them in a number of different areas, but at the core of it is their nickel, and we await proposals or suggestions from them." Gates made his remarks not as an announcement but in response to questions from reporters at a regularly scheduled news conference in which he also declined to say whether U.S. troops have previously crossed into Afghanistan from Pakistan and conduct combat operations.

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

Gates said Pakistani authorities were understandably taking their time in deciding whether to request more military assistance from the United States. He noted the administration in Dec. 27 of former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's assassination. "I think that the emergence of this fairly considerable security challenge in Pakistan has really been brought home to the Pakistan government relatively recently and particularly with the tragic assassination of Mrs. Bhutto," Gates said. "So I think it's not particularly surprising that they have not fully thought through exactly how they intend to proceed and their strategy going forward."

The United States has about 28,000 troops in neighboring Afghanistan, and Gates earlier this month ordered another 3,500 to go this spring to train Afghan police and to help fight Taliban insurgents.

U.S. intelligence believes al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden is on the Pakistani side of the border with Afghanistan. The top American commander in the region, Navy Adm. William J. Fallon, was in Pakistan earlier this week meeting with senior Pakistani officials, including the new army chief, Gen. Ashfaq Kayani. Last week Fallon told reporters that Pakistani officials were more willing to seek U.S. assistance.

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

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

**Pakistan**

**White House offers combat aid**

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

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration is willing to send a small number of U.S. special forces troops to Pakistan to help fight the insurgency there if Pakistani leaders request the help, Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Thursday.

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

Gates said the Pakistani government has not requested any additional assistance in the weeks since al-Qaeda and affiliated extremists have intensified their fighting inside Pakistan. Pakistan has really been an able security challenge in Afghanistan," Gates said. "And we are prepared to look at a range of cooperation with them in a number of different areas, but at the core of it is their nickel, and we await proposals or suggestions from them." Gates made his remarks not as an announcement but in response to questions from reporters at a regularly scheduled news conference. In which he also declined to say whether U.S. troops have previously crossed into Afghanistan from Pakistan and conduct combat operations.

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**Border Patrol widens searches**

Border Patrol agent in charge of the Border Patrol, Gulfport, Miss, station, Operation Uniforce, as the two-week crackdown began Jan. 13 is called, "is pretty much a puncher for the smuggling organizations."

The arrests — some 800 miles from the Mexican border — represented a new and a dramatic shift in U.S. immigration enforcement strategy.

Federal agents, with help from local law officers like McLendon, a Pearl detective, have begun intercepting illegal immigrants and smuggling organizations along stretches of highway deep in the U.S. interior, where those who have slipped into the country usually have little chance of getting caught.

"They think they're pretty much home free once they get up here," said Bill Botas, the assistant chief patrol agent in charge of the Border Patrol, Gulfport, Miss, station.
CCAC

continued from page 1

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

American stock gains, labor figures, strong rate cuts stimulate Pacific rally

Associated Press

HONG KONG - Asian markets rallied further recovering from their plunges earlier this week, as investors took heart from gains on Wall Street overnight and positive U.S. economic data.

Investors also welcomed details of a tax rebate for U.S. consumers announced as part of President Bush's economic stimulus plan. The tax rebates will put $600 to $2,000 in most tax filers' pockets.

"The markets are reacting to news that Bush and Congress have agreed to accelerate tax rebates for U.S. consumers so they can go and buy things rather than invest in Asia or import goods from Asia," said Francis Lun, a general manager at Fullerton Securities in Hong Kong.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index jumped nearly 6 percent in early trading before trimming some gains. By midmorning, it was up 1,138 points, or 4.83 percent, at 24,667 points. The index fell 22.2 percent the previous day.

In Tokyo, Japan's benchmark index extended its gains for a second straight session, rising 477.05 points, or 2.8 percent, to 13,459.83 by midday. It gained 2.1 percent on Wednesday. Hong Kong gainers were led by property issues on the local bourse.

In Stockholm, Sweden, the OMX 30 index rose 2.8 percent on Thursday after the Nasdaq and S&P 500 indexes in New York had climbed 3.5 percent in midmorning action. The benchmark OMX 30 gauge was up 39.1 points to 1,476.7.

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In Frankfurt, German stocks followed Wall Street's lead higher, with the Dax index up 4.83 percent, at 24,667 points. The index fell 22.2 percent the previous day.

In Tokyo, Japan's benchmark index extended its gains for a second straight session, rising 477.05 points, or 2.8 percent, to 13,459.83 by midday. It gained 2.1 percent on Wednesday. Hong Kong gainers were led by property issues on the local bourse.

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LEGACY VILLAGE
BECAUSE YOU DESERVE IT
(AVAILABLE FOR RENT STARTING JUNE 1, 2009)

IF YOU ARE PLANNING ON LIVING IN A HOUSE OFF CAMPUS AND YOU DO NOT CONTACT US FIRST, YOU'RE NOT SMART ENOUGH TO BE A NOTRE DAME STUDENT!

WHY LIVE IN AN OLD, SMALL AND WORN-DOWN HOUSE WHEN YOU CAN LIVE IN A NEIGHBORHOOD CLOSE TO CAMPUS THAT ONLY CONTAINS NEW, SPACIOUS HOUSES SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED FOR NOTRE DAME STUDENTS? WHY LIVE IN AN APARTMENT WHEN YOU CAN LIVE IN A HOUSE WITH A BIG YARD? WHY PAY DEPOSITS 15-17 MONTHS IN ADVANCE?

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1. Fully equipped Kitchen with new refrigerator, range, oven, dishwasher, microwave, cooking pots/ pans, plates, cooking utensils, and dinnerware;
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15. Substantial parking available.

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

HURRY AND RESERVE YOUR HOUSE BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!
Friday, January 25, 2008

The Observer – CAMPUS NEWS

Uganda
continued from page 1

Saharan village to help it tackle
the challenges of disease, hunger,
empowerment of its people and
resources they
rate with and give the villagers
problems, Notre Dame would collabo­
rate with and give the villagers
the tools and
and institutions.

This meant that rather than
the village and
an inclusive one," he said. "And they
were also willing to coop­
erate with us because they knew they were working with U g a n d a
Martys."

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

"People were extremely willing to spend one or two hours talking
to our students," Lyden said.

Two students were there through the Student International Business Council (SIBC), identifying and interview­ing
local entrepreneurs while the other three were doing academic
research on different areas, including the education system and the economic and political
conditions in Nindye, Lyden said.

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

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

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

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

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

"We do know that sometime
this fall, we hope to be able to gather the villagers, tell them what our findings are, work with them to prioritize their needs and
begin to address those needs, so that when resources become avail­
able, they know exactly where to
distribute them," Lyden said.

Contact Marcela Berrios at
aberrios@nd.edu

Elections
continued from page 1

five tickets," Sievert said.

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

"Students will still be
 asked to vote," Gra­
sinski said.

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

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

If the abstention vote wins, it will be the first time in
school history, Sievert said. Since that has never happened before, she was
unsure how the situation would be handled.

Extended Student Center hours, reliable and extended wireless Internet are part of the issues that built the can­
didate platform.

"We really want to make
Saint Mary's a (better) place for students to be," Falvey said.

If elected, a push to extend Student Center hours until
2 a.m. on weekends will be made, and improving wire­
less connection on campus is something the team said they
would "really fight hard for," even if it means cutting funds
elsewhere. Falvey believes it can be done.

"We'll make it work," she said.

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

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

When asked what these study breaks would entail, Gruscinski suggested more movie showings in Vander­
Vennet theater, recruiting performers of various groups, and hot chocolate nights.

Falvey ended the event by
emphasizing her and
Gruscinski's dedication.

"We both have great visions
for the school," she said.

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

Contact Kristen Edelen at
kedele01@stmarys.edu

$2 off
any purchase of
$10 or more

One coupon per group, per visit. Not valid with any other offer. Valid through 2/21/2008.
Good only at Mishawaka location, where posted.

"welcome back students!"
Ramadan loss unfortunate

Four years after it was created, the teaching position meant for Tariq Ramadan is still unfilled. The Muslim scholar, hired by Notre Dame in spring of 2004 to teach Islamic ethics and fill a new tenured position at the Kroc Institute, has seen his visa revoked that fall for reasons initially unreleased by the U.S. government. Barred from entering the country, the Swiss citizen resigned his position at Notre Dame. So Oxford promptly took him.

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

It is a long-awaited disappointment.

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

That complexity is what makes Ramadan fascinating — and unique. Whatever his critics say, Ramadan is an aca­demic whose charisma and message propelled him to prominence, an Islamic intellectual with a reputation built on good and bad. It is this, to me, that makes him interesting enough to warrant a more in-depth look at his personal and professional career. Let’s get it started (ha!), let’s get it started (ha!), let’s get it started (ha!), let’s get it started (ha!)...

Kessler and ...

Smooth as Silk

Submit a Letter to the Editor:
E-mail viewpnt@nd.edu

Quote of the Day

"The trouble about trying to make yourself stupider than you really are is that you very often succeed." — C.S. Lewis

English novelist
Debates tarnish Obama's image

Last Monday, during the contentious South Carolina Democratic debate, Sen. Barack Obama tarnished his own image as a "new" type of politician — so much so, that only his support from African-Americans rises above double digits in the polls. He also accused Hillary Clinton of being a "slum lord in the inner city of Chicago," a reference to "Tony" Rezko, an unsavory Obama financial backer, whose contributions of $40,000 this year and another $11,500 in 2006 were given to charities. Modern history shows that challenges like Obama rarely overcome insider candidates like Clinton in the contest for either party's presidential nomination. Despite lofty ideals eloquently espoused by charismatic candidates, party faithful of all genders and races routinely reward candidates who are experienced and have earned their right through the party ranks. Beyond Saturday's South Carolina primary lies Super Duper Tuesday, a national primary day of 22 states, most open only to Democrats. Immediately following Monday's debate, Hillary left South Carolina to campaign elsewhere, keeping focused on the prize. For Obama, last Monday's debate marks a transformation of him and turning point in the campaign where his stature has been diminished.

Gary Caruso, Notre Dame '73, is a communications strategist who served as a legislative and public affairs director to President Clinton's administration. His columns appear every other Friday. He can be contacted at hotline@aol.com

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
"American Gladiators" is back — just not on TV. NBC has resurrected the reality competition this season in the wake of the writers' strike, but the new, glitzy version of the show fails to live up to the legacy of the original.

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

Moreover, the pair act merely as talking heads, lacking the same kind of play-by-play coverage that former hosts Mike Adamle and Larry Csonka did in the original series. Adamle and Csonka could be counted on for quality and insightful commentary that rivals most of what is on television today.

All and Hogan's interviews with the contestants vary from anything meaningful to the show, instead only wasting just enough time to cut down on the number of events. In the original run of the show, contenders competed in seven events before the Eliminator. That has since been reduced to five. The show's pace is much slower now. The Eliminator is no longer an eliminator. That has all changed. The Eliminator is simply to be an immovable object, at least has some ladylike features.

Many of the events remain the same as in the original series, and the new ones still have the same general feeling of contender versus gladiator. But the new show has a distinct advantage over the original in its Eliminator. In the original series, the Eliminator was a lengthy obstacle course at the end of the show that was more or less ceremonial because it was impossible to make it, a situation that NBC has capitalized on.

Fans of the original series will remember the Amazons who competed were large, incredibly muscular women who would have fit right in with the East German swim team. But in an age when sex sells, NBC traded in these behemoths for a set of gladiators who, despite still at least as strong as their predecessors, look like actual women. Even the mighty Helga, whose role in the show is simply to be an immovable object, at least has some ladylike features.

Most of the actors on the show have little acting experience. The most noteworthy exception is Laila Ali, who has the potential to become a star. NBC has the potential to become a star. NBC has the potential to become a star.
LUPE'S "THE COOL" AVOIDS THE SOPHOMORE SLUMP

By CORBIN HICKS

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

After the deaths of his father and a good friend, Lupe Fiasco opened for OK Go at the 2007 version of "The Scene Writer" in Joyce Center here at Notre Dame. He has bounces back with the release of his second album. Show " in Joyce Center here at Notre Dame.

Lupe Fiasco himself as an epic songwriter and has come out of nowhere, he has established the founding ideals of hip-hop. Seemingly has changed in the life of Lupe Fiasco. However, it hasn't been all negative.

The next song is "Superstar," which was the album's first single. Most of the Notre Dame student body remembers this as one of the unknown songs that Fiasco performed when he stopped by for "The Show." The next track is "Paris, Tokyo," which has an old-school, A Tribe Called Quest vibe to it. In this song, he explains all of the different kinds of places that he would like to visit. These places include Paris, Tokyo, New Orleans, Brazil and various other exotic locations. Next is perhaps the song that stands out the most. "Hi-Definition," which features a guest verse by Snoop Dogg, is by far the most commercial attempt on the album. It is not bad by any means, but it throws off the continuity that the album has built up so far.

After "Gold Watch" are two of the best story-telling tracks to ever come from a rapper. "Hip-Hop Saved My Life" is a detailed description of the life of an aspiring rapper and the journey that they endure in order to reach stardom. By the way, if you hear a song with a screwed-up beat that goes "Stack That Cheese" in the next six months, you know where it came from.

The main characters, Katherine and Petruchio, are still likable, despite their strong wills and quick tempers. Although Katherine is a "shrew," Louise Yates makes her seem like a rational character, and the audience can empathize with her assertions of independence and her frustrations with the other characters. For example, in one scene, as Bianca snivels in front of her father, viewers can understand Katherine's annoyance with her sister. Also, after Petruchio mocks Katherine, Yates leaves the audience wondering whether Katherine is actually submitting to him or just humorizing him to get what she wants. Likewise, Victor Gardener blends Petruchio's volatile personality with craftsmanship and even affection, as he attempts to "tame" his new wife.

Although newcomers to "The Taming of the Shrew" may have trouble understanding the play, viewers already familiar with "The Taming of the Shrew" because the actors' multiple roles, could possibly create a novel, original production, could make this production different. Sometimes, the actors ever play two characters within the same scene and carry on a conversation through their costumes. Also, portraying so many different roles with only five actors can be a challenge. By the way, if you hear a song with a screwed-up beat that goes "Stack That Cheese" in the next six months, you know where it came from.

The Taming of the Shrew may have troubled understanding the play, viewers already familiar with the comedy will know where it came from. After the deaths of his father and a good friend, Lupe Fiasco opened for OK Go at the 2007 version of "The Show" in Joyce Center here at Notre Dame.

The Cool Lupe Fiasco

Label: Fiction Records

The Cool is Lupe Fiasco's follow-up to his Grammy award winning debut album. "Introvert Alert" goes where very few rap songs go. In the span of the song, Fiasco covers three topics that are considered taboo, exposing on the vulnerability and heartache that certain situations cause people who become engulmed by tough circumstances.

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

The rest of the album is solid. The subject matter varies drastically from child soldiers to the average day of a cheeseburger, but it still maintains the album's somber undertone. His versatility makes this effort thoroughly enjoyable and the tough subject matter easy to digest. Lupe's latest might not win a Grammy, but it's worth a spin.

Contact Corbin Hicks at chicks20@nd.edu

London actors stage 'Shrew'

By CLAIRE REISING

In a play known for its complicated array of important characters, only five actors portray 23 characters, with some of them in disguise for the majority of the play. The Actors from the London Stage take a minimalist approach to Shakespeare in staging "The Taming of the Shrew." With the exception of a few script chairs and a table, they use a scene change. What's more, the five actors constantly switch between roles. They wear black costumes and distinguish between most of their roles by changing accessories, props and accents.

This bare-bones production may not be to everyone's taste, but it's a good thing. For those who are unfamiliar with "The Taming of the Shrew" because the actors' multiple roles, could make this production different. Sometimes, the actors even play two characters within the same scene and carry on a conversation between them. Also, portraying so many different roles with only five actors can be a challenge. By the way, if you hear a song with a screwed-up beat that goes "Stack That Cheese" in the next six months, you know where it came from.

The main characters, Katherine and Petruchio, are still likable, despite their strong wills and quick tempers. Although Katherine is a "shrew," Louise Yates makes her seem like a rational character, and the audience can empathize with her assertions of independence and her frustrations with the other characters. For example, in one scene, as Bianca snivels in front of her father, viewers can understand Katherine's annoyance with her sister. Also, after Petruchio mocks Katherine, Yates leaves the audience wondering whether Katherine is actually submitting to him or just humorizing him to get what she wants. Likewise, Victor Gardener blends Petruchio's volatile personality with craftsmanship and even affection, as he attempts to "tame" his new wife.

Although newcomers to "The Taming of the Shrew" may have trouble understanding the play, viewers already familiar with the comedy will enjoy this alternative approach to Shakespeare as they watch five actors play 23 diverse roles.
ND WOMEN'S SWIMMING
Irish host WVU in final home meet

By JARED JEDICK
Sports Writer

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

The Irish have almost a month off before the Big East meet, which will begin on Feb. 20. "This is really our last run-through," coach Carrie Nixon said. "We really want to hone and fine-tune our racing over the past four years." "She has been a joy to coach from day one," Nixon said. "She has had a huge impact on the team and I cannot say enough." The Irish are swimming well, as they hold the fastest times in the conference in five individual events and one relay.

Freshman Amy Miller holds the record in the 50-yard backstroke, senior Christie Riggins in the 200 freestyle, junior Casey Wagner in the 100 butterfly and senior Sam Maxwell in the 100 breaststroke and freshman Kaile Casey in the 200 fly.

The Irish also have at least four more than 40 Big East qualifying times for the conference meet in February.

Senior Curt Benninger, who received his second academic mark for the 3,000-meter race with a time of 8:05, said during the Blue and Gold meet that "It was more of a team goal for tonight's meet." Curt Benninger Irish senior

SMC SWIMMING
Belles face Calvin after tough losses

By PETE REISENAUER
Sports Writer

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

Coach Ryan Domkowski said Saint Mary's (1-2) will need to get to the pool like a true top-tier program like Calvin, which captured the MIAA title last season.

"We need to compete with the top teams," Domkowski said. "We are almost there, but we need to compete against them and get ready to meet them at their level.

The Belles believe they are on the cusp of becoming a great program, and a win over Calvin could help them get there. To improve on their strong performances in the losses, the Belles will need to compete with their top competitors, Saint Mary's Kyoto, and junior Melissa Gerbeth.

Saint Mary's leading sophomore Lindsey Neslin and freshman Casey Niezevinger will have to compete to be at another level. The meet starts at 5:30 p.m. in the East Grand Rapids High School in Grand Rapids, Mich. Contact Pete Reisenauer at preisenau@nd.edu

Men's Track & Field
Spartans, Golden Eagles visit Loftus

By EUGENIA ALFONZO
Sports Writer

Notre Dame has a chance to improve on its conference resume today when it hosts Marquette and Michigan State at the Loftus Invitational.

Notre Dame Invitational at 5 p.m. in Loftus will feature 5,000-meter and 3,000-meter races, and the Big East and NCAA are big meets.

Kurt Benninger Irish senior

"It's really easy to keep the intensity up, everyone knows that the Big East and NCAA are a big deal," Benninger said. "It's really not that hard to get up for it."

Contact Eugenia Alfonzo at callofuno@nd.edu

Pourney Two\t
Tiger two back at Buick Invitational

Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Tiger Woods delivered the score he expected in his 2008 debut, just not the game.

Despite playing from the sand, rough and behind a few trees early in his round, Woods began a much-anticipated season Sunday with a 67 on the tough South Course at Torrey Pines. That left him two shots behind Troy Matteson, and gave him a strong presence on the leaderboard as he went for his fourth straight title in the Buick Invitational.

"I hit a couple of bloopers, but I hung in there," Woods said.

"It's all going to feel pretty good on the South Course.

The way how it felt for Matteson.

He ran off five birdies in a six-hole stretch and then finished his round with consecutive birdies to become the first player since Davis Love Ill in 2000 to have the first-round lead while playing the par-72 South.

"I won't top that for awhile," Matteson said.

Brad Adams threw a 66 on the North, which is 600 yards shorter than Woods played more than two strokes easier.

Rory Sabbatini, Stuart Appleby and Kevin Streelman, who began the day as the third alternate, were in the group at 67 with Woods. They all played on the North, which is where Matteson and Woods play on. Matteson was 11 shots better than Adams, but 17 shots better than Streelman.

"It's really close to a crowd standpoint, the guy shoot the 66, they should 'Y choke in a back alley,'" She recorded an apology that opened the telecast.

That seemed to end a month's worth of troublesome news in golf outside the ropes — Tiger Woods' suspension, the firing of a magazine editor for a racist article, and the death of popular candle Steve Dunplantis in Del Mar early Tuesday.

Happy belated birthday Matt.

Love,
Your Brother Chris

Happy early birthday Julianal

Love is more anything more beautiful than divided attention.

Flying across in front of a beautiful sunset. I was thinking about my life's work and also being a very beautiful painting with a lot of colors.

And probably to a shark, about the fun of flying across in front of a beautiful sunset.

Is there anything more beautiful than a beautiful, beautiful flamingo, sunset? And she's carrying a beautiful, beautiful flamingo, flying across in front of a beautiful sunset? Is there anything more beautiful than that? And also, you're drunk.

Penny always that the Big East and NCAA are big meets.

"It's really easy to keep the intensity up, everyone knows that the Big East and NCAA are big meets," Benninger said. "It's really not that hard to get up for it."

Contact Eugenia Alfonzo at callofuno@nd.edu
manage around the dial

NBA

Eastern Conference, Atlantic Division

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USCHO.com/CSTV Division I Poll

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NFL

Quarterback Tom Brady calls out an audible during the Patriots’ 21-12 victory over the San Diego Chargers Sunday. After the victory, Brady was spotted wearing a cast on his foot while walking around in New York City.

MVP eludes paparazzi despite dodgy ankle

Associated Press

FIXBURGH, Mass.—For once, not even the paparazzi could find Tom Brady. Or his boot.

They staked out the locker of the Patriots quarterback for 45 minutes before the media access period ended on Thursday. Then they focused for the 15 minutes they were allowed to practice and found two quarterbacks, Matt Cassel and Matt Gutierrez.

That was quite a change from early in the week when Brady walked through a bunch of videographers and photographers near the New York home of his girlfriend, supermodel Gisele Bundchen.

On Monday, they took pictures of him wearing a protective boot on his right foot. Later in the day, he walked without the boot into a nightspot with Bundchen. Video on Tuesday also captured him without the boot as he headed for and entered a cab.

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

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

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

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

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

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

While Patriots' fans were concerned about the boot on Brady's foot, defensive end Richard Seymour was more taken with the bouquet in Brady's hand.

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

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

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

Cornerback Ellis Hobbs was no more forthcoming.

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

In Brief

Clemens' hearing pushed back until February

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

Clemens originally was asked to appear Saturday for a deposition or transcribed interview with staff members from the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

That panel has called a Feb. 13 hearing where Clemens and his former personal trainer, Brian McNamee, are among five witnesses slated to appear.

The committee announced a new schedule Thursday of pre-hearing meetings with those witnesses.

Chuck Knoblauch, a former teammate of Clemens with the New York Yankees, was subpoenaed to appear for a deposition or transcribed interview on Tuesday, although the committee said he has yet to be served.

Beloved Bucs fullback retires after 12 seasons

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

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

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

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

"The second injury to my neck will prevent me from playing football ever."

Sharapova returns to Australian Open final

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

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

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

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

The way Sharapova is playing, she can afford to be introspective — six straight-set wins, including one that ended No. 1 Justine Henin's 32-match winning streak in the quarterfinals.
Come explore the life of zeal of the Congregation of Holy Cross with an evening of prayer and conversation with Holy Cross religious and other discerning men.

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

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

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

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

Blessed Brother André Bessette, C.S.C.
Dinners

Have questions?
Call (574) 631-6385 or
e-mail vocation.1@nd.edu
Swimmers face West Virginia in final tune-up

By CHRIS DOYEN
Sports Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

West Virginia has faced four conference opponents in dual meets this year and has compiled a record of 2-2 with losses to Pittsburgh and Louisville, and victories over Georgetown and Cincinnati.

Welsh thinks that Notre Dame's schedule in the past few weeks should help the Irish against West Virginia. "West Virginia is the defending champion, and Louisville has been the hottest team in the conference all season long," Welsh said. "We will have seen both in the last two weeks of the season. It's good preparation for us, and it's pretty exciting."

This year's Shamrock Invitational is a two-session dual meet, with the first session set to begin at 9:30 a.m. and the second at 4 p.m. Saturday at Rolfs Aquatic Center.

Contact Chris Doyen at cdoyen@nd.edu

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

By ALEX BARKER and ANDY ZICCArelli
Sports Writers

Results from the third annual Notre Dame Invitational were mixed for the Irish, who finished 18th overall this year after finishing seventh last year and fifth in 2006.

The Irish women had individual runners finish in the top five but also had three runners finish out of the money.

Sophomore Lindsey Potts finished second overall with a time of 20:25.7, but the Irish were out of the top 10 teams that qualify for the Big East meet.

The Irish men finished 11th overall, with their team score of 307.

Sophomore Sean Hogan, Notre Dame, 3:04

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

ND Women's Tennis

Commodores look to avenge last year's loss

By LORENZO REYES
Sports Writer

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

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

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

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

To do that, the Irish will need big contributions and solid play from sophomores Cosmina Ciobanu, who is the highest-ranked player on the team at No. 62. Right behind her is senior Brook Buck, No. 64 in the nation. Three other Notre Dame players round out the top 100, including No. 82 junior Katie Pitts, No. 88 sophomore Colleen Rieley and No. 89 sophomore Kalli Krisik.

In addition, the powerful doubles duo of Buck and junior Kleley Tefft remain the No. 3 combination in the country.

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

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

"This weekend gave the Irish an opportunity to jell as a team."

"We had a great week of practice," Louderback said. "We were all fired up coming after the Louisville win and we had Sunday off. The rest of the week was great, though."

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

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

Contact Lorenzo Reyes at lreyes@nd.edu

Please recycle The Observer.
# Following is a List of All First Round Game Times for Late Night Olympics Teams

## Additional Times Will Be Provided at the End of Each Round.

**Be a Real Champion - Support Special Olympics!!!**

$1.00 Donation Requested at the Door

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### Keough/Welsh Family

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### O'Neill/McGlinn

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**Sorin/Lewis**

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Note: All LNO Medals Donated by the Notre Dame Alumni Association.
Starting spots up for grabs in opening exhibition

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

“We still have competition at some positions,” Corrigan said. “A lot of guys will be trying to win jobs or solidify their spots.”

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

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

Two-sport athlete Will Yeatman, the 2007 Laxpower rookie of the year, will return as one of the leaders of a strong Irish attack. Yeatman, who also plays tight end on the football team, led Notre Dame in goals as a freshman with 21 goals and 25 assists.

Joining Yeatman on the attack will be junior Ryan Hoff, who posted a team-high 40 goals for the Irish last year. Even more impressive than Hoff’s scoring might have been his accuracy — he posted a .500 shooting percentage on the season.

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

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

Notre Dame will have one final tune-up Feb. 5 with an exhibition against Bucknell before beginning the regular season Feb. 16 against Loyola.

Contact Michael Bryan at mbryan@nd.edu

Irish senior midfielder Taylor Claggett runs for a ground ball against Air Force in a 16-4 Notre Dame win on April 13.

FENCING

Irish travel to NYC for elite duals

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

Notre Dame fences in New York City Saturday in the most important regular-season competition on almost every fencing team’s schedule.

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

The only top team expected to visit New York is Notre Dame, a fixture in the NCAA title this year who will not fence at the competition is Penn State. The Nittany Lions and Irish will fence at the Northwestern Duals on Feb. 2.

“It will be good to try our own capabilities,” Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said.

“I won’t say not everything up, even if we win or lose, I hope the kids will fence well,”

Notre Dame will be without sophomore All-American epeeist Kelley Hurley, who will be competing in a World Cup event in Europe.

The team will rely heavily on freshmen, who are expected to make a pose out of half of the two dozen fences, bednarski said to compete.

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

“Without parenthesis,” Bednarski said, “It will be good for us to try out our own capabilities.”

Janusz Bednarski
Irish coach

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


“For us, it will be like the NCAA final and we want to see how we can be accounted for,” Bednarski said.

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

The Irish left for New York Thursday morning and were scheduled to arrive in the city by Thursday night. The team will go sightseeing in the Big Apple the next day and come together in the city the day before having dinner with alumni, including former fences, tonight.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler@nd.edu

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Virginia

continued from page 24

both times. Last year, the Irish lost to the Cavaliers 6-1, and when Virginia was again ranked No. 2.

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

Last weekend, the Irish played in a home doubleheader. In the opening match, Notre Dame defeated talented Penn State 5-2. It capped off the day for the Irish, which the Irish lost a 3-2 heartbreaker on Friday before getting waxed 5-1 on Saturday, Jackson gave his club the style of play we want into this weekend.

After a tough weekend series with No. 1 Michigan, in which the Irish lost a 3-2 heartbreaker on Friday before getting waxed 5-1 on Saturday, Jackson gave his club a little game of "shiny."

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

The timing may have been just right for a quick break from the daily grind of a long, grueling season, as Condra believes the time now for the Irish to start elevating their game to a new level. "This is the weekend we need to be making a push for the end of the season," Condra said. "We're shooting for a playoff spot and a top-four seed in our league, and this weekend needs to start us off right."

Much has been made of the power play's current dire straits, which appeared to hit rock-bottom by giving up a short-handed goal in Saturday's loss to Michigan. Consistency is the word Jackson and his assistant coach Derek Hittmore, who has been facing a lot more adversity this year, and hopefully that will help us in the long run."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

Bowling

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"I expect it to be a playoff-type situation because they're playing at a very high level right now," Jackson said of the Falcons, who will bring a "quick, frantic style of play" to the Joyce Center for tonight's 7:30 start. "They have had a lot of success and gained a lot of confidence, and it's up to us to control the style of play we want to into this weekend.

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

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

Contact Kate Grabarek at kgrabarek1@staintones.org

UConn

continued from page 24

(18-0, 5-0 Big East) and most recently beat No. 3 Notre Dame at home on Sunday. Regardless of the challenge the Irish face, Notre Dame coach Muffet McGraw said the chance to play the best team in the nation, the nationally televised — ESPN2 will telecast the game and shoot 47.1 percent from the floor.

"We have a little bit of an attitude that our scoring’s not good, so let’s just go back and get the ball back and outscore them," McGraw said. "And we really can’t do anything that against good teams, and it’s up to us to take the rest of the Big East, which appeared to hit rock-bottom by giving up a short-handed goal in Saturday’s loss to Michigan. Consistency is the word Jackson and his assistant coach Derek Hittmore, who has been facing a lot more adversity this year, and hopefully that will help us in the long run."

Contact Matt Gamber at mgamber@nd.edu

"We’re playing the same eight or nine people, not a big deal to me, we’ve been happy with him," McGraw said. While the Irish need to improve their perimeter defense, that will be the least of their worries against Connecticut. The Huskies averaged 78.1 points per game and make an average of 7.9 three-pointers per game. They outscored opponents by 16.9 per game.

Huskies guard Renee Montgomery averaged 23 points in her last two games, 27 against Cincinnati on Jan. 10 and an 83-74 win over DePaul. Tuesday. She also had 11 rebounds.

Freshman forward Maya Moore leads Connecticut with 18.0 points per game, and senior center Tina Charles averages a double-double (13.3 points, 10.4 boards). Guard Mel Thomas has hit 39.3 percent of her-3-pointers from the floor.

Despite her displeasure with the team’s recent performance, McGraw said she was happy with the play of sophomore center Eduardo Stewart and freshman guard Ashley Barlow of late. Barlow led the team in scoring in the past three games and Williamson scored a career-high 16 points in Monday’s loss to DePaul. Tuesday. She was also happy with sophomore guard Deanna Liddoo.

When asked about the notion that some of her players view Connecticut as a throwaway game, McGraw dismissed the idea and said she was excited to face the Huskies.

"I think there might be some teams in the league that feel they can win against Connecticut right now, but I think it is a challenge for us and opportunity for us because we have the No. 1 team in the conference — if we don’t do well on national TV, it makes it an even bigger opportunity," she said. "It’s great for us to see the league because they set the standard for the conference. I think most of us would love to be where they are."

Contact Bill Brink at wbrink@nd.edu

Friday, January 25, 2008

The Observer • SPORTS

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Nova

continued from page 24

Georgetown team last weekend. Villanova does not have any players taller than 6-foot-10, but the Wildcats feature a quick, guard-oriented system.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Contact Fran Tolan at ftolan@nd.edu

Bell guard Allison Kessler attempts a shot in St. Mary's 74-71 win over Tri-State on Jan. 19.

Hope

continued from page 24

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

In the teams' last meeting, Saint Mary's struggled to keep up with Hope, shooting only 34.6 percent to Hope's 46.6 percent.

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

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

Contact Meaghan Veselik at mvesel01@saintmarys.edu

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

Irish guard Tory Jackson looks to pass in Notre Dame's 84-65 loss to Georgetown on Jan. 19.
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**MEN'S BASKETBALL**

**Road worries**

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

By FRAN TOLAN

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

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

“We’re finally going to get over this road hump,” sophomore forward Luke Harangody said. “We’ll be fine. … We just gotta go out there and show what we can do.”

The Irish (14-5, 3-2) have won all three of their league home games but are coming off a 19-point loss to a physical Connecticut, which visits the Joyce Center at 7 p.m. Sunday. The Irish feel good about their chances as they head to Philadelphia to take on No. 18 Villanova (13-4, 3-3) at the Wachovia Center Saturday.

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

By BILL BRINK

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

And after coaches and players alike expressed the need to improve the defense after an 81-80 loss to DePaul Tuesday, a third loss in six games, the prospect of facing the No. 1 team in the nation catches Notre Dame at a bad time.

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