Volunteers experience wheelchair obstacles

By Michele Gualano

Some students and faculty learned a lot about campus accessibility to the handicapped by taking the “Freedom Challenge” Wednesday, Oct. 29, during the first Disability Awareness Week.

Walk, Roll and Read organized the challenge, which featured the volunteers tackling several destinations in wheelchairs.

Taco Bueno restaurant, 8311 State Highway 151, which is an all-accessible facility, provided funding.

Project MEND, a non-profit agency that helps individuals with disabilities obtain medical assistance, provided the wheelchairs.

Dr. Denise Doyle took a roll.

“Participating in the Freedom Challenge was one that I thought would represent the various hopes that our members and faculty supporters had wanted, which was not to emphasize our differences, but to celebrate the freedom that assistive technology gives to those whose mobility is not able to travel without it,” said Rachel Crisantis, president of Roll, Walk and Read. “We offered three positions to participate, so that those who make the decisions would have the opportunity to determine for themselves what it means to be accessible.”

13 to win cash cards

Thirteen may be an unlucky number for some but that many University of the Incarnate Word students will be counting their blessings this holiday season.

That’s because the 13 were randomly selected to receive $300 cash cards ranging from $100 to $750 for writing an online survey.

They will find out exactly what they won at 10:30 a.m. Friday in the Office of the President.

Those invited include Tara Alexander, Enrie Bonal, Monica Chavez, Emily Fischer, Jacqueline Gutierrez, Ashley Hinajosa, Kyreida King, Placido Madera, Richard Martinez, Carolyn Powell, Mattisa Romanos, Christina Tavarez and LaTisha Walker.

They were among the students who participated in the completely anonymous Noel-Levitz Student Satisfaction Inventory between Oct. 29 and Nov. 30, said Dr. Jim Parlett, the university’s chief information officer.

“This survey measures the expectations and perceptions of students on a wide range of topics, including such areas as instructional effectiveness, campus life, safety, the university’s mission, and campus life — in general,” Parlett said.

“We talk about things we’ve been doing it ever since, Agnese said. “The first dinner was in 1985, December, and we have been doing it ever since.” Agnese said. “The dinner is served some 160 to 170 people every year, between Thanksgiving and Christmas. The annual spaghetti dinner has become a staple of the campus since it first began. Its uniqueness lies in the fact the entire dinner is prepared and put together by Apene, faculty and staff serving to preparing to clean up.

A few days before the event, the meatball rolling begins. On the day of the event, Apene can be found making the secret sauce used to flavor the spaghetti.

The dinner is open to anyone, but only UIW students can get free with our ID.

This year, the dinner brought forth some changes, setting the mood to a more elegant feel.

Faculty and staff also donate desserts. They act as wait staff or the students get to enjoy time with their teachers away from the classroom in a more relaxed setting.

For Matthew Sanchez, an international business major, this year’s dinner was his second time attending the special event over the last three years.

“I came on my lunch break,” Sanchez said. “It’s free and it’s good.”

UIW observes Veterans Day

By Ahlan Vilkhuwa

Students, professors, and proud veterans from each branch of the armed forces came together on the Downtown Lawn on Tuesday, Nov. 11, to celebrate Veterans Day and honor the U.S. military.

The bounting ceremony consisted of blessings, wreath-laying, and songs sung by the Incarnate Word High School Choir.

“The University of the Incarnate Word really lays out its red carpet for its veterans,” said Air Force veteran Michelle Martin, a computer information systems major who served on six years. “I feel like part of a community here, much like I did in the military.”

With its newly formed Student Veterans Association, UIW now offers that community atmosphere to its student population.

The ceremony not only attracted the UIW community, but surrounding communities as well. KSAT 12 interviewed the honorees of the veterans, as well as local San Antonio service members.

After the ceremony, refreshments served by sodexo were available as all who attended. Many students took the initiative to mingle and converse with veterans, and took to a group picture in the end to commemorate their heartfelt thanks.

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President serves free spaghetti

By Brittany Valadez

For the past 23 years, the students of the University of the Incarnate Word have been enjoying a holiday tradition that leaves both the stomach and pocketbook full.

The recipe for the Italian dinner was passed down through generations by the president of the University of the Incarnate Word, Dr. Louis J. Apene Jr.

“The first dinner was in 1985, December, and we have been doing it ever since,” Apene said. “The dinner is served somewhere between Thanksgiving and Christmas. The annual spaghetti dinner has become a staple of the campus since it first began. Its uniqueness lies in the fact the entire dinner is prepared and put together by Apene, faculty and staff from serving to preparing to clean up.

A few days before the event, the meatball rolling begins. On the day of the event, Apene can be found making the secret sauce used to flavor the spaghetti.

The dinner is open to anyone, but only UIW students can get in free with their ID.

This year, the dinner brought forth some changes, setting the mood to a more elegant feel.

“The preparation for next year’s event begins right after this dinner,” said Kristen Garcia, assistant director of Student Leadership Activities.

“We talk about things we can improve on. This is the first year we have ever had it in the Sky Room. We wanted less off a cafeteria feel.”

Faculty and staff also donate desserts. They act as wait staff or the students get to enjoy time with their teachers away from the classroom in a more relaxed setting.

For Matthew Sanchez, an international business major, this year’s dinner was his second time attending the special event over the last three years.

“I came on my lunch break,” Sanchez said. “It’s free and it’s good.”
The dollhouse will help raise needed funds for cancer research.

For this year’s collection to next spring’s Printing and Publishing class. The Editing and Publishing course is an elective for both English and Communication arts majors. As the Editorial Board of Quirk 2009, this year’s class will announce the deadline and guidelines for submissions early in the spring semester.

Past issues of the journal have featured poetry, short fiction, essays and visual arts in a variety of media. Most of the works presented are by UW student, but Quirk 2008 also published works from faculty and staff as well. Ford said this year’s class is almost certainly will again accept entries from all members of the UW community.

Ford argues anyone interested in submitting to look at back issues of Quirk for an idea of the kinds of work that have been selected for publication in the past. Back issues are available for nominal price from the Office of the College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences (AD 163), and J-Library also has all back issues in its periodicals collection.

Although submission guidelines may be modified slightly for the 2009 edition, they will be substantially the same as last year. Any student at UW is invited to submit their work and guidelines may be viewed at www.uw.edu/quirk.

Each dollhouse is painted pink in commemoration of my aunt’s fight against breast cancer. Each year the dollhouse is decorated differently, with its own unique story to tell. Some of the special touches in 2007 included a house number of 103 to represent the year and the month of Betty’s birth, a picture of her above the fireplace, and even had a cake in the oven since she loved to teach all the children how to make them. These touches are strong, but now I understand them better. Quirk gives many of the students a platform to express their creativity and recognition of their work deserve while pleasing that others around them have done.

Jennifer Velez and Dr. Paul Lewis are the coaches for the UW Ethics Debate team.

**Nicholas, a communication arts major, discovered not all of the campus was so easily accessible.**

“Attone at one level I thought I would see a window door that was supposed to be wheelchair accessible, and failed that I could not do it while remaining in the wheelchair.” Nicholas said. But that was not quite as uncommon because, no one really thought that if there is a handicap logo on a door that it would be wheelchair accessible.
Which is the Right Choice?

Homeroom Week was completed Tuesday, Nov. 23, with a fashion show on lunchroom lunch put on by the Fashion Production class as a tribute to the UW Class of 1958’s 50th reunion. I got a behind-the-scenes look at Teri Lopez’s Fashion Production class in fashion nostalgia mode.

“This alumni fashion show is a big part of our class participation and fiscal grade,” said explained fashion design major Markoila Roun- ne. The show featured gorgeous vintage clothing from the ’40s, ’50s, and ’60s era. The garments were donated by alumni themselves. As the “Goldie Grads” trudged in, they caught up on conversation and lunch in Marian Hall Ballroom, as preparation for the show was still under way.

The models -- UW students who volunteered to be a part of the show -- showed up with their hair and makeup done by the Avila Institute. Sophomore Courtney John- son, a model recruited by a friend who didn’t want to experi- ence the runway alone, got fitted along with the other models by their dressers. Fash- ion Production class students.

“I am excited and I would watch Tyra (Banks’) show, ‘America’s Next Top Model’ to get tips but I’m a little nervous because I don’t want to fall on my face,” Johnson said. They were dressed in garments that “range from [designers] Chanel to Oscar De La Renta and [include] retro and vintage styles,” said Vanessa Turner, a fashion design major. Not many got to see what goes on behind the scenes of an alumni fashion show, and I admit I thought it would be chaos all around.

The models held enthusiastic attitudes adding to a bubbly at- mosphere, while the students remained calm and collected. With a few minutes to kill before the show, the students spoke among themselves and examined each another.

The fashion show was presented in sections, each with a specific theme more elegant than the next. Major themes included “Breakfast at Tiffany’s,” which reflected the classic style of actress An- drey Hepburn and her elegant design detail, “The Little Black Dress, which focused on the neces- sity of every woman’s ward- robe whether it be long, short or otherwise. Amazingly, “Cocktails” was the final theme that highlighted classic films. However, Sunday, Nov. 23, was evidence that al- though fashion trends come and go, many of the garments were modeled, many styles that can now only be seen in classic films. However, Sunday, Nov. 23, was evidence that al- though fashion trends come and go, many styles that can now only be seen in classic films.

I got a behind-the-scenes look at Teri Lopez’s Fashion Production class on Pennsylvania Avenue,” a theme that highlighted classic Hollywood looks that screamed attitude. The models worked the runway, in high heels, with big smiles, and all.

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Dentist begins campus stops

By Elisa Gonzalez

There were 15 different acts, from singing and guitar-playing to exotic Middle Eastern and hip-hop dancing.

Junior Ruben John gave an acoustic/folk rock guitar and vocal performance of his original composition, “The Slow Dance of Love.” “I felt pretty comfortable,” John said about his performance. “Performing is always a thrill for me. Plus, it helps publicity.” “I was really glad to see Haerens,” sophomore Monica Veballos said. “Dr. Olaf Haerens of Tejas Dental Care Mobile Services, examined more than 200 students.”

Chair William Gokelman stated, “We hope to start a serving the students, and I would recommend everyone UIW really does have talent.”

Professor: American culture led to Iraq War

By April Lea Dowling

American culture is what led the country to war in Iraq, a psychology professor said in his self-sponsored, open forum Oct. 30 on the issue. “The Iraq War: How You Got It Wrong & Why You Will Get It Wrong Again” is what Dr. John M. Velasquez, an associate professor in the Department of Psychology, called his forum in J.E. and L.E. Mabee Library.

Velasquez began the discussion by talking about language. What one says is not necessarily what they do, he explained, but also much emphasis is put on words in the American culture. Velasquez uses the social script as an example of how easily words are accepted without really being questioned.

Velasquez also spoke about peoples’ reactions to emotional pain and how the American culture wants, and often gives, immediate relief to that pain. The emotional pain of 9/11, Velasquez pointed out, led to 80 percent of the American population supporting the war in 2003. The idea of forgiveness is somewhat foreign, especially at such an emotional time as 9/11, but Velasquez brought it up as an option instead of war. Some audience members left, others listened attentively and some openly questioned Velasquez’s opinion.

\[\text{Velasquez is a licensed psychologist with a background in clinical psychology. In the pursuit of his work as a professor, psychologist, and psychological evaluator, he encounters many people whose lives can be significantly impacted by psychological services. Often times, he is called to work in cases of post traumatic resolution, problem-solving, advocacy, and confronting social injustice.}\]

www.uiw.edu/psychology

Chorale holds benefit talent show

By Flavio Gonzales

Two hundred and fifty big ones! That was the amount of cash awarded to the overall most-talented performer in the “UIW’s Got Talent” benefit show on Friday, Nov. 21.

Dr. Olaf Haerens of Tejas Dental Care Mobile Services, a 10-year-old, traveling dental service that recently began making college visits. Haerens arrived at 7:30 a.m. on his first visit to the University of the Incarnate Word student Brooker Stacker who will provide professional dental care,” QuyAdan Ton said. “Dr. Haerens is really good, and I would recommend everybody on campus to take advantage of this opportunity.”

The audience filled most of the theatre. The Chorale presented a variety of acts, from singing and guitar-playing to exotic Middle Eastern and hip-hop dancing.

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www.uiw.edu/psychology
Professor promotes peace, justice in Uganda

By Rachel Walsh

Dr. Sally Baynton has traveled to Uganda three times so far this year and has three more trips planned. During these trips, the UIW English professor works tirelessly to increase the educational and work opportunities available to the people of this struggling nation.

Baynton shared some of her experiences with the audience during a Peace Day presentation, “Conflict Transformation: Creative Responses in the Face of Suffering or Violence.” Conflict transformation means working for nonviolent solutions in order to foster peace and preserve hope for the future, and that is how Baynton and those who work with her approach the rampant poverty in Uganda.

Initially, the genocide in Darfur inspired Baynton to take action. She placed daily calls to representatives, senators and even the White House trying to galvanize people in power into action. When the opportunity arose for her to go to Uganda, and she saw the living conditions of the people there, which she describes as confirming the “stereotypical” view many have of Africa, she realized how much work she could do herself.

“Now I was helping them (Africans) help themselves,” Baynton said. She realized with her experience in teaching English and her business background (she has a doctorate in management), she could turn “her heart for Africa” into action.

As a result, Baynton founded a non-profit organization called the African Ellipsis Project. The name comes from the ellipsis, a punctuation mark which indicates something has been left out. The ellipsis in the name symbolizes what has been left out of the Ugandan people’s lives. The project’s goal is to begin “connecting the dots between people [and] education, water [and] health and vocations [and] hope.”

The Ugandan people’s current conditions result from the country’s history of conflict. For 20 years, the government and an oppositional militia called the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) fought, putting the entire country in danger.

The government, trying to protect the people from the LRA, placed two million of them in Internally Displaced Persons Camps. While living in these camps, Baynton describes as “deplorable” conditions, the people relied completely on charity, eating only when food arrived in trucks. Between attacks by the LRA and the lack of regular meals, safe water and sanitation, many of them died.

Camp survivors now live in absolute poverty because they do not have the tools they need to make their country economically stable. In the city of Gulu alone, an estimated 20,000-30,000 children do not go to school because their families cannot afford to send them. It costs $75 to send a Ugandan child to school for a year and $10 for the required school uniform.

Baynton established a “Christ-centered school which has already improved the lives of its students.” In order to prevent Ugandan children from being dependent on donations for their education, she decided to create a work opportunity. The organization has acquired 20 portable water purifiers for her health.

This girl is holding a Life Straw, a portable water purifier for her health.

Nearly 20,000 Ugandan people live in Laminto Internally Displaced Persons Camp for protection from a rebel faction.

This is a picture of a Little Straws project. Dr. Sally Baynton savors the taste of water from a well she helped to establish.

In addition to education, Uganda needs increased economic stability. The construction of a factory is already under way, which will create jobs and enable Uganda to produce goods to sell to other countries. Baynton noted Antonian High School students have raised and contributed $15,000 to this project.

The most important aspect of the economic improvements, Baynton said, is that the people “are being asked to give back to their community.” For example, when the people receive cotton and grow it, they give some of it to the city. The city then passes the cotton onto the factory, where it is stitched into clothes and blankets to be sold.

A lot can be done to improve the lives of the people of Uganda, she said, and others are signing on.

English major Laura Krauss, who will travel there with Baynton to Uganda next spring, said, “Since we are privileged, we should be generous to people who are not.” Sister Martha Ann Kirk, a religious studies professor who presented with Baynton on Peace Day, summarized the African Ellipsis Project’s work in Uganda: “If you want peace, work for justice.”

Baynton considers her work in Uganda a perpetually life-changing experience. Her love for the people of Uganda continues to motivate her, as she believes God “does not call the equipped, he equips the called.”

Molly teaches sewing at School of Hope-Gulu.

Nearly 20,000 Ugandan people live in Laminto Internally Displaced Persons Camp for protection from a rebel faction.
By Krista Guevara  
**LOGOS STAFF WRITER**

The basketball team’s 19-16 season is over but it’s been a noteworthy one particularly for Kim Kvapil. During October, Kvapil, a senior outside hitter for the Cardinals, was recognized by the American Volleyball Coaches Association as the Pre-Season All-American player of the week in NCAA Division II.

She was named “Hitter of the Week” in the Heartland Conference for the period Oct. 6-12 when the team went 3-0, including wins over some of its main rivals.

As an individual, Kvapil recently was named to the Daktronics All-South Central Regional volleyball team and voted regional player of the year in Daktronics balloting. She also was Heartland all-tournament where the Cardinals finished as runner-up. Earlier, Kvapil was voted CoSIDA Academic All-Region with her 3.73 grade point average. Her major is communication arts. Kvapil is looking into the possibility of playing volleyball professionally. “I would love to continue playing volleyball after this year,” she said. “There’s a lot of planning and preparation that comes into play when thinking of playing professionally. Another one of my teammates and I always joke that after we are going to play professional sand volleyball in the Olympics and beat Misty May and Carrie Walls. I think it would be awesome to play professionally and I’m definitely looking into that.”

The losses were both expected, but I’m even more honored with the achievement of being nominated for this award with all 18 players on my team. It’s a team effort, and we both are extremely proud. The losses were less than 100 percent all the time regardless of rankings or criticisms.”

In the Nov. 15 win (78-53) against Tarleton State in the UIW Classic, Kvapil shot a career-high 28 points. Junior center Nikki Torru shot a career-high 28 points on the offensive boards.

Lady Cardinals win first two home games

By Pamela Martinez  
**LOGOS STAFF WRITER**

The UIW women’s basketball team — picked to finish second in the Heartland Conference for the 2008-2009 season — won its first two games at home and lost the next two away.

The losses were both by a point — 60-59 at Midwestern in Wichita Falls and 89-88 in overtime at Texas A&M-Commerce.

The Lady Cardinals are picked to finish second in the pre-season Heartland All-Conference team, and junior Hayley Harvey was a member of last year’s honorable mention All-Conference team.

Rival St. Mary’s is picked to finish first in the Heartland Conference.

The Lady Cardinals are coming off a successful second consecutive winning season and are returning with some key players: Junior Nia Torru was on the pre-season Heartland All-Conference team, and junior Hayley Harvey was a member of last year’s honorable mention All-Conference team.

“After losing an exhibition to the Arizona Wildcats, UIW men’s basketball started its regular season with a two-game winning streak. When the team played Arizona, a high-profile Division I team at McKale Center in front of a crowd of 12,447, the players showed promise as four scored in double figures. Junior guard Ponce Caldwell led the scoring with 24 points, including eight, three-point shots. Also contributing were sophomore forward Tracy Robinson, sophomore guard Delon Hines and senior forward Garrett Bell. Senior Eric Nuncio was the leading assist man with 10.

After the loss, the team went 3-0, including wins over Angelo State to score 33 points and, with three-pointers. "It was real hard to sit on the bench and watch that happen," Bailey said. "I feel good to get out there and play. I’m just trying to do what I can do in the paint and control the middle.”

It feels good to get out there and play. It’s an indescribable feeling. The preparation for these games is over but it’s been a noteworthy one particularly for Kim Kvapil. During October, Kvapil, a senior outside hitter for the Cardinals, was recognized by the American Volleyball Coaches Association as the Pre-Season All-American player of the week in NCAA Division II.

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Caesar Martinez, a graduate assistant, works out a strength-and-conditioning regime for players.
Coyote, the San Antonio Spurs' mascot, joined the throng that came to the 2008 edition of the “Light the Way” show on Saturday, Nov. 22. Activities began with a 5:30 Mass in Our Lady’s Chapel, continued with a reception in Marian Hall Ballroom and moved to the opening ceremony at 7:30 in Alice McDermott Convocation Center.

Musical performances came from the St. Anthony Catholic High School Jazz Band, Incarnate Word High School’s Madrigal Singers, St. Peter Prince of Apostles Catholic School, the University Chorale and Tejano singer Patsy Torres, a doctoral student at UIW.

“Visitors were also invited to bring a new unwrapped toy for the Elf Louise Toy Drive,” said Debra Del Toro, UIW’s director of public relations. “The ever-popular Light the Way event began over 20 years ago in 1985 when UIW President Dr. Louis Agnese Jr. shared his vision to unite the community in the spirit of the holiday season,” Del Toro said. “While Dr. Agnese was going through the interview process for leadership of the school, the Sisters of Charity (of the Incarnate Word) drove him through the beautifully lighted lights displayed in the Windcrest neighborhood. It was then that he envisioned the entire campus illuminated by festive lights and the opportunity to share the experience with visitors of all ages.”

After the opening ceremony, Agnese and Coyote began the countdown at Barshop Natatorium to flip the switch turning on a million lights. Fireworks followed. The evening then came to a close with a walk to HEB Central Market for cider and cookies, led by mariachis playing tunes to “Felix Navidad” throughout campus.

Thousands participate in ’08 show

By Tatiana Oben and Ginger Taylor

LOGOS STAFF WRITERS

The crowd spills out from Alice McDermott Convocation Center after the prelighting program inside to see the campus aglow with a million Christmas lights. Many students, faculty, administrators, families and their friends flock to the annual ‘Light the Way’ ceremony.

Ceremonies Dick McCracken, left and TV personality Ursula Pari guide the audience at the program.

Catholic schoolchildren wear their daily uniforms during their musical holiday performance number.

St. Anthony Catholic High School’s Jazz Band traditionally warms up the crowd in the convocation center before the activities begin.

Two landmarks bask in the lights of decorated Brackenridge Villa.
Even the walkway over the San Antonio River becomes a dazzling display and an inviting place for people who come see the lights.

Sister Kathleen Coughlin, vice president for institutional development, greets a special guest to ‘Light the Way’: the Spurs’ Coyote.

Sister Kathleen Coughlin, vice president for institutional development, greets a special guest to ‘Light the Way’: the Spurs’ Coyote.

Dr. Louis J. Agnese Jr., UIW’s president, is toting a load of gifts.

Mary Anne de la Garza directs the Madrigals from Incarnate Word High School in a holiday song.

Choirs also came decked out in robes for the special night of music.

The University Chorale performs a Nigerian number with drums.

Noted Tejano singer Patsy Torres performs with a mariachi band.

Choirs also came decked in robes for the special night of music.

Santa Claus makes his arrival.

Even the walkway over the San Antonio River becomes a dazzling display and an inviting place for people who come see the lights.
The irony of Nov. 4’s election

As many already know, the University of the Incarnate Word has a population of students with disabilities. These students just like you and me; the only difference is the disability they have.

But should that really be a distinguishing mark of “difference” when the role of dignity and respect comes in to play? Everyone is supposed to be considered equal, regardless of any differences; however, there are issues of equality on campus which have been neglected.

Essentially, equal opportunities mean we all have the same access to resources, given the same treatment, and have the same opportunities, and while most students on campus have obtained this, many handicapped students have not been granted it. UIW has come a long way in making improvements to help the disabled, but more work still needs to be done and we can best accomplish this by working in solidarity as a community.

Over the last year, the administration has made many improvements on campus in order to make it more accessible to those with disabilities. Administrators have installed an electronic door in the back entrance of the Administration Building, new ramps have been installed coming from the sidewalk area, and the Convocation/Natatorium area, elevated regions for handicap students. These improvements are a step in the right direction, but more work needs to be done.

The concept of solidarity is working “with” the handicapped and offering assistance. Help cooperatively with them, be patient, and offer assistance. Help them to understand the needs of the handicapped students.

Administrators have a major role in offering new opportunities to be slow in occurrence. Improving handicap accessibility has been one of these realities pushed by the disabled students in the past years. This campus has done well in fixing certain social issues, however, many disabled students feel the University is not addressing their needs and putting their cause behind other priorities. This is why many students feel they are treated unjustly and are being disregarded by the administration. This is why many disabled students feel the University is not being constitutional.

As our campus continues to grow, and offer access to the University “slowly” improving this situation? That answer may be some-thing others do not want to hear.

As our campus continues to grow, other avenues are opening to expand our population and diversify the education offered. Because other doors are being opened, there has been a positive optimism school, other priorities have been one of the many changes coming to improve the conditions for the handicapped students.
December 2008

Camelot' returns to White House

It was Nov. 22, 1963. I was just driving into the University of the Incarnate Word Catholic University in Washington, D.C., when I heard the radio news that President John Kennedy had been shot in Dallas, Texas. I sat in my car for half an hour, an act of disbelief, refusing to believe the news. I had arrived in the United States two years before the student protest in August and, as an international student, had been standing in a waiting room to meet with the president at the White House for a Christmas Party.

JFK had ushered in a new era of American goodwill and generosity, and was just beginning to show that the United States could be more than just a mythical “Camelot.” The nation was young, full of hope, eager for a man who expanded the often-quoted cliché, “the best and the brightest,” to include the “worst enemies of a free society.”

In sum, the soul of America was badly soiled. The fall of the Soviet Union left the United States as the only superpower, and self-righteousness took over American foreign policy. “We can, and we will do what we want,” Noble efforts by President Jimmy Carter, a great defender of human rights and a man of peace, and by Bill Clinton, whose foreign policy earned Americans the friendship of the Soviet Union, put the United States on a new path. When I went to Broadway Boulevard to watch the parade for RFK, and even took a picture of him, which I treasured. He was waving to the crowds a convertible. When I got to the University of the Incarnate Word, the story of RFK’s death was all over the news. MLK, like Robert Kennedy, was the best of America. The idealism and the generosity of the American youth in the 1960s and early 1970s was truly heartwarming. I witnessed it personally when I was a volunteer in three Peace Corps training programs at Marquette University (1965 and 1966) and at the School of International Trans- portation at the University of Arkansas, Ft. (1968). These two Americans and women became the best ambassadors of America by going to countries such as Brazil to help the poor organize and have a chance for a bet- ter life.

So what happened? Well, think of Nixon for a moment, and the subversion of the rule of law, of Woodstock and the drug culture that was the idealism of the 1960s’ youth, of the Viet- nam War that po- sioned the national debate; of the Iran-Con- trad scandal that “was nothing but empty rhetoric for a man who expanded the liberties of the federal government, swelling the budgetary deficit eightfold, and yet failed to enforce federal laws in the United States in police to allow the multiplic- ation of guns everywhere in the name of a purported interpretation of the First Amendment; of bullies like John Foster Dulles and Vernon Walters, who gained control of U.S. foreign policy, of human rights disrespected everywhere in the name of national security and anti- communism; of America embarking some of the bloodiest dictators of the 20th century (Ferdinand Marcos in the Philippines, Sukarno in Indonesia, Pinochet in Chile, the anti-Communist gener- als in Central America) in the name of freedom when these dictators were the worst enemies of a free society.

After Obama was declared the next presi- dent of the United States, November 1st, 2008, a beacon for the world: “We can change this country, even if he is not the best presidents of America.” JFK, and now its standard bearer was gone. The soul of America was badly soiled. In December 2008, the terrorist Nicaraguan Sandinistas invaded El Salvador and invaded the country, a result of the collapse of the Soviet Union. Only a few months later, the Bush-Cheney Administration, “Unipo- litarism,” “going alone,” went to war in Iraq, a violation of the very name of freedom. And this human is one of those people in charge of education policies for the State of Texas! God help us! This kind of crap without access to universities, is the way the world has been faced with in the name of freedom. So what happened? We can, and we will do what we want.” Noble efforts by President Jimmy Carter, a great defender of human rights and a man of peace, and by Bill Clinton, whose foreign policy earned Americans the friendship of the Soviet Union, put the United States on a new path. When I went to Broadway Boulevard to watch the parade for RFK, and even took a picture of him, which I treasured. He was waving to the crowds a convertible.

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By Secil Birol

Theatre to reprise 'Christmas Carol'

Got games? This one’s for you

If you haven’t heard of “Gears of War” (GoW) by now, you’ve been living under a rock. GoW2 is one of the best-reviewed games of the year and when Epic Games, the developers, promised a game with grandiosure for the game they certainly delivered. If single-player co-op play isn’t your thing, then what about multiplayer? Gears offers up one of the best multiplayer experiences this year and will most assuredly take up a large chunk of your time during the holiday season.

Braid

While “Braid” was a huge success for the indie developers Number None on Xbox Live Arcade, it still is rather unknown in the mainstream community. For a mere $15, you can purchase one of the best puzzle platformers this year. If you enjoy any Mario game, then consider this a sophisticated version of that because the story itself is rather mature. If you haven’t played this puzzle platformer yet, then ask for it this holiday season.

Little Big Planet

“A Christmas Carol” is a story of Ebenezer Scrooge, a selfish, arrogant and rich man. Scrooge’s character is changed through visits of the Ghost of Christmas Past, who conveys the idea of a good life, represents memory; the Ghost of Christmas Present represents charity, empathy and the Christmas spirit; and the angel-like Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come represents the fear of death. The play, set in a Victorian village, illustrates how self-serving, insensitive people can be converted into charitable, caring and socially conscious members of society through the intercession of moralizing quasi-religious lessons.

“A Christmas Carol” is not on the list of must-play this holiday season. But if you are interested in a different interpretation of the story, or if you are a fan of any Nintendo IP, then you will easily recognize the countless number of characters. This game is a total fan service so make sure not to miss out.

Okami

Looking for a game that will draw anyone into? “Endless Ocean” is what you need. “The concept of the game is simple – you swim around and look at sea creatures. What’s captivating about it, however, is how much information you can learn from playing it. There are no goals. You cannot lose or die in this game. You simply explore. Even if you are not a gamer, at least give this game a try.

For the non-gamer’s holiday gift guide, here is a short list of three games for each system that are a must-buy for this holiday season. E-mail McDaniel at jp.mcdaniel@gmail.com

Xbox 360

**Fable 2**

An RPG developed by Lionhead Studios. “Fable 2” takes the open world system to another level. If you’ve ever wanted to play the good guy or the evil fiend, this RPG is for you. You can kill whoever you want if you choose to play the evil side, and who doesn’t want to do that? It scored great reviews as well. Make sure not to miss out on this 360 exclusive.

**Super Smash Brothers Brawl**

“Okami” is revisited from its PlayStation 2 days and the motion controls from the Wii make this game stand out even better. Much like “Valkyria Chronicles,” the game takes a unique art approach to tell the tale of a Japanese god in trouble. Gamers will pour more than 30 hours into the main quest line.

**Little Big Planet**

This one’s for you gamer to buy? I’ve put together a short list of three games for each system, only available on those systems, that are a must-buy for this holiday season. E-mail McDaniel at jp.mcdaniel@gmail.com

PlayStation 3

**Metal Gear Solid 4**

One of the this year’s biggest games is most assuredly “Metal Gear Solid 4.” Fans of the series will have already played this game most likely, but if you are new to the series it does a decent job of filling in all the gaps. Action-packed, amazing visuals, and a very detailed story line make this a great buy.

**Valkyria Chronicles**

Not many people know about this great game for the PS3. “Valkyria Chronicles” is a strategy role-playing game that envelops gamers in a beautiful world that looks practically hand-drawn. Easily one of the best games on the system, Sega really comes through again introducing a new IP into the gaming world.

Nintendo Wii

**Endless Ocean**

The best-selling title of the year so far, “Super Smash Brothers Brawl” excels as an interesting fighter for all ages. If you are a fan of any Nintendo IP, then you will easily recognize the numerous number of characters. This game is a total fun service so make sure not to miss out.

**Okami**

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**Super Smash Brothers Brawl**

“The best part of directing ‘A Christmas Carol’ is working with such a terrific design staff. They make the production -- a lovely script, beautiful designs, and being able to collaborate with a great tech and design staff. They make every rehearsal not only enjoyable and challenging and worthwhile, but also a lot of fun. It’s not often a director can say that.”

Theatre to reprise ‘Christmas Carol’

by Secil Birol

LOGOS STAFF WRITER

How about watching a play which offers Christmas spirit and warmth to the people?

Dr. Robert Ball’s stage adaptation of Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol” is opening Thurs., Dec. 4, in Elizabeth Haltz Theatre, the first of 10 shows scheduled through Dec. 20.

Ball, who directed the play on the UIW stage two years ago, is returning as artistic director/producer. The guest director is Tim Hedgepeth, an adjunct professor of drama at Trinity University. Hedgepeth has been a stage director for university and civic theatre for the past 20 years.

In this version of the play, “everything is nicely balanced, giving the actors and me an opportunity to focus on the more human aspects of the story and the miracle of which is, of course, the

Melissa Hernandez/
LOGOS EDITOR

Braun

In this version of the

entertainment section for the people.

This season has been one of the biggest in recent video game releases. As the holiday season approaches, what’s a gamer to buy? I’ve put together a short list of three games for each system, only available on those systems, that are a must-buy for this holiday season. E-mail McDaniel at jp.mcdaniel@gmail.com
A sweet, low hum spilled from the stage, filling the small room with lilting tones and vocalizations. It was a “Karnatic Concert” featuring Dr. Harre Harren of Pondicherry, India, who made Palestrina Hall a stop on his American tour on Friday, Nov. 7.

The concert’s focus was “the effects of meditation, sacred chants and sounds, mantras, music and yoga for healing the different ailments in the body and also present music examples of my creations through various traditional Indian musical instruments like sitar, tabla, veena, sarod, mridangam, flute, nadaswaram and shehnai,” Harren said.

Harren began his studies at the age of 7, learning the art of music and astrology from his mother. He completed his doctorate in music therapy at Kansas University in 1982. His work includes ethnomusicology, music therapy, music healing, vocal performance and Vedic astrology. Harren combines these methods for healing work, using elements such as sound and planetary alignment to assess and repair ailments in the body.

“Within a period of eight to 12 weeks, music can be substituted for medicine for 85 percent of the ailments,” Harren said. “They are able to come back to a normal situation when they listen to the music.”

Harren began his study of musical healing with animals, observing the changes in his test subjects, and progressed to humans.

“I did initial study on the behavioral changes on animals – fish, cows, cats, dogs – and then on to human health which in turn changes anatomical and physiological defects of the persons like cancer, blood pressure, rheumatism, pain, sleeplessness and psychosomatic illnesses like stress, depression and anxiety.” At his UW concert, Harren performed with two local accompanists, singing traditional South Indian songs. Many of the songs were classical Ragas and other forms of sacred music.

“Since I only use traditional Indian medicinal instruments for composing and creating music and my voice for producing sacred chants and sounds, the tones instantly affect the changes in the body. I am the only music therapist who makes use of cosmic effects or the planetary influence on the persons and each planet contributes to the different ailments on the body. I control the effect [of] the planets through sacred sounds and chants created by astrologers more than 2,000 years ago.”

While on tour, Harren also conducts solo sessions with clients to assess what areas of their lives require healing. He does so by studying their astrological birth charts.

After the session, Harren prescribes a series of his CDs to aid the patient in furthering the healing process. The CDs contain both vocal chants and instrumental music and are accompanied by text so the listener can chant with greater ease. The CDs range in price from $15-$18. DVDs are available for $20.

“I identify the ailments and prescribe the appropriate music and planetary chants based on the effect of the various planets,” he said.

Extended Run Players to present ‘Golden Age of Radio’ beginning Jan. 30

The Extended Run Players’ readers theatre production of “Golden Age of Radio” will be the first spring offering on stage. The show will feature “classic radio scripts brought to life for the whole family to enjoy.” The presentation will be at 7 p.m. Jan. 30 and 2 p.m. Feb. 1 in Cheever Downstage II Theatre. Proceeds from the production will go toward scholarships.

UW students, staff and faculty receive one complimentary ticket with a valid UW ID and may purchase a second ticket at a discounted rate of $8. Otherwise, tickets are $10 for adults, $9 for seniors, and $8 for non-UW students. A group rate is available for parties of 10 or more.

Ticket reservations are available by phone at (210) 829-3800 or e-mail at theatre@uiwtx.edu
Greeks show stuff for ‘Powder Puff’

By Jaclyn Garcia
LOGOS STAFF WRITER

What better way to spend the night than joining fellow Greeks in ‘Thursday Night Lights’? Four Greek sororities formed teams to compete for the title of ‘Thursday Night Lights Powder Puff Champs’ on Nov. 20, a pre-homecoming event. Alpha Sigma Alpha and Delta Beta Chi competed as team “Double Trouble” while Alpha Sigma Tau and Delta Xi Nu competed as “Tau Nu.”

Lambda Chi Alpha and Chi Phi fraternities assisted in barbecuing, coaching and refereeing. While the audience watched in warm clothing for the chilly night, the girls dressed in lighter clothing. “Double Trouble” member Judy Jimenez scored the first touchdown for the night. But “Tau Nu” Coach Edward Galan led his team to a 5-3 win.

Javier Vasquez and Christian Rios coached “Double Trouble.” But Vasquez served double-duty. He refereed, too. “It was fun coaching,” Vasquez said. “(As a ref- eree), I had to be extremely fair to both sides while being the coach of one as well. I’m looking forward to coming back next year as alumni.”

Rick Smith, assistant director of alumni relations, said he hopes to make the All Greek Powder Puff an annual event that becomes bigger as the years pass. This event was the kickoff to the Greek Alumni Network, he pointed out.

“It was good to see alumni come out,” Smith said. “We even had one guy come in from Dallas.”

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Four Greek sororities formed teams to compete for the title of ‘Thursday Night Lights Powder Puff Champs’ on Nov. 20, a pre-homecoming event. Alpha Sigma Alpha and Delta Beta Chi competed as team “Double Trouble” while Alpha Sigma Tau and Delta Xi Nu competed as “Tau Nu.”

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New grants make it easier to study abroad

By Rebecca Cheung.

The Study Abroad program continues to develop and expand with the introduction of a new school, new funding and new leadership.

For students seeking fresh, exciting educational opportunities, the program has just sweetened the proverbial pot. The current list of overseas opportunities for spring 2009 includes 96 schools in 34 countries, including a new sister school in Taiwan.

A new grant, provided by the university, offers students a 50 percent tuition reduction for attending select schools in Korea and Taiwan for the spring and fall 2009 semesters. Korea has eight schools in the offering while Taiwan has 13.

Dr. Javier Lozano, director of Sister School Programs, and Alanna Taylor, Study Abroad coordinator, encourage students to give more thought to their curiosities and consider this generous and unprecedented grant opportunity.

More information about these schools can be found at a kiosk in Marian Hall Student Center or alternat- ing weekdays from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Though both Lozano and Taylor are new to their positions at the university, they bring to the table an extensive and well-versed history of studying, teaching and traveling abroad. Taylor said her goals for the program include encouraging UIW students to overcome their “fears and inhibitions” and “foster understanding and toler- ance.”

For many students, the biggest deterrence to studying abroad include financial fears, worries about their degree plans and worries about what they will eat in a foreign country. Lozano and Taylor quickly dispel these fears, reminding students that tuition at any sister school is the same as the tuition they pay at the main campus and that the process involves extensive

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As for the food, “you’d be surprised at the number of American restaurants in foreign countries,” Taylor said.

Dr. Dan Pink (Al Gore’s speechwriter in the mid-1990s) has suggested that we are shifting from the Information Age to the Conceptual Age where knowledge (unlimited and inclusive) is the most recognized of this genre. Web 2.0+ technologies may be used to engage students and encourage UIW students to overcome their “fears and inhibitions” and “foster understanding and toler- ance.”

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Study Abroad!

Want to study abroad this summer or fall?
Deadlines are in March!
Don’t delay, visit the Study Abroad office today!

Bon Voyage!
This spring UIW students will be studying abroad in Hong Kong, Spain, Italy, France, England and Mexico. For a complete list of sister schools, visit the Study Abroad website, http://www.uiw.edu/studyabroad/srschools.html.

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For more information on Studying Abroad, contact:
Alanna Taylor - Study Abroad Coordinator
(210) 805-5709  studyabroad@uiwtx.edu
Dr. Burton E. Grossman International Conference Center

Christmas in Korea
Holiday customs in Korea include sending Christmas cards, exchanging gifts and putting up decorated trees. Local radio stations play holiday music and popular Christmas movies and cartoon specials are shown on television. As in the United States, Christian churches in Korea have Christmas pageants and hold special services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Korea is the only East Asian country that recognizes Christmas as a national holiday.

Christmas in Spain
Spanish Christmas traditions are similar to those practiced in many countries around the globe. A series of church Masses are held in the Catholic and Christian communities. In the United States, Christmas Day is the day of feasts and giving, but in Spain the 24th is when a lot of activity takes place. Christmas Eve is celebrated with a large dinner for the family. The food includes a mixture of holiday cuisine and exotic dishes that reflect the Spanish heritage. On Christmas Eve, there is also a gift-giving ceremony.

Happy Holidays