

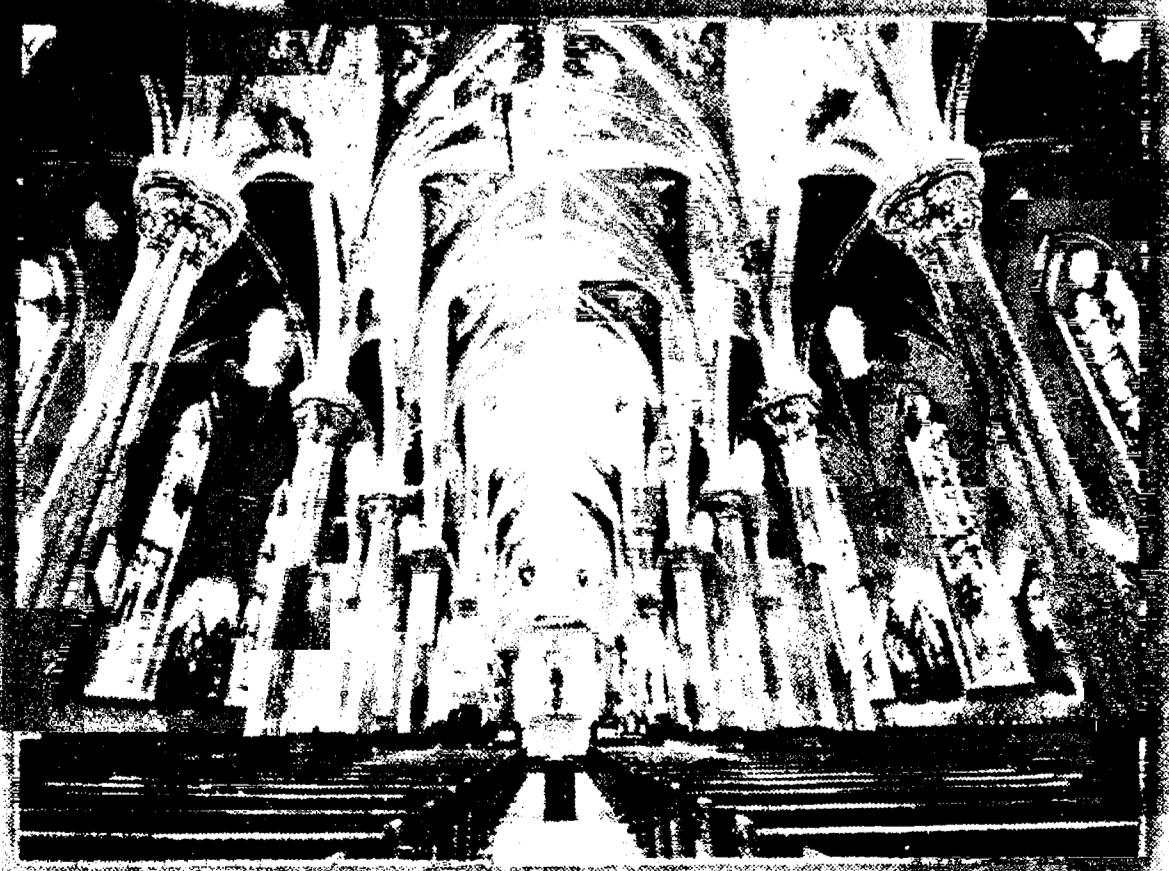
# THE OBSERVER

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## SENIOR EDITION

## INSIDE COLUMN

## Thank you Mom

Like millions of other sons across the country who are away from home, I called mom to wish her a happy Mother's Day on Sunday. Only mom couldn't talk for too long. We chatted for a minute, I told her I loved her, said "Happy Mother's Day," and we hung up. The following day, May 11, was her birthday.

Once in a while our family gets a double whammy and her birthday and Mother's Day fall on the same day. This year, they came back-to-back.

Again, I called her, but again she couldn't talk for too long, not because she didn't want to talk, but because both times I called her, she was working. On her birthday, she was working her regular Monday-Friday, full-time job. On Mother's Day, she was working at her part time job.

There are some days when mom works 15-hour days. She works from 9-5, then has about an hour or so to get to her part-time job, where she works until about 11:30 p.m. Then she comes home around midnight and has to wake up in time to get to work at 9 a.m. again. Also, her weekends are rarely free. This weekend is one of the few where she doesn't have to work. She switched with someone and took that Mother's Day shift so she could come and see me graduate.

She's been doing this now for about six years, all so our family can have a little extra money and I can go to Notre Dame.

Mom, there's no way I can ever repay you for the many sacrifices you've made for me over the years, and I want you to know that no matter where I go over the next few years, I have you to thank for helping me get here. I know it's been hard, but without you, I wouldn't have been able to spend these last four wonderful years of my life at Notre Dame. It's all because of you and I want everyone who reads this to know that I have the best mother any son could ever ask for.

I still remember the day I got the acceptance letter to Notre Dame.

It was just after grandpa had died (my grandfather was a huge Notre Dame fan) and you and Jennifer went out to meet the mailman as he walked up the steps. You grabbed the envelope and came running inside. I ripped it open and I could barely read past "congratulations" before you mobbed me with a huge hug. No matter how long I live I'll take that moment with me. Mom, because of your selflessness and your kind heart, I'm graduating from the University of Notre Dame this weekend, the school I've dreamed of attending since watching the football games with grandpa all those years. And I'm graduating because you've been there with me everyday, mom, making sure I can accomplish that dream. Thank you. And I love you.

Chris Hine will graduate with a degree in history and a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. He will be interning this summer as a sports writer for the New York Times and hopefully will land a job in journalism after that. In addition to his mother, Chris would like to thank everyone in his family for being there for him. He would also like to thank and wish well all his friends who are graduating this weekend for all the memories, especially those who are in the Navy and Marine Option ROTC, for they are much better people than he is.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.



Chris Hine

Editor-in-Chief  
Emeritus

## COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND EVENTS

## Saturday May 16

9:00 am ROTC Commissioning Ceremony  
10:00 am Graduate School Commencement Ceremony  
1:00 pm Service Send-Off Ceremony  
5:00 pm Commencement Mass

## Sunday May 17

8:30 am Graduate Business Ceremony  
2:00 pm University Commencement Ceremony  
4:30 pm Law School Ceremony

ANDREA ARCHER | Observer Graphic

## Laetare Medal will not be awarded

Glendon declines recognition; 1984 recipient will deliver address at Commencement ceremony

By MADELINE BUCKLEY  
News Editor

Judge John T. Noonan Jr., recipient of the Laetare Medal in 1984, will deliver an address "in the spirit of the award" at the Commencement ceremony Sunday. The University announced April 30.

The University will not award the medal this year, according to a press release.

Mary Ann Glendon, former U.S. ambassador to the Vatican, was selected to receive the award March 22, but she declined the

medal in a letter to University President Fr. John Jenkins April 27, marking the first time the award has been accepted and then declined, according to an April 28 Observer report.

"I could not help but be dismayed by the news that Notre Dame also planned to award [President Barack Obama] an honorary degree," Glendon wrote in the letter.

Glendon also said in the

letter that implications that her speech would "balance" the event is inappropriate for a Commencement ceremony.

Jenkins said that since Noonan has already received the Laetare Medal, the University decided "upon reflection" not to give the award this year.

Dennis Brown, University spokesperson, told The Observer that the University decided against making a "hurried decision."

"The Laetare Medal is our highest honor, and we annually take great care in

selecting a recipient. While we have a list of individuals who are more than worthy of the award, upon reflection we decided against making a hurried decision," Brown said.

He said Jenkins reflected on various options and decided to ask a former Medal recipient to speak to graduates.

Jenkins called Noonan the "ideal choice" in the press release.

"In thinking about who could bring a compelling

voice, a passion for dialogue, great intellectual stature and a deep commitment to Catholic values to the speaking role of the Laetare Medalist — especially in these unusual circumstances — it quickly became clear that an ideal choice is Judge Noonan," Jenkins said in the press release.

"This Commencement ceremony, more than anything else, is a celebration of our students and their families. Judge Noonan will join with President Obama and other speakers in that celebration, sending them from our campus and into the world with sound advice and affirmation."

Noonan serves as a Senior Circuit Judge on the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit. He was appointed to the Court in 1985 by President Ronald Reagan.

Noonan joined the Notre Dame faculty in 1961 as a

professor of Law, and taught at the Law School until 1966.

He has also taught at the University of California Law School at Berkeley.

Working as a consultant for agencies in the Catholic Church, Noonan has consulted for Pope Paul VI's Commission on Problems of the

Family and the U.S. Catholic Conference's committees on moral values, law and public policy, law and life issues and social development and world peace.

Noonan was also a governor of the Canon Law Society of America and director of the National Right to Life Committee.

Noonan graduated from Harvard University in 1946 and received a J.D. degree from Harvard Law School in 1954.

Aaron Steiner contributed to this report

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## QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE CLASS OF 2009

- \* More than 2,900 students will receive degrees on May 17
- \* Degrees will be conferred on 2,001 undergraduates, 389 master's degree students in the Mendoza College of Business and 213 Notre Dame Law School students
- \* 47 students in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) will be commissioned at the Commissioning ceremony Saturday
- \* About 196 graduating seniors, almost 10 percent of the class, will participate in a post-graduate service program, volunteering for a year or more nationally and abroad
- \* About 95 percent of the students who enrolled at Notre Dame as freshmen in the fall of 2005 will receive a diploma Sunday — a graduation rate exceeded only by Harvard and Princeton universities
- \* About 80 percent of the graduates participated in volunteer and service-learning programs in the greater South Bend area, nationwide and around the world

ANDREA ARCHER | Observer Graphic

# High security, protesters expected at Commencement

*Police say they are prepared to handle crowds, possible disturbances resulting from President Obama's visit*

By JENN METZ  
News Writer

Almost two months after the announcement of President Barack Obama's commencement schedule, Notre Dame's campus will be flooded with visitors, graduates and Secret Service agents and South Bend's streets will be lined with protesters Sunday when Obama visits campus.

When the president addresses the over 2,900 graduates in the Class of 2009, commentators predict the packed Joyce Center will be the calm at the center of a protest storm.

Bishops, student groups and anti-abortion activists have spoken out against University President Fr. John Jenkins' decision to invite Obama to speak at Commencement and award him an honorary degree.

Hundreds of protesters plan to stand or walk along Angela Blvd. and Indiana 933 Sunday; busloads of protesters are expected to arrive in South Bend — at least

three buses are expected from Chicago — to join those who have already descended on South Bend.

Anti-abortion activists Randall Terry and Alan Keyes have led dozens of protesters on to campus the past few weeks, pushing baby carriages with bloody baby dolls and bearing graphic images; over 20 of these protesters have been arrested for trespass on University property.

A plane sponsored by the Center for Bioethical Reform has circled the campus since April 28, alternating images of an aborted fetus with messages to Jenkins to change his mind, and trucks from the group are driving the streets in South Bend bearing graphic images protesting the decision.

As local police are coordinating with Secret Service to prepare for the president's visit, those living around campus are preparing for an estimated 20,000 protesters to come to their neighborhood.

Reports by WNDU and WSBT indicate residents of the neighborhoods around the campus' main gates, who are used to

crowds from football weekends, have growing concerns related to damage to personal property if the protests are not peaceful.

The Pro-Life Action League and Citizens for a Pro-Life Society are joining in protest Sunday, according to the Web site notredame-protest.com; their day's activities will include two parts: walking in the neighborhood leading up to the ceremony and joining the scheduled prayer services on campus during Commencement.

Another group — ND Affirm Life — will be protesting around campus today until Sunday, according to its Web site. The events will include prayer rallies, speakers and acting in solidarity with ND Response on Sunday.

Captain Phil Trent of the South Bend Police Department (SBPD) told The Observer the police are prepared for any disturbance before Commencement day.

"We have numerous officers on call should we need them on Friday or Saturday," he said. And when Sunday arrives, law enforcement will be monitoring the situation closely.

"All the local enforcement will have fairly large [presence], with man power in the area," Trent said, stating that various state units and local law enforcement agencies will be assisting SBPD.

He said the police haven't made exact estimates as to the numbers that will flock to Notre Dame in protest.

"It's hard to put a number to that. We've heard multiple thousands, which we're kind of skeptical of," Trent said. "We're prepared for whoever comes."

Trent said he knows that at least one group has filed for a permit for a protest walk, and that the city approved that request.

"If past behavior is a predictor, we see what's happened in the last week on campus, and we're just preparing for a magnified [situation]," he said.

This weekend's events will be different from past protests because the groups have made media and law enforcement aware of their plans, he said.

"We've received word from protest groups themselves that

suggest that they're going to be very vocal and some of the groups that we're expecting can be problematic when they come together," Trent said.

SBPD will also be assisting with the presidential visit itself, both on and off campus, Trent said.

"If everybody does this peacefully, then it will be just a day of complete standing, monitoring the situation," he said of police activity during Commencement. "We're there just as much to protect everyone's 1st Amendment rights just as much as everyone's right to private property is enforced."

University spokesperson Dennis Brown said the University is not commenting on specific actions Notre Dame Security Police (NDSP) is taking in preparation for Commencement.

Construction on local roads, specifically on Indiana 933, will cause traffic blocks, police said, and officers will be on hand for traffic and crowd control Sunday.

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<b>March 20</b> Obama announced as 2009 Commencement speaker by White House. ND announces he will receive honorary degree. Cardinal Newman Society launches first petition against decision.	<b>March 23</b> Jenkins releases statement defending his decision to invite Obama to speak, receive degree. Anti-abortion activist Randall Terry announces plans to move to South Bend to protest decision.	<b>April 5</b> ND Response holds their first official event, a Palm Sunday prayer rally on Notre Dame's campus, which attracts a few hundred supporters.	<b>April 10</b> D'Arcy releases statement urging Catholics to avoid or "unseemly" or "unhelpful" demonstrations against the president or Notre Dame.	<b>April 15</b> Some 15 students representing over 20 student groups meet Jenkins, present letter and petition in support of his decision. The Black Cultural Arts Council's petition included over 1,000 signatures.	<b>April 28</b> A plane from the Center for Bio-Ethical Reform begins circling campus with anti-abortion banners in tow. Billboard trucks from the group with graphic images also begin driving streets around South Bend.	<b>May 1</b> Randall Terry and one supporter are arrested on Notre Dame's campus for protesting after being issued a no trespass order.	<b>May 11</b> Jenkins writes two-page letter to graduates addressing the controversy. In the letter he praised their response and again defended the administration's decision.	<b>May 16</b> ND Response begins a nearly 24-hour series of events, starting with an all-night prayer vigil.
<b>THE OBAMA CONTROVERSY</b>								
<b>March 22</b> University announces on Laetare Sunday that the medal named for that day, the highest honor given to American Catholics, will be awarded to Mary Ann Glendon, former U.S. ambassador to the Vatican.	<b>March 24</b> Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D'Arcy releases statement saying he plans to boycott the ceremony.	<b>April 14</b> ND Response issues press release stating Jenkins rescinded his invitation to meet students after coalition group made requests in response to Jenkins' invitation.	<b>April 19</b> ND Response holds first ever March for Life on Notre Dame's campus on same weekend as Blue-Gold Game.	<b>April 27</b> Glendon announces she will decline the Laetare Medal over the Obama controversy and her role in Commencement, being the first ever to accept and then reject the honor.	<b>April 29</b> University announces that Judge John T. Noonan, 1984 Laetare Medal recipient, will deliver an address in lieu of giving the award. 2009 is the first year since the Medal's 1883 inception the award will not be given.	<b>May 8</b> Alan Keyes and some 20 others are arrested on Notre Dame's campus for protesting and refusing to leave the campus.	<b>May 15</b> Alan Keyes and supporters plan to be arrested on Notre Dame's campus.	<b>May 17</b> Obama delivers the 2009 Commencement address at Notre Dame, receives honorary degree. Hundreds expected to protest the event on and around the University's campus.

ANDREA ARCHER | Observer Graphic

## 196 seniors to participate in service after graduation

*Graduates to do volunteer work nationally and globally, credit Notre Dame with fostering a desire to serve others*

By TESS CIVANTOS  
News Writer

While most seniors head for grad school or careers after graduation, 196 have other plans. They're traveling everywhere from Peru to Pascagoula, Miss., with one shared goal — serving others.

Matt Gelchion, who holds a double major in political science and sociology, is a new member of the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE). He will teach high school history in Pascagoula for two years.

"I'm a really big fan of the line in the Bible that 'to whom much is given, much is expected,'" Gelchion said. "I see how blessed I've been to be at a place like this, and I wanted to give back."

Gelchion specifically chose ACE for its commitment to Catholic schooling. As a lifelong attendee of Catholic schools himself, Gelchion wanted to share the value of a Catholic education with others.

"Education is extremely important," he said. "Catholic schools are a great source of good in

today's society."

Pascagoula is a city of only about 26,000, yet Gelchion looks forward to his stay there.

"I'm excited about the opportunity to live in community," he said. "This will be a very formative experience, and it'll be better with the community of six other ACE teachers in my house."

A benefit of the high school's small size is that Gelchion will be able to take on more roles than just that of history teacher. He also plans to coach sports and help with other extracurricular activities.

As he prepares to graduate, Gelchion recalled the role that Notre Dame has played in his desire to serve others.

"What makes Notre Dame unique is that charge to go forth and do good," Gelchion said. "I'm like to think that in some small way, I'm living up to that."

Amanda Ryan, who holds a major in anthropology and a

minor in peace studies, also has service plans after graduation.

Through the Good Shepherd volunteer program, Amanda will work in New York City at a fair trade store, Handcrafting Justice, for one year. She then plans to spend two years in the international branch of the program.

"I've been wanting to do service since I got to Notre Dame, to create a more just world," Ryan said.

Ryan said a Summer Service Learning Program (SSLP) through the Center for Social Concerns confirmed her desire to serve, and the social justice groups she became involved in on campus — Ryan was co-president of the Children's Defense Fund through the Center for the Homeless this past year — helped her determine where she wanted to serve.

"Notre Dame's been a really great place to come and learn what true service is," Ryan said.

*"I see how blessed I've been to be at a place like this, and I wanted to give back."*

Matt Gelchion  
senior

"I've seen what solidarity means, and what it means to live a truly Christian life."

Seniors Kate Mattoon and Francesca Pennino are both moving to Peru next year.

They will work for 27 months at the Farm of the Child, an orphanage run by Franciscan sisters and a staff of volunteers.

Pennino planned for some time to do service after graduation, and an SSLP at the orphanage last summer convinced her that it was her calling — despite the difficulties she faced.

"It was one of the most challenging experiences. I was totally out of my comfort zone, adjusting to a different language, different food, a whole different culture," Pennino said. "But in the same breath, it was one of the most fulfilling and God-filled experiences imaginable."

Mattoon also said she is excited about the experience because she identifies strongly with the program's mission of helping children.

"It's where my heart is," Mattoon said.

Pennino and Mattoon both credit Notre Dame with strength-

ening their commitment to working for social justice.

"The environment at Notre Dame was the biggest thing," Mattoon said. "It really oriented me to social justice and charity."

Pennino, who holds a sociology major and education minor, recalled specific professors and classes who encouraged her to engage with issues of social justice.

"Notre Dame had a huge, huge impact in shaping where I end up next year," she said. "Notre Dame has given me the heart and the mind to devote myself to serving others."

Pennino, Mattoon, Ryan, Gelchion and the other seniors will be honored at the annual Senior Service Send-Off ceremony at 1 p.m. Saturday in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center's Leighton Concert Hall.

University President Fr. John Jenkins will address the seniors and their families on the University's commitment to service in education at Notre Dame and beyond.

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# Class of 2009 valedictorian discusses service work

*Brennan Bollman, who will attend Harvard Medical School in the fall, explains her desire to help others through volunteering*

By TESS CIVANTOS  
News Writer

In her four years as an undergraduate, Brennan Bollman, the class of 2009 valedictorian, has found that Notre Dame has a character all its own.

"I think it's that people here care about each other, about the local community and the larger world. They care about their hall mates even if they don't know them; they care about the staff that works here," Bollman said. "It flows naturally out of the Catholic character of the school."

The caring that Bollman senses among her classmates is one reason she said she is proud to represent her graduating class at Commencement.

"I'm incredibly excited," she said. "This is a wonderful graduating class, very engaged and passionate."

Bollman has come to appreciate the character of Notre Dame and of the class of 2009 through taking part in a range of extracurricular activities.

Bollman served on Voice, the student advisory board of the Center for Social Concerns, and worked to promote NDVotes '08. She said her involvement with the Center for Social Concerns helped her meet many of her closest friends at Notre Dame.

"One of the cool things about Notre Dame is that I have friends in every major,"

Bollman said, "a lot of whom I met through the Center for Social Concerns."

She said the commitment to service which the Center for Social Concerns represents is a major part of what makes

Notre Dame special.

"The Center for Social Concerns is one of the most important things on campus," she said.

Bollman is a Biological Science major and Peace Studies minor from St. Joseph, Mich., and will attend Harvard Medical School in the fall.

She said she originally planned to pursue a career in biomedical research, but her service work convinced her to become a doctor instead.

*"I'm grateful for the opportunities I've been offered and the people that I've met. I hope I can honor those gifts."*

**Brennan Bollman**  
**Class of 2009**  
**valuedictorian**



Photo Courtesy of Brennan Bollman

**Notre Dame valedictorian Brennan Bollman speaks at a 'Hope Club' meeting for filariasis programs in Haiti.**

Bollman spent the summer after her freshman year working at a Catholic Worker house in New York, and spent the next two summers in Haiti and Cambodia.

"I realized I want to help individual people in individual moments," Bollman said. "So medicine was a better fit. Everything flowed from that."

Bollman taught English in Cambodia and worked in Haiti to help implement her undergraduate research

work, which focused on eliminating the disease that causes elephantiasis.

Summer service was only one part of Bollman's active service work throughout her time at Notre Dame.

She has worked at the Sister Maura Brannick Health Center in South Bend for the past two years and helped coordinate the Pathos Project, a class for pre-professional students that integrates discussions about human suffering with service

work.

Bollman is also active in Lewis Hall, where she has lived for the past four years.

As Bollman prepares to graduate, she says that her time at Notre Dame has been a wonderful experience.

"I'm grateful for the opportunities I've been offered and the people that I've met," Bollman said. "I hope that I can honor those gifts."

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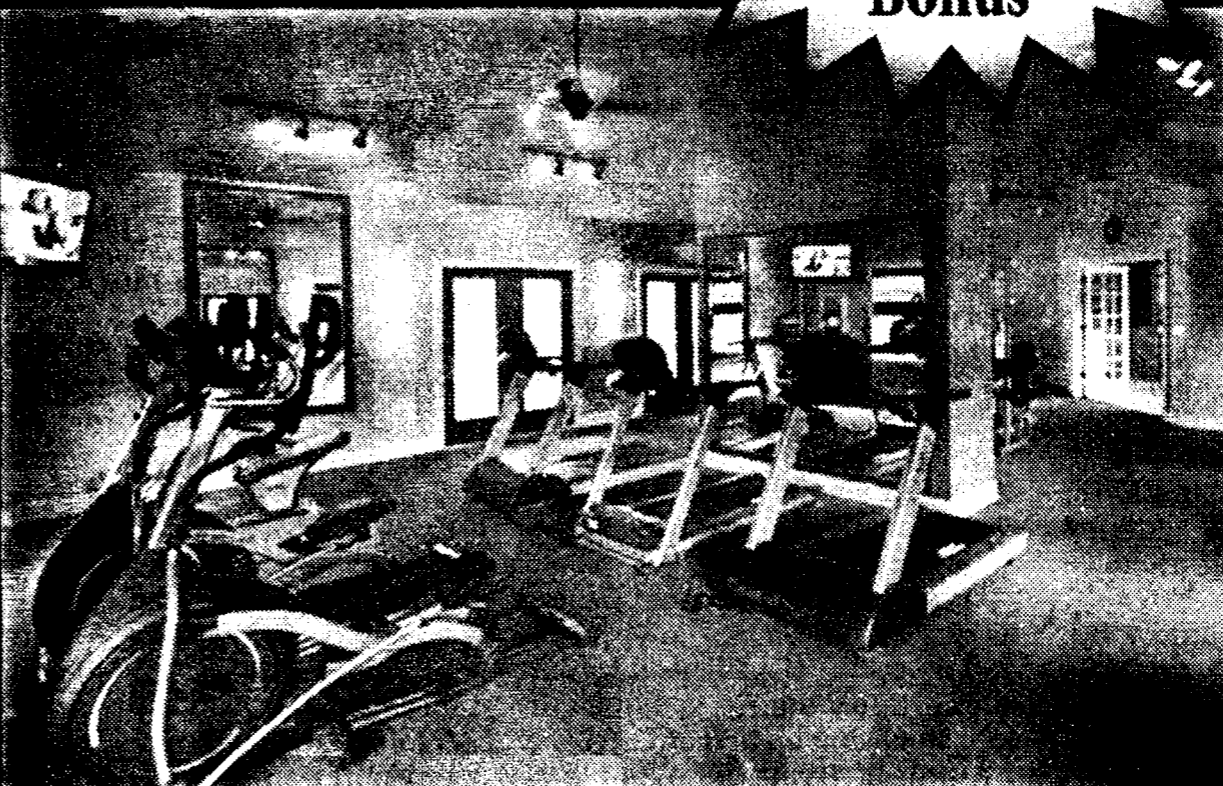
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# NOW LEASING

# Jenkins addresses Commencement issues in letter to students

President believes University is a 'crossroads' for dialogue, hopes to create relationship between Catholics and public officials

By AARON STEINER  
News Writer

University President Fr. John Jenkins sent a letter dated May 11 to all Notre Dame graduates, addressing the controversy that has erupted over his invitation to President Barack Obama to give the principal address and receive an honorary degree at this Sunday's Commencement. In the letter he wrote that Notre Dame must be a crossroads "where people of good will are received with charity, are able to speak, be heard, and engage in responsible and reasoned dialogue."

University spokesman Dennis Brown said Jenkins does not normally send such a letter to graduates, but "given the unusual nature [of their Commencement] he thought that it would be appropriate to reach out the seniors."

In a copy of the letter obtained by The Observer Tuesday, Jenkins wrote he hoped the Obama visit would lead to "broader engagement on issues of importance to the country and of deep significance to Catholics."

"Ultimately I hope that the conversions and the good will that come from this day will

contribute to closer relations between Catholics and public officials who make decisions on matters of human life and human dignity," he wrote.

Jenkins addressed his critics in the letter, specifically those who have called into question the administration's stance on life issues.

"I am saddened that many friends of Notre Dame have suggested that our invitation to President Obama indicates ambiguity in our position on matters of Catholic teaching. The University and I are unequivocally committed to the sanctity of human life and to its protection from conception to natural birth," he wrote.

He also referenced the University's long history of conferring honorary degrees on U.S. Presidents in the letter. Obama will be the ninth president to receive a degree from Notre Dame.

*"Ultimately I hope that the conversions and the good will that come from this day will contribute to closer relations between Catholics and public officials who make decisions on matters of human life and human dignity."*

Fr. John Jenkins  
University president

"It has never been a political statement or an endorsement of policy," Jenkins said of the honorary degrees. "It is the University's expression of respect for the leader of the nation and the Office of the President. In the Catholic tradi-

tion, our first allegiance is to God in Christ, yet we are called to respect, participate in, and contribute to the wider society.

"As St. Peter wrote (1 Pt. 2:17), we should honor the leader who upholds the secular order," Jenkins wrote.

He wrote of what he called an "obligation" for an institution like Notre Dame to "engage the culture."

"[A] Catholic university has a special obligation not just to honor the leader but to engage the culture," he wrote. He specifically wrote about his time as an undergraduate,

when Fr. Theodore Hesburgh was University president, writing that Hesburgh called Notre Dame "both a lighthouse and a crossroads."

"As a lighthouse, we strive to stand apart and be different, illuminating issues with the moral and spiritual wisdom of the Catholic tradition. Yet, we must also be a crossroads through which pass people of many different perspectives, backgrounds, faiths, and cultures," he wrote.

"At this crossroads, we must be a place where people of good will are received with charity, are able to speak, be heard, and engage in responsible and reasoned dialogue."

Jenkins also told graduates that he recognized the invitation to Obama has triggered a debate that they have been a part of.

"In many cases, the debate has grown heated, even between people who agree completely on Church teaching regarding the sanctity of human

life, who agree completely that we should work for change — and differ only on how we should work for change," he wrote.

Jenkins said he has seen the graduates "observed, interviewed, and evaluated" by many people, in addition to discussing the decision among themselves.

"You engaged each other with passion, intelligence and respect. And I saw no sign that your differences led to division," he wrote. "You inspire me. We need the wider society to be more like you; it is good that we are sending you into the world on Sunday."

Jenkins told graduates "there will, no doubt, be much attention on your Commencement" in the letter.

"Remember, though, that this is your day. ... You are the ones we celebrate and applaud," he wrote.

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## ND to award eight honorary degrees

By MADELINE BUCKLEY  
News Editor

Notre Dame will award seven honorary degrees in addition to the honorary doctor of laws degree that will be given to President Barack Obama, the University announced Monday.

The recipients are "distinguished figures in academia, business, athletics, engineering, law and philanthropy," according to a press release.

The eight degrees will be awarded at the May 17 graduation ceremony.

"We seek to honor people who have made significant contributions to our nation," University spokesperson Dennis Brown said of the recipients.

Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court Randall T. Shepard will receive a doctor of laws. Shepard has served as chief justice since 1987, and his leadership has led to "dramatic improvements, including successfully breaking down the language barriers in the courts, creating an atmosphere of accountability for judges, and educating the public about the judiciary's role in society," the release said. Shepard was recently appointed to the U.S. Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Civil Rules by United States Chief Justice John Roberts.

Myles Brand, president of the NCAA, will receive a doctor of laws. He served as president of the University of Oregon and Indiana University and as chair of the Association of American Universities. Brand is a philosopher and has focused his studies on "the nature of human action," the release said.

A doctor of humane letters degree will be awarded to Cindy Parseghian, a Notre Dame graduate who founded the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation along with her husband. The Foundation works to find a cure for Niemann-Pick Type



Photo Courtesy of News and Information

Clockwise from top left, Steve Beering, Myles Brand, Fritz Duda, Patrick Finneran, Randall T. Shepard, Don Michael Randel, Cindy Parseghian and President Barack Obama.

C disease, a fatal genetic disorder that affected three out of Parseghian's four children, and has raised more than \$33 million to help scientists find the gene responsible for the disease and develop a cure, according to the release.

President Emeritus of Purdue University Steven Beering will receive a doctor of laws degree. Beering served as president of Purdue from 1983 to 2000 and is currently the chair of the National Science Board. Beering has also served as chair of the Association of Medical Colleges and Association of American Universities. He spent 10 years as dean of medicine and director of the Indiana University Medical Center and currently holds appointments as professor of medicine at Indiana University and professor of pharmacology at Purdue University.

A doctor of engineering degree will be awarded to Patrick Finneran, vice president of program management and business excellence for Boeing Integrated Defense Systems. Finneran, a Notre Dame graduate, has "led every military aircraft program at Boeing's St. Louis site," the release said. He served in the U.S. Marine Corps for 20 years and has combat service in the Vietnam War. Finneran retired as a lieutenant

colonel.

Fritz L. Duda, a member of the University's Board of Trustees, will receive a doctor of laws degree. Duda is the chief executive officer of a Dallas-based investment company, and he owns a real estate and investment firm. Before his election to the Board of Trustees in 1997, Duda served on the Advisory Council for the School of Architecture, helping to develop a "long-term plan for the Notre Dame campus" and influencing a return to the gothic theme for new campus buildings, according to the release.

President of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Don Michael Randel will receive a doctor of laws degree, as he is "a prolific and internationally prominent historian of music," the release said. Randel taught at Cornell University for 32 years and served as the dean of the university's college of arts and letters. He was appointed president of the University of Chicago in 2000 and led the largest fund-raising campaign in the university's history.

This story originally appeared in the April 22 edition of The Observer.

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## Saint Mary's to honor Schwiebert

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA  
News Writer

Saint Mary's College announced it will honor Deborah Johnson Schwiebert with an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree at the Commencement ceremony Saturday.



Schwiebert

After graduating from Saint Mary's with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature in 1974, Schwiebert earned her Master's degree in Organized Leadership from St. Ambrose University.

Upon graduating from St. Ambrose, Schwiebert began working for John Deere. She has worked for the company for 34 years and currently holds the position of director of communications at John Deere's World Headquarters facility.

Schwiebert has worked at Saint Mary's for the past 16 years.

She has served on the Board of Trustees since 1998 and was appointed Board secretary and then Board chair. She served as Board chair from 2004 to 2007.

Additionally, Schwiebert has been a part of two Presidential Search Committees, served as chair of the Madeleva Steering Society committee and served

as vice president and president of the Alumnae Association Board of Directors.

She also served as the Annual Fund chair in the College's 1994 Sesquicentennial Campaign.

In 2004, Schwiebert received the College's Distinguished Alumnae Award.

Schwiebert said she is pleased and honored to receive an honorary degree at Commencement and that she has enjoyed her time spent serving and giving back to the College.

"It has been my pleasure to serve the College these past 16 years. My Saint Mary's education transformed my life and being able to give back to the College has been a real privilege," Schwiebert said in a press release. "I am humbled

*"My Saint Mary's education transformed my life and being able to give back to the College has been a real privilege."*

Deborah Schwiebert  
Saint Mary's alumna

by this wonderful honor and tribute." Executive Assistant to the President Susan Dampeer said Schwiebert was chosen because of all of the time she has put in volunteering and attempting to improve life at Saint Mary's, as well as because of her success in the business world.

"Schwiebert is retiring from the Board of Trustees," Dampeer said. "She was the chair of the Board and has been an outstanding alumnae volunteer. She is also a very successful business executive."

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## Committee on assault presents to Poorman

By MADELINE BUCKLEY  
News Editor

The Committee for Sexual Assault Prevention (CSAP) — a committee formed to lead “a comprehensive review of Notre Dame’s sexual assault policies and resources” — presented recommendations to Fr. Mark Poorman, vice president for Student Affairs, earlier this month according to a statement by the Committee.

Ann Firth, associate vice president for Student Affairs and a member of CSAP, said the review of the policies was to identify steps the University might take to prevent sexual assault and address unacceptable behavior “beyond what is currently in place” in the University’s policy.

“All of these efforts must be understood in the larger context of the Notre Dame community, a community dedicated, in the words of the University’s mission statement, to ‘the formation of an authentic human community graced by the Spirit of Christ,’” Firth said in an e-mail.

She said the work of CSAP seeks to “ensure the safety of every student.”

“Clearly, sexual violence has no place here,” Firth said.

CSAP was born out of a resolution from Student Senate in December of 2008, which asked for a review of “the effectiveness of the University’s sexual assault, rape and sexual misconduct policy, resources for victims of sexual assault, and the University’s disciplinary options available to victims of sexual assault.”

The Observer reported the resolution stated that “the University’s current resources for victims and disciplinary options often do not satisfy the needs of the survivors” in a Dec. 11 article.

Firth said the resolution went to Poorman, who created CSAP — composed of a combination of students and faculty — to examine the current policies and make suggestions for improvement.

CSAP, along with representatives from student government, formed three subcommittees: Policies and Procedures, Resources and Education/Prevention.

“As part of their work together, the subcommittees examined current University policies, programs, and resources, and collected information from peer institutions,” Firth said. “The Committee also hosted an open listening session during Sexual Assault Awareness Week in February to which all students were invited.”

Poorman will now consider CSAP’s recommendations and may implement next year, the statement said.

Contact Madeline Buckley at  
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## Seniors reflect on their four years at ND

*Graduates share their memories, experiences of their four years under the Dome*

By IRENA ZAJICKOVA  
News Writer

With their time as Notre Dame students rapidly coming to a close, seniors across campus agree that their experiences here will carry over into the next phase of their lives.

Many students said their favorite part of life at Notre Dame was the friends they made and the people they met through their various classes and activities.

Apurva Aslekar, a senior from Knott Hall, said he will miss the friends he made here, and he said he doesn’t think anyone he will meet later in life will ever compare.

“I think the relationships I’ve built over the past four years are going to be the most missed things,” Aslekar said. “To grow up and have some of the biggest milestones and achievements with them during my early years are moments I will never be able to replicate with others in another setting.”

Laura Schwartz, a senior from Cavanaugh Hall, also said that out of all the various aspects of campus life, she enjoyed meeting new people the most.

“[My favorite part of life here is] the people,” Schwartz said. “Being classmates, neighbors and friends with so many smart, diverse and interesting people, I have been challenged and encouraged to grow as a person.”

Students said Notre Dame’s unique dorm life is an important aspect of the Notre Dame experience.

“I really liked the dorm life. I liked the environment it creates,” Jimmy Champlin, a senior from Sorin College, said. “That’s why I chose to live for four years on campus.”

Champlin said that he would not miss the smoky atmosphere of many bars

that students frequently visit.

“I won’t miss having to wash my clothes twice every time I wear them out to a bar,” he said.

Schwartz said being raised in the South did not prepare her for a typical Notre Dame winter.

“I won’t miss the snow,” she said. “My Texas blood and the Notre Dame tundra don’t mix.”

Students also had mixed feelings towards the football team, which fluctuated between being ranked in the top 25 and being considered one of the worst teams in the nation.

Katie Dunn, a senior from Cavanaugh Hall, said she really enjoyed football her freshman year, but the team entered a downward spiral from that point onward.

“Football all went downhill after the USC game freshman year,” Dunn said. “Except for the snowball fiasco this year.”

Even though the Irish did not always play their best, Champlin said he still enjoyed attending the games and cheering on the football team.

“[Games] were a little disappointing, but still fun,” Champlin said. “Sitting in the student section is definitely a unique experience.”

Just as they have tried to make a difference during their time on campus, students said that attending Notre Dame has also made an impact in their own lives.

Aslekar said that the divergent opinions present in campus dialogue have exposed him to points of view he would have otherwise been ignorant of, and have helped him open his mind to those who do not

share his beliefs.

“I think I was exposed to a lot of viewpoints that I otherwise wouldn’t have experienced at other schools,” he said. “I think there’s been a lot of growth due to my increased capacity to understand these beliefs.”

Champlin said his time at the University helped him grow spiritually and strengthen his Catholic faith.

“Instead of going through that phase some college students go through where you lose your religion, I think I strengthened mine,” he said.

“Being in an environment where you can discuss [religion] rationally, that’s something big here that I wouldn’t have gotten somewhere else.”

Graduating seniors are aware that life post-graduation will bring about some big changes.

Dunn, who will work for an organization in India that prosecutes child forced prostitution, said that she will have to start behaving more like an adult and less like a college student.

“I have worn sweats for 98 percent of my time here at Notre Dame. Literally,” Dunn said. “Apparently I have to dress like a real person after I graduate.”

Some students said they knew very little about Notre Dame during the college application process and were convinced to enroll because their campus visits persuaded them that Notre Dame was the right choice.

Caitlin Ivester, a senior from Pasquerilla East Hall, said she did not even know that Notre Dame was located in Indiana when she applied.

“I didn’t really know much about Notre Dame when I applied. I was pretty convinced it was in Ohio some-

where,” Ivester said. “But my guidance counselor told me it would be a ‘perfect fit.’ When I visited everyone was so friendly and welcoming I felt at home right away.”

Even students who grew up cheering for the Irish agreed that the campus visits they made were an important factor in convincing them to attend Notre Dame instead of another school.

“My family has always been really big Notre Dame fans, but no one from my family has ever gone here,” said Champlin. “So I visited with a friend whose brother went here and once I got onto campus everything just felt right.”

Notre Dame seniors are leaving campus with the knowledge that their lives will never be the same again. They will get jobs, do service, or pursue advanced degrees. Many will move to parts of the country they have never visited before.

But the seniors said will always have the various memories and anecdotes regarding their time on campus.

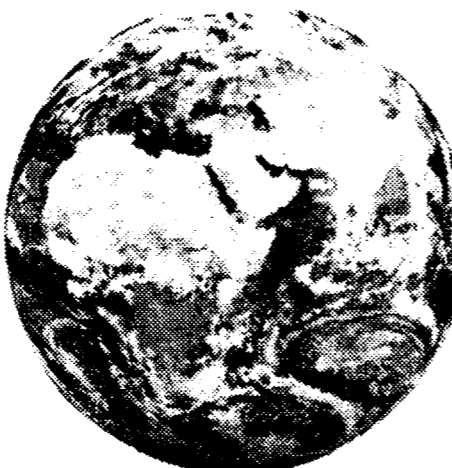
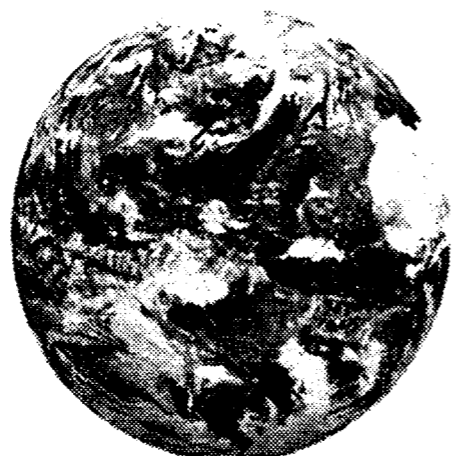
Champlin said he will recall participating in the Mr. ND pageant, Schwartz will think about her travels abroad while studying in France and Dunn will treasure the glory of winning the interhall football championship in Notre Dame Stadium.

In this way, seniors said they will take memories their time here with them as they move on from Notre Dame.

“It’s really sad to leave Notre Dame behind because it was such a major part of my life and had a lot to do with who I am as a person,” Champlin said. “But I realize moving on is a part of life. I’ll go other places and make new friends and see new things, but memories of Notre Dame are something I’ll always have with me.”

Contact Irena Zajickova at  
izajicko@nd.edu

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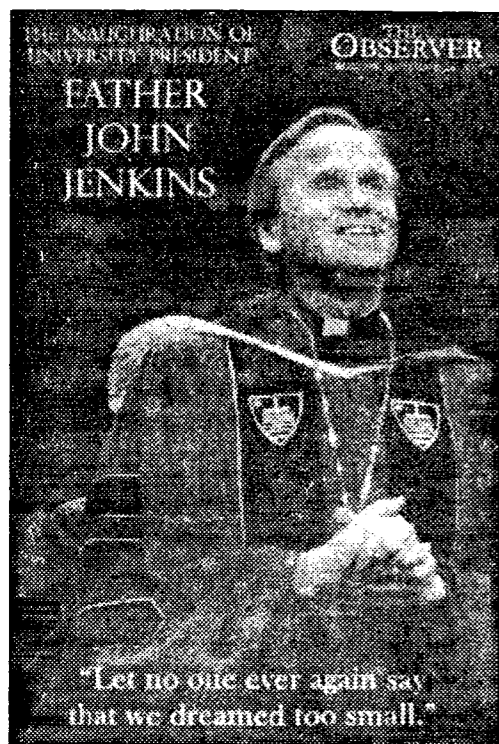


# FOUR YEARS IN REVIEW

Friday, May 15, 2009

The top Observer news stories from the 2005-2009 academic years

page 7



## Jenkins replaces Malloy as president

September 23, 2005

University president Fr. John Jenkins was inaugurated as Notre Dame's 17th president Sept. 23, 2005. Inauguration activities spanned two full days as afternoon classes were cancelled in order for students to attend an academic forum Thursday afternoon featuring Tom Brokaw as the moderator and a Mass Friday morning.

Featured speakers at his inauguration included Board of Trustees Chairman Patrick McCartan, Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D'Arcy and then-Alumni Association president Timothy

Brady.

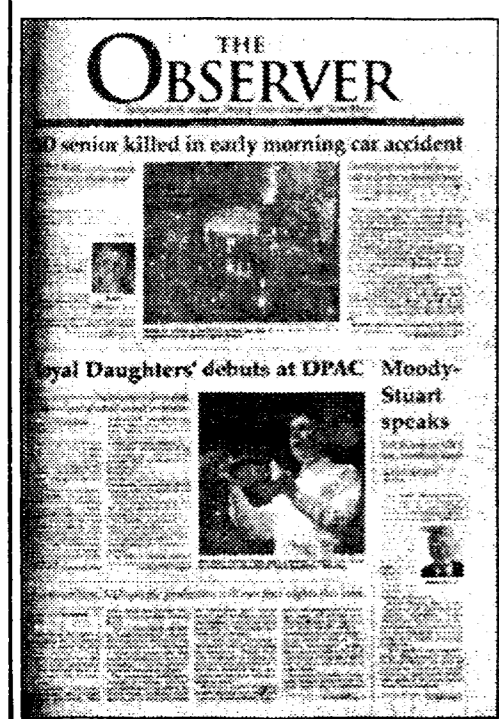
At his inauguration ceremony, Jenkins recalled the legacy of Notre Dame's founder, Fr. Edward Sorin, and spoke of his desire for Notre Dame to strive to be a top Catholic university in the 21st century for research and learning. Jenkins called for a "bigger and better than ever university."

His promise to promote academic excellence and religious faith as "two indispensable and wholly compatible strands of higher learning" proved to be pillars of his presidency just months

after he took office when he questioned the presence of controversial events like The Queer Film Festival and "The Vagina Monologues" at Notre Dame. More recently, the University has announced a \$1.5 billion fundraising drive that could shape the campus' future — and much of Jenkins' legacy.

Jenkins replaced University President Emeritus Fr. Edward "Monk" Malloy, who served at the University's helm for 18 years. University President Emeritus Fr. Theodore Hesburgh, who served as president for 35 years, preceded Malloy.

## Five students die during past three school years



Senior Caitlin Brann, 22, died in a car accident after her tire blew out on the Indiana Toll Road in November 2006. More than 200 students gathered a day later at the Grotto to pray and sing in her memory, and Brann's friends called her "a spark of fire."

Brann was a marketing major from Orland Park, Ill.

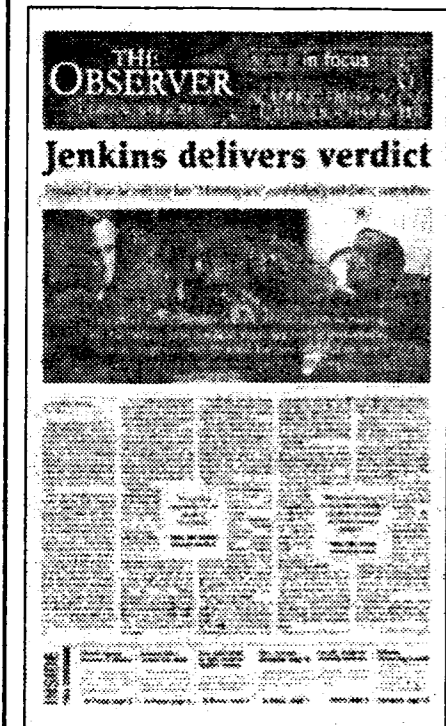
Three students died in unrelated cases in 2008. Connor McGrath, a sophomore in Siegfried from Oklahoma City, passed away on Feb. 17 in Dillon Hall. He intended to major in business.

Timothy Aher, a student in the Law School's London Programme, died at his residence in Ilford. Aher was from Brookfield, Conn.

Andrew Bunikus, a junior from Zahm Hall, died in a bus crash in Thailand on April 18, 2008. He took a semester off to teach English to students in Thailand.

Sophomore Kevin Healey, 20, died April 24 after a battle with bone cancer. He was a resident of Sorin College. Healey was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in December of 2006. Friends said Healey's courage was inspiring.

### Jenkins allows 'Monologues'



Jenkins appealed to the Notre Dame community for feedback on the interplay between academic freedom and Catholic character. Vigorous campus debate followed. Ten weeks later Jenkins announced "The Vagina Monologues" would not be prohibited at Notre Dame. The play was performed off campus last year before coming back to campus this year.

January 25, 2006

### Jenkins meets Pope Benedict XVI



Jenkins and Pope Benedict XVI spoke for 30 seconds in Vatican City during the former's pilgrimage to the Holy See. Jenkins, University officials and the Board of Trustees travelled to Rome for a series of meetings and conferences with Vatican leaders. The Pope called Notre Dame "a great Catholic university."

February 1, 2006

### Two students shot outside Club 23



Seniors Matthew Collins and Mitchell Depree were shot by a man in an SUV around 1 a.m. on August 21 following a conversation with the shooter. Collins was shot in the abdomen and leg, wounds that were originally considered life-threatening. A bullet remains in Collins' abdomen. Depree was shot in the leg.

August 25, 2007

### City council passes party ordinance



The South Bend Common Council passed an amended form of an ordinance that would require permits for parties. The ordinance lays out rules that, if enforced, would force residents of boarding houses to obtain a permit to have a party of 25 or more people where alcohol would be served. Future legislation could enact the ordinance.

September 25, 2007

### Obama to speak at Commencement



The University and the White House announced on March 20 that President Barack Obama accepted University President Fr. John Jenkins' invitation to speak at Commencement on May 17. The invitation sparked controversy, eliciting both protest and excitement from students and criticism from religious and pro-life groups.

March 20, 2009

### Glendon declines Laetare Medal



Mary Ann Glendon, former U.S. ambassador to the Holy See, declined the Laetare Medal in a letter to University President Fr. John Jenkins on April 27. She wrote that she was "dismayed" President Barack Obama was selected to receive an honorary degree, marking the first time the award has been accepted and then declined in its 126-year history.

April 27, 2009

Duncan Hall opens. Student body expresses concerns over BOG budget issues. America elects Obama; student groups

# The Year

2008♦

By MADELINE BUCKLEY and ASHLEY CHARNLEY

News Writers

## Duncan Hall opens

Duncan Hall, the newest male dorm, welcomed its first residents at the beginning of the 2008-09 academic school year.

The dorm, which houses 232 students on West Quad, is the first new dorm to be built on campus since 1997.

The dorm cost about \$20 million and took 17 months to build.

The Hall integrated itself into Notre Dame life, choosing the "Highlander" as its mascot and hosting its first signature event, the Highlander Games, an adaptation of the traditional Scottish games, including food, music and games of skill.

The dorm colors are blue and green and the residents of the Hall donned kilts and war paint in the tradition of a Scottish warrior to celebrate the mascot.

The newest female dorm, Ryan Hall, is currently under construction and will open for the 2009-10 school year and will house 246 students.

## SMC opens and dedicates new academic building

Spes Unica Hall, the newest academic building on Saint Mary's campus, opened at the beginning of the fall semester. A dedication for the building on Oct. 30 included alumnae, benefactors and students.

The new building houses 13 different departments, the Career Crossing Office and the Center for Academic Innovation, the Center for Spirituality and the Center for Women's Intercultural Leadership, as well as classrooms, laboratories, and office spaces and common areas.

"I am amazed how many students are camped in the chairs and sofas. Staff lights are on before the sun rises. I see faculty pouring over their work at their desk," Vice President and Dean of Faculty Patricia Fleming said. "It's an environment that seems to draw our academic community to itself."

Along with the new academic building, Saint Mary's is also renovating Madeleva Hall, which will offer up-to-date classrooms and offices.

## Dillon Hall cancels annual pep rally

Rector of Dillon Hall Fr. Paul Doyle cancelled the annual Dillon Hall Pep Rally — the dorm's signature event held every year the Friday before the first home football game — a week before the pep rally was supposed to occur.

The pep rally, an annual campus fixture, mocks various aspects of life at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's.

Doyle said the pep rally was cancelled because he failed to give the necessary guidance and the script writing and production was not coming together in a timely manner.

But the writers and directors of the show told The Observer they were surprised by the sudden decision because the script was finished and production was underway.

Dillon Hall residents and other students expressed disappointment over the abrupt cancellation of a Notre Dame tradition and confusion over the reasons for the cancellation.

## Student body expresses concerns over BOG budget issues

Early in the fall semester, Saint Mary's Board of Governance (BOG) began voting on the budget presented by the Executive Board that included a \$20,000 stipend for the eight members on the Executive Board.

Some members of BOG and the student body expressed concern over the amount of the stipend, which was actually only half of what the previous Board had voted on and awarded themselves.

The budget was voted down by BOG and the Executive Board was then forced to change the plans for the budget.

Many members believed that there was a "conflict of interest" and the Board should not be able to choose their own allotments.

"We were not informed of this [happening] last year," Pauline Kistka, a member of the 2008-2009 BOG, said. "My concern is that I know that six people — and I'm not saying you guys, I'm saying on boards prior — were given the option to receive money. If the decision was in their hands and they're the ones going to receive the money, I don't see the open-mindedness of the decision or an unbiased decision regarding it. I guess I kind of see a conflict in getting money in general."

ting money in general."

After over a month of disputes, the budget was approved on the third vote and it did not include an executive stipend. The money left over from the stipend was then dispersed between the College Readership Program and a contingency fund.

## America elects Obama as president; student groups campaign, educate

On Nov. 4, Barack Obama, then a senator from Illinois, defeated Sen. John McCain (R-AZ) to become the first black president of the United States.

Obama won with 365 electoral votes and 52.92 percent of the popular vote and narrowly won the state of Indiana.

Attracted by Indiana's traditional status as a swing state, many students elected to register to vote in Indiana in lieu of voting absentee in their home state.

NDVotes '08, a nonpartisan group, sprung up to educate students about issues in the election and help get them registered to vote.

The group held "Pizza, Pop and Politics" discussions with students and faculty and recruited a commissioner from each dorm on campus to help students in the dorm register to vote.

Students also rallied to campaign for specific candidates.

Notre Dame College Democrats collaborated with students from other local colleges to open a democratic campaign headquarters in South Bend.

"We want to help elect Senator Obama and all the other candidates we are working for," Notre Dame's College Democrats then-president Spencer Howard said. "And in the broader scheme of things, [our goal] is to put the country on what we consider the right track."

Notre Dame's College Republicans organized a group of students to attend a political rally in Sterling Heights, Mich. in support of the John McCain ticket.

"The rally was absolutely awesome and inspiring," then-College Republicans president Edward Yap said. "The 25 Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students that collectively drove more than 40 hours to see the

McCain/Palin rally in Sterling Heights left ready to do anything and everything necessary to elect John McCain and Sarah Palin."

## Schmidt, Weber elected as student body president, vice president

Grant Schmidt and Cynthia Weber were elected student body president and student body vice president on Feb. 12 and took office on April 1.

Schmidt had previously served as student body vice president and Weber, sophomore class president.

Schmidt and Weber defeated juniors Laura Burdick and Derek Sanchez in a run-off election with 51.9 percent of the vote in one of the closest elections in recent years, according to then-Judicial Council president George Chamberlain.

The duo credited their win to their "grassroots campaign" in which they took the time to meet and talk with individual students.

Schmidt and Weber promised tax reform and cheaper text book options and said off-campus safety and community relations are also a priority.

## Hoffman and Griffin elected to 2009-2010 Student Government Association office

Rising senior Jenny Hoffman and rising junior Meg Griffin were elected as Saint Mary's student body president and vice president for the 2009-10 academic year.

They took office April 1, and the duo said they hope to continue the projects of the previous Gruscinski-Falvey Board.

Hoffman and Griffin said they would like to distance themselves from the stipend disputes that occurred earlier in the school year and start to bring the student body and student government back together.

Hoffman said she would like to extend Student Center and library hours, have printers placed in all the residence halls and improve communication with the student body through open forums and e-mail surveys.

"Now that we're in place we're really eager to hear what students want done," Hoffman told The Observer earlier this semester. "Right now we have a blank slate and we want to get some issues on it so we can start addressing them."

### August 31

Dillon Hall rector Fr. Paul Doyle announces the annual Dillon Hall pep rally, which mocks various aspects of Notre Dame life, is cancelled. Students voice disappointment about the sudden cancellation of a Notre Dame tradition.

### October 29

The Saint Mary's Board of Governance (BOG) approved the Student Government Association (SGA) budget after the third vote on the issue at their weekly meeting. The budget had difficulty passing because of the stipend the Executive Board was allotting for themselves. Students and members of BOG opposed the stipend, and it was eventually removed from the budget.

## August

## September

## October

## November

## December

### August 24

Duncan Hall opens for the 2008-2009 school year. The newest male dorm houses 232 students on West Quad. It cost \$20 million and took 17 months to build.

### November 4

America elects Barack Obama as president of the United States. Many students register to vote in Indiana rather than their home state, and student groups, such as NDVotes '08, Notre Dame College Republicans and Notre Dame College Democrats, campaign for candidates and educate students.

*campaign, educate. Student shot near off-campus home. Sophomore Kevin Healey dies. Obama to speak at Commencement.*

# in Review

## ♦2009

A new Student Government Association Constitution was voted on and approved by the student body this semester and Hoffman and Griffin have said they will begin adding amendments in the fall.

### Student shot near off-campus home

A Notre Dame student was shot in the arm early morning on Feb. 24 after trying to enter a neighbor's house, which she mistook for her own off-campus residence.

The 23-year-old female was shot on the 800-block of E. Miner St. after returning from Club 23, a bar located at the corner of South Bend and Notre Dame Aves., and knocking on the door of a neighbor's house.

Police said the victim was intoxicated.

The residents of the house told police they heard knocking on the door and told the woman to leave. When the knocking persisted, they fired a shot through the door.

The student was treated at Memorial Hospital in South Bend with a gunshot wound to the arm.

### Students petition to add sexual orientation to non-discrimination clause

Members of the Campaign for Human Dignity, a coalition of the Progressive Student Alliance (PSA), presented the Office of the President with a petition asking that sexual orientation be added to the University's nondiscrimination clause in March.

Currently, the clause states the University does not discriminate based on "race/ethnicity, color, national origin, sex, disability, veteran status or age."

The leaders of the group presented University President Fr. John Jenkins with a petition of about 2,300 student signatures and he agreed to a meeting with the group.

At the meeting, Jenkins told the group the University will not change the nondiscrimination clause to include sexual orientation.

"That is, after careful analysis from both the legal and theological perspectives, it was determined that adding the clause may not allow us to distinguish between sexual orientation and behavior, which is a distinction that we must maintain as a Catholic university," University

spokesperson Dennis Brown told The Observer at the time.

But Jenkins told the group he would be open to alternative ideas to make Notre Dame more welcoming for the GLBTQ (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning) community.

### SMC Dance Marathon receives award, raises \$91,538

Over the summer, Children's Miracle Network awarded Saint Mary's Dance Marathon with the Incentive Award, the highest award the organization gives to a committee.

"The Incentive Award is to recognize exceptional Dance Marathons that have broken the mold," Zac Johnson, national director of Dance Marathon in the press release, said. "Saint Mary's College students have set the bar very high for campuses just starting the program. These young women re-imagined what can be accomplished in such a short time and serve as an example to other campuses."

This year, Dance Marathon raised over \$91,000 for the Riley's Children Hospital in Indianapolis which is up over \$6,000 from last year's total. 400 participants stood for 12 hours in Angela Athletic Facility to help raise money for the cause. Families and children from the hospital were there throughout the night to visit and encourage students.

### Obama accepts invitation to speak at Commencement

The White House and the University announced on March 20 that President Barack Obama will deliver the 2009 Commencement address at the May 17 graduation ceremony and receive an honorary degree from the University.

Catholic and pro-life groups and religious leaders, including Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D'Arcy, condemned University President Fr. John Jenkins' invitation to Obama claiming it violates a document of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) that states Catholic institutions should not honor politicians "who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles."

Jenkins said the invitation should "in no way be taken as condoning or

endorsing his positions on specific issues regarding the protection of life, such as abortion and embryonic stem cell research."

Students rallied both in support and opposition to the invitation.

ND Response, a coalition of student groups in opposition to Obama delivering the Commencement address and receiving an honorary degree, created a Web site, held a prayer rally and organized the first Right to Life March on campus.

The Progressive Leadership Council gathered the support of about 20 campus clubs — including the Progressive Student Alliance, College Democrats, Feminist Voice, the Notre Dame NAACP chapter, Students for Environmental Action and the Black Cultural Arts Council (BCAC) — and met with Jenkins to show support for his decision and presented him with a petition with about 1,150 signatures from students and faculty also in support.

Both groups said they will continue to make plans to create dialogue about the issue until the ceremony on Sunday.

### Glendon declines Laetare Medal

Mary Ann Glendon, former U.S. ambassador to the Holy See, declined the Laetare Medal, an award given annually to an American Catholic since 1883.

Glendon declined the Medal in a letter to University President Fr. John Jenkins.

"I could not help but be dismayed by the news that Notre Dame also planned to award [President Barack Obama] an honorary degree," Glendon wrote in the letter.

Glendon initially accepted the award and Jenkins told The Observer she is "probably the most powerful spokesperson for the Catholic viewpoint in our world today."

This marks the first time the award was accepted and declined.

Instead of choosing a new recipient for the award, the University invited previous Laetare Medalist Judge John T. Noonan to deliver an address at the Commencement ceremony.

Noonan received the award in 1984.

"In thinking about who could bring a compelling voice, a passion for dialogue, great intellectual stature and a deep commitment to Catholic values

to the speaking role of the Laetare Medalist — especially in these unusual circumstances — it quickly became clear that an ideal choice is Judge Noonan," Jenkins said in a statement.

### Sophomore Kevin Healey dies

Kevin Healey, a sophomore of Sorin College, died on April 24 after a battle with cancer. He was 20.

Healey, a native of the Cleveland area, was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a type of malignant bone cancer, in December 2006.

Attending Notre Dame was a "lifelong dream" of Healey's, according to Fr. Jim King, rector of Sorin College.

Friends of Healey's said his courage was inspirational.

"We ought all to thank Kevin Healey, at least those of us in Sorin College with whom he willingly offered friendship and many lessons to learn, even in his final days," sophomore Steven Lechner said. "May his memory, which has united us now in this time of sorrow, live on forever in our hearts in thanksgiving to him and to God."

A plaque that says, "Reserved for Kevin Healey '11" is attached to the seat closest to the altar in the Sorin Chapel.

### SMC spends a second year on U.S. News and World Report ranking

Saint Mary's has been ranked 104 out of 248 schools on the U.S. News and World Report magazine's "2009 America's Best Colleges" list, marking the second year in a row the College has made the list.

"We know we compete on a national level. Saint Mary's excellent faculty and our commitment to educate the whole person set us apart. The real proof of our success can be found in our graduates," President Carol Ann Mooney said in a press release Aug. 22 earlier this school year.

In addition, the College was named a "Best in the Midwest" school by the Princeton Review. Out of the 2,500 four-year colleges, Saint Mary's ranks in the top 25 percent, according to a press release from earlier this year.

This is the sixth year Saint Mary's has received this designation.

Contact Madeline Buckley at [mbuckley@nd.edu](mailto:mbuckley@nd.edu) and Ashley Charnley at [acharn01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:acharn01@saintmarys.edu)

### February 24

A Notre Dame student is shot in the arm after mistakenly attempting to enter a neighbor's house. The 23-year-old female was treated at Memorial Hospital in South Bend.

### March 30

Students from the Progressive Student Alliance meet with University President Fr. John Jenkins asking that sexual orientation be added to the University's nondiscrimination clause. Jenkins rejected the appeal, but asked for suggestions to make Notre Dame more welcoming to GLBTQ students.

### April 24

Sophomore Kevin Healey dies at 20 after a battle with cancer. Healey was diagnosed with osteosarcoma, a type of malignant bone cancer, in December of 2006. Residents of Sorin College, Healey's home on campus, said Healey's courage and strength were an inspiration.

## January

## February

## March

## April

## May

### February 12

The student body elects junior Grant Schmidt and sophomore Cynthia Weber as student body president and student body vice president. Schmidt previously served as student body vice president. The duo beat juniors Laura Burdick and Derek Sanchez with 51.9 percent of the vote.

### March 20

Obama accepts University President Fr. John Jenkins' invitation to speak at the Commencement Ceremony. Obama will also receive an honorary degree from the University. Students rallied in support and condemnation of Jenkins' decision.

### April 27

Mary Ann Glendon declines the Laetare Medal in a letter to Fr. Jenkins, writing that she was "dismayed" by the news that Obama would receive an honorary degree. Glendon initially accepted the award, marking the first time the award was accepted and then declined since its inception in 1883.



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ANSWER  
THE CALL



# Graduates recognized for outstanding achievements

By LIZ O'DONNELL  
News Writer

Several members of the graduating class have been recognized nationally and by the University for outstanding achievements during their time at Notre Dame.

Andrew Manion, a senior from Coon Rapids, Minn., was awarded one of the prestigious Churchill Scholarships this March. The award, valued at about \$44,000, will allow Manion to pursue graduate work at Cambridge University.

One of only 14 college students nationwide to be presented with this award, Manion will study for the certificate in advanced studies in pure mathematics at Cambridge.

"It will be challenging but fun to adapt to life in the U.K. without ever having spent a significant amount of time outside the U.S.," he said. "I've also heard the math courses at Cambridge are very difficult."

He is the first student at Notre Dame to win the award since the program's inception in 1963.

Manion said he hopes to make the "most of the major European capitals and see the museums and landmarks, as well as experiencing the musical culture through the various orchestras and opera houses."

In addition to this national award, Notre Dame's Division of Student Affairs also awarded four seniors with Student Leadership Awards.

The John W. Gardner Student Leadership Award was presented to Megan Rybarczk, a senior from Muncie, Ind. This accolade is given to a graduating senior who "exemplifies the ideals of Notre Dame through outstanding volunteer activities reaching beyond the University," according to a press release.

In addition to participating in international service pro-

grams in Ecuador and Haiti, Rybarczk also took part in service trips to New Orleans and Appalachia.

"I have been privileged to have received much more than I have given in all of the service activities in which I have participated over the years," she said. "I plan to take what I have learned and apply it to the work I plan to do in the future, which is to hopefully finally give back more than I have been given by serving medically underserved communities within the United States or elsewhere as a physician."

Javena Waked, a senior from Winter Springs, Fla., was presented with the Rev. Leonard Collins, C.S.C. Award.

The award is given to a graduating senior who has made a substantial personal effort to advance the interests of Notre Dame students, according to the press release.

Waked served in the freshmen and junior class councils and was also sophomore class secretary and senior class vice president.

In addition to her commitment to student government, she also served as a resident assistant in Howard Hall.

Waked said her ability in being able to bring her experience in student government to other activities as a great accomplishment. As a co-leader for the Senior Retreat, Waked said she was able to

use what she had learned as a member of student government and apply it when helping to run the event.

Former Editor-in-Chief of The Observer Chris Hine, originally from West Pittston, Pa., was presented with The Denny Moore Award For Excellence in Journalism.

The award is presented to a senior who exemplifies the qualities for which Moore was known including personal integrity and character, writing ability and commitment to the University. In addition to serving as Editor-in-Chief his senior year, Hine previously interned as a sports writer for The Los Angeles Times, and will intern at the New York Times this summer, also as a sports writer.

Daniel Rodgers, a senior from Phoenix, Md., was presented with The Ray Siegfried Award for Leadership Excellence.

This award was established in 2006 in memory of Mr. Siegfried, who was both an alumnus and University Trustee.

Rodger's activities range from various service programs to a number of interhall sports teams. He participated in both the South Africa Public Health Program as well as the Center for Social Concern's Urban Plunge program.

Aside from being a four-year member of Siegfried's cross-country, ice hockey, lacrosse, and soccer teams, he also served as president of the boxing club and was a three-time Bengal Bouts champion.

Aside from being a four-year member of Siegfried's cross-country, ice hockey, lacrosse, and soccer teams, he also served as president of the boxing club and was a three-time Bengal Bouts champion.

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Manion

*"I have been privileged to have received much more than I have given in all of the service activities in which I have participated in over the years."*

**Megan Rybarczk  
John W. Gardner Student  
Leadership Award  
recipient**

## Businesses prepare for increase in commerce



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

**The Morris Inn is booked to capacity due to the influx of people on campus for Commencement weekend.**

By AMANDA GRAY  
News Writer

Like any other major campus event, Commencement weekend and the surrounding days have left few hotel rooms open and business booming, according to local business owners.

Aaron Perri, general manager of Legends of Notre Dame, said there are a few weekends out of the year — like football weekends and Junior Parents' Weekend — that set business flowing.

He said Commencement weekend is not exempt from this list.

"Legends of Notre Dame Restaurant and Alehouse Pub is impacted just as much as everywhere else, if not more," Perri said.

Shannon McKaskle, the rooms manager at the Morris Inn, said that on-campus businesses have a unique situation.

"Our situation is slightly different than hotels that sit off-campus," McKaskle said.

Factors like proximity to campus have aided the Morris Inn to a sold-out booking for Friday and Saturday, she said.

Sold-out booking for Commencement weekend is typical, she said.

McKaskle said business at the Morris Inn has picked up slightly

in the past month.

"We have experienced a bit of a slow down because of the economy, but not now," McKaskle said.

The Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore is also expecting an increase in business from Commencement weekend, marketing manager Kristin Blitch said.

"We'll see strong sales in Diploma Frames and other gift items as grads and parents are looking for the perfect momento to cap off their educational experience," she said.

Blitch said the Bookstore has seen an increase from last year in cap and gown orders.

"The biggest difference we've seen thus far is in the number of orders we've received for caps and gowns," she said. "It appears that almost every student who could participate in this graduation will."

Blitch said the economy has led to some fallbacks in business this year, but she said she's optimistic about turnout for the weekend.

"Graduation is an event that people will always find a way to attend because it marks such a monumental step in the life of a student," she said.

Contact Amanda Gray at  
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## TO THE FINE CLASS OF 2009

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# "Act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with your God." —MICAH 6:8

The University of Notre Dame Center for Social Concerns wishes to honor the following graduates of the Class of 2009 who have committed a year or more to full-time postgraduate service. Our thoughts and prayers are with you as you go forth.

Allison Ackerman	Charles Cummings	Leeah Kohley	Christopher Ochoa	Christina Sensabaugh
Karla Albite	Tim Cummings	Lauren Kopsky	Theophilus Ossei-Anto	Christina Shakour
Jaime Amrhein	Katie Day	Daniel Kuzma	Katherine Palumbo	Brittany Shelton
Michael Angulo	John Doughton	Christopher Labadie	Katherine Paquette	Dana Sherry
Gregory Arbogast	Erin Dowd	Joe Langenfeld	Courtney Parry	Luis Silva
John Avila	Emma Driscoll	Melissa Lee	Leann Parson	Erin Simon
Marie Bader	Katie Dunn	Elizabeth Lefebvre	Danielle Patzner	Kelly Simon
Emily Balthasar	Stephen Eckart	Kate Leszkowicz	Gavin Payne	Nicholas Simonson
Kyle Barrett-Smith	Amy Elliot	Analyze Lipari	Daniel Peck	Molly Slavin
Stephen Beach	Rose Fisher	Mark Loehr	Mark Pedersen	Claire Sloss
Marisa Behan	Erin Fitzpatrick	Jaime Luna	Francesca Pennino	Kevin Smith
Nathan Bernardi	Drago Flores	Dan Mahon	Shanna Pereira	Jessica Stouffer
Robert Bernardin	Sean Gaffney	Jessica Mannen	Maria Pham	Megan Sweitzer
Susan Bigelow	Julie Garcia	Andrew Masak	Anthony Piskurich	Kricky Szczepaniec
Joella Bitter	Emily Garnett	Michael Massengale	Jessica Pollum	James Toner
Megan Black	Catherine Garza Hake	Katherine Mattoon	Mary Frances Popit	Joseph Tsai
Sarah Boeding	Matthew Gelchion	Melissa Maxwell	Erin Ramsey	Lisa Tuholski
Caitlin Booth	Christina Golubski	Brendan McCarthy	Justin Rees	Gregory Vallejos
Elena Brandewie	Michael Gotsch	Michael McDonald	Daniel Reimer Jr.	Kevin Veselik
Jeffry Branham	Thomas Haan	Kathleen McDonnell	Andrew Reynolds	Leora Wallace
Allyson Brantley	Patrick Hagan	Kerry McGuire	Erin Richardson	John Wanek
Cynthia Brenner	Greer Hannan	Lourdes Meraz	Kathryn Rivard	Glen Water
Martha Calcutt	Ashley Hardy	Michael Merz	Kyle Rocca	Michelle Webb
Nicholas Caprino	Michael Hawking	Michael Mesterham	Heidi Rocha	Faustin Weber
Thomas Castillo	Kathleen Hedrick	Agata Michalska	Aisa Rocha	Thomas Weiler
Richard Chapman	Caitlin Hildebrand	Stacy Mick	Daniel Rodgers	James Welle
Allison Ciesielski	Lucy Hirt	Andrew Miller	Jennifer Rolfs	Laura Wilczek
Kelly Clancy	Patricia Hughes	Sarah Miller	Margie Rosmonowski	Alisha Wilkinson
Christine Clark	Caitlin Ivester	Geoffrey Mooney	Robert Rusca	Bryan Winther
Drew Clary	Kathleen Janik	Miranda Moyer	Keenan Ryan	Margaret Wong
Barry Cleary	Dana Jason	Adrienne Murphy	Amanda Ryan	Nicole Yergler
Michael Clemente	Rebecca Jones	Caitlin Murphy	Michele Sagala	Whitney Young
Bethany Comfort	Amy Karwoski	Patrick Needham	Eric Saito	Alyssa Zamora
Margaret Condit	Jonathan Kearney	Emalia Norton	Abigail Salazar	Eileen Zander
Erin Conway	Damian Kearney	Adi Nott	Rachel Santay	Tesia Zientek
Catherine Crecelius	Robert Kessler	Kristine Nugent	Teresa Scherping	Daniel Zimmerman
Margaret Culhane	Kinzie Kiser	Elizabeth Nye	Gisela Schmidt	...and many more.



UNIVERSITY OF  
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Center for Social Concerns

# Notre Dame ROTC to commission 47 officers

Lieutenant General Ted F. Bowlds of the Hanscom Air Force Base to address the candidates on Saturday in DPAC

By LIZ O'DONNELL  
News Writer

Notre Dame's three Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) will commission 47 officers Saturday in the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

Lieutenant General Ted F. Bowlds, a commander of the Electronic Systems Center (ESC) at the Hanscom Air Force Base in Bedford, Mass., will address the candidates during the Commissioning Ceremony.

At the ceremony, he will address members from all areas of the military when Notre Dame commissions 13 officers from the Army, 12 from the Air Force, 16 from the Navy and four from the Marines.

In his current position, Lt. Gen. Bowlds manages the ESC, which acquires command and control systems for the Air Force.

Bowlds has received many personal decorations, which include the Distinguished Service Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal and Air Force Achievement

*"[My ROTC training] has given me a stronger ethical base for when I go out into the real world. Beyond the army, the situations I face may not be life or death, but I have the training and the background to deal with difficult situations."*

Courtney Collins  
Army ROTC

Medal.

Courtney Collins, a senior Army ROTC member from St. Louis, Mo., said the program has taught her a lot about responsibility and the leadership that comes with it.

"[My ROTC training] has given me a stronger ethical base for when I go out into the real world," she said. "Beyond the army, the situations I face may not be life or death, but I have the training and the background to deal with difficult situations."

Battalion Commander Justin Figueredo, also a member of the Army ROTC, said he feels confident about the future.

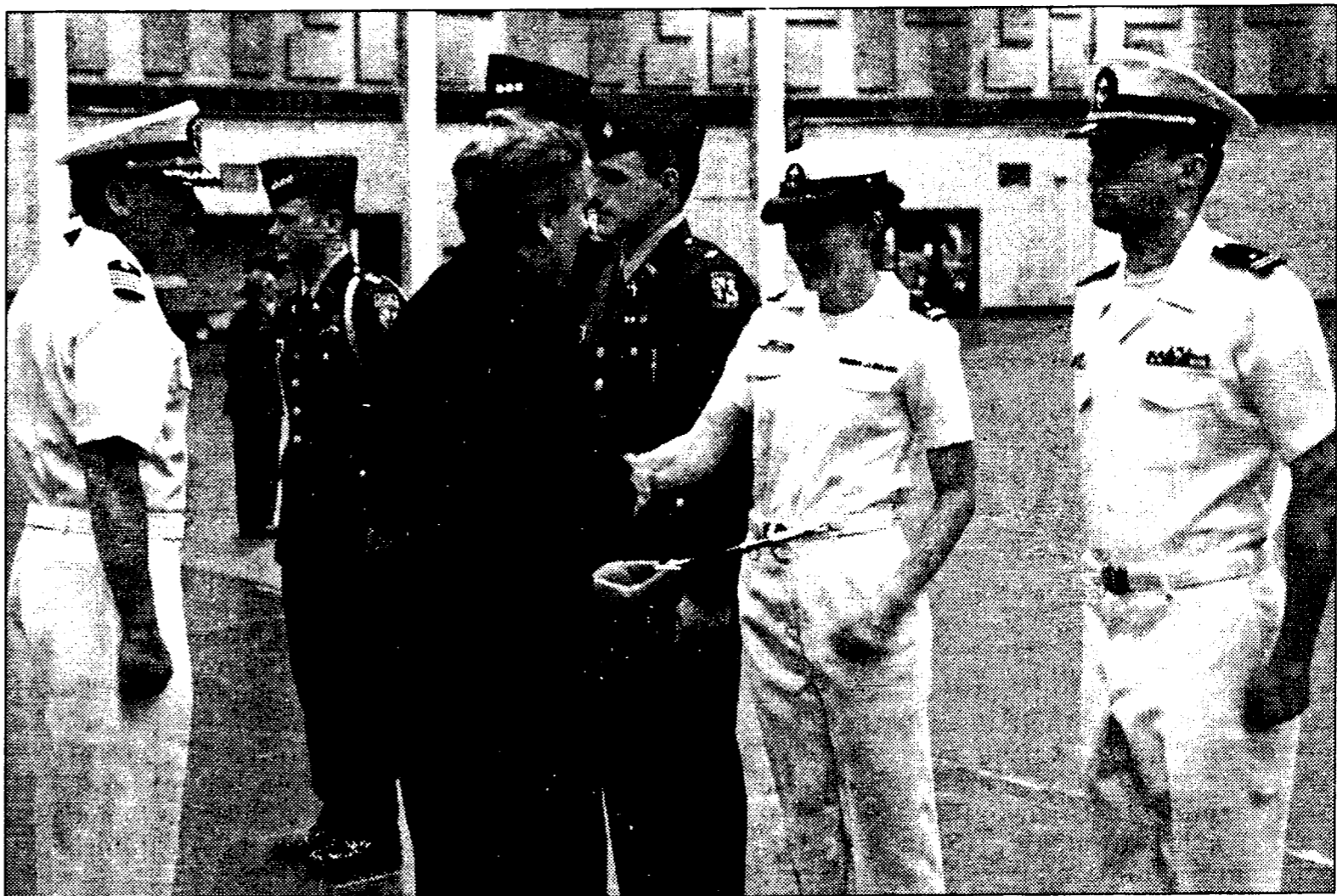
"I definitely feel more confident from the beginning of the year," he said. "Notre Dame ROTC does a great job preparing ourselves as leaders."

Figueredo will complete basic officer courses at Fort Sill, Okla., and will then be stationed in Hawaii.

He credited his instructors as role models who have set the bar high for their students.

"The instructors serve as great examples," he said.

"They really give us something to model ourselves



Observer file photo

ROTC cadets greet University President Fr. John Jenkins at the Pass in Review ceremony April 17, 2008 in the Joyce Center. 47 officers will be commissioned this Saturday.

after."

Reflecting on their experiences as a part of the ROTC program here, both cadets said the toughest part of it was the responsibility of leading their peers and friends.

"Leading peers was the hardest part because you're telling your friends what to do," Collins said.

She will undergo basic training at Fort Benning, Ga. before serving for a year in Korea. Collins said that it was nice to be part of such a tight-knit community.

"I think being a part of the community at a fairly large school was nice," Collins said. "It was nice to have a community of people who have the same values as you and who go through the same experiences as you that other students can't relate to."

Figueredo said he has not only made friends in his division but has made friends in all the other ones as well.

"I have friends in the Navy ROTC program in addition to my friends in the Army ROTC program," he said. "My

roommate is even from the Navy ROTC program."

Collins said the campus community made it easier for her to participate in the program.

"I'm glad the Notre Dame community is so supportive of ROTC, especially because there are schools where ROTC isn't even allowed on campus," Collins said. "The student body as a whole is very supportive of ROTC and it helps a lot."

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## Randel to speak at Graduate ceremony

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY  
Saint Mary's Editor

Don Michael Randel, president of the Andrew Mellon W. Foundation, will be the keynote speaker at Notre Dame's Graduate School Commencement ceremony Saturday.

Randel, who is also receiving an honorary law degree at Sunday's Commencement ceremony, is an "internationally prominent historian of music" according to University press release. His work focuses on the Middle Ages and Renaissance, but he also lectures on Arabic and Latin American popular music.

According to the press release, Randel is editor of the Harvard Dictionary of

Music, the Harvard Biographical Dictionary of Music and the Harvard Concise Dictionary of Music and Musicians.

He taught at Cornell University for 32 years, serving as the dean of arts and letters for a time. Randel also spent five years as the university's provost.

In 2000, he became the president of the University of Chicago where during his tenure he headed a \$2 billion fundraising campaign, which was the largest in the school's history.

He is an alumnus of Princeton with undergraduate, masters and doctoral degrees in music.

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acharn01@saintmarys.edu

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for coverage of  
Commencement  
weekend.

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In  
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Arts and Letters/Engineering

**Class of 2009**

**Craig Borchard**  
**Evan Lintz**  
**Jon Strong**

# Parry finishes top of class with 3.99

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY  
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's valedictorian, senior Courtney Parry, said she is very grateful to her professors and the faculty who have helped her throughout her four years on campus.

"I owe a great deal of gratitude to the professors and faculty I have learned from over the past four years," Parry said. "My professors have inspired me to want to learn more about their discipline, and have excited me about my own ability to make a difference in the world." Parry, a mathematics and economics double major with a 3.99 GPA according to a press release, was not planning on becoming valedictorian.

"I was not working toward this goal specifically, and was very surprised when I first learned about the designation. I had honestly given my class rank very little thought prior to learning about my status," she said.

Parry has also been involved in many other organizations on campus. She is the student member of the Board of Trustees and is currently administrative resident advisor for Holy Cross Hall after two years of being a resident advisor in the same building, the press release said. Parry has been a member of the math honor society, Pi Mu Epsilon, since her sophomore year and is now president of the Saint Mary's chapter.

She said she enjoyed her math classes and fellow math

students.

"I would certainly say that in general, I have enjoyed the tight-knit math department," Parry said. "Math majors can frequently be found in the math resource room working in small groups, trying different problem-solving techniques."

She also recognized that her four years here have gone by very quickly.

"Though it sounds a bit cliché, I would certainly advise upcoming students to make the most of every minute of their time as a student," Parry said. "Four years goes by so quickly."

Parry said her fondest memories were not necessarily found in the classroom.

One of her favorite college memories "was presenting a paper at an economics conference at Bowling Green State University in early April," Parry said.

After graduation, Parry plans to participate in the Engineering, Science, Technology and Entrepreneurship Excellence Masters (ESTEEM) at Notre Dame, which is a joint program between the College of Science, the College of Engineering and the Mendoza Business School, she said.

"I would encourage upcoming students to always try their hardest and work to make each day better than the day that came before," Parry said.

Most of all, she said she "will miss working with such inspiring students and dedicated faculty."

Parry will be graduating on May 16 at noon on the LeMans Green.

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Parry

# SMC commends professors, students

*Accomplishments in service, civic engagement recognized by College*

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY  
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's recognized three members of the Saint Mary's community by handing out the St. Catherine Medal, the Spes Unica Award and the Maria Pieta Award during the College's Honors Convocation May 5.

According to a College press release, sophomore Alicia Wilkins received the St. Catherine's Medal for demonstrating "high standards of personal excellence and scholarship and has contributed to the College community in the spirit of Christian leadership." The award is given in honor of St. Catherine of Alexandria who is the patron saint of women scholars.

Wilkins is an education major who was recognized for her "tireless volunteer efforts in local schools," the release said. She spends time working with the Office for Civic and Social Engagement (OSCE) at Saint Mary's to volunteer within the South Bend community.

Wilkins has spent over 500

hours working with the Saint Mary's College Academy of Tutoring (CAT), which works with Title 1 schools in the area.

She was also recently awarded by the College with the Patricia Arch Green Award for "her exemplary service to the community's children," the press release said.

The Spes Unica Award recognized mathematics professor Charles Peltier for his "eminent service to Saint Mary's College," according to the press release.

Peltier has been teaching at the College since 1974, leading math courses such as Introduction to Statistics and Statistical Applications. He is also the College Marshal for Honors Convocation and Commencement, and has also served as secretaries of the Faculty Assembly, Academic Standards Committee and Academic Affairs Committee.

According to the release, Peltier was recently elected treasurer of the Indiana section of the professional mathematics organization.

This year's Maria Pieta

Award was awarded to Thomas Fogle, a professor in the department of biology. The award was established in 1976 in honor of Sister Maria Pieta who

served as a teacher and administrator at the College, according to the press release. It "recognizes the quality of teaching done in courses for freshmen and sophomores," the press release said.

Fogle has been at Saint Mary's for almost 30 years, and is well respected by his colleagues.

"When parents ask me why their daughter should select Saint Mary's College, I tell them their daughter will get a great education here. This person is one of the people I mention by name," Professor Nancy Nekvasil, chair of the department of biology, said in the press release.

Fogle teaches several Biology courses. One among them is a two-week Ecuador/Galapagos Summer Study Program that is offered every other year.

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Fogle



Wilkins



Peltier

# Senior awarded for 'outstanding' service

*Caitlin Brodmerkel demonstrates 'leadership' and 'dedication'*

By ASHLEY CHARNLEY  
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's College will be honoring senior Caitlin Brodmerkel with the Outstanding Senior Award for 2009.

According to a press release, every year the Alumnae Association Board of Directors presents this award to a senior "who exemplifies the spirit and values of the College," according to a press release.

The Board searches for candidates who "demonstrate scholarship, leadership and outstanding dedication to Saint Mary's," the release said.

The senior is chosen from nominations submitted by students, faculty and staff. Brodmerkel received nominations from two administrators, the press release said.

Brodmerkel is a nursing major who spent the summer before her senior year in Kyarusozzi, Uganda. She spent 10 weeks working with the Sisters of the Holy Cross at their health clinic, according to the press release. She also spent time at St. Joseph's Secondary School, which is run by the Brothers of the Holy Cross.

Brodmerkel was a member of the Saint Mary's cross-country team and served as the team's captain for her junior and senior year.

During her four years at SMC, she participated in Circle K, Dance Marathon, the Student Nurses Association and the Student Athlete

Advisory Committee. In addition, Brodmerkel served the South Bend community by spending time at the Sister Maura Brannick Health Center, Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center Outreach Program, St. Margaret's House and Marquette Primary, the press release said.

Brodmerkel studied abroad in Ecuador and also participated in two service trips to Appalachia. Brodmerkel has continued to help the Sisters' clinic in Uganda by starting the Web site, ugandavillage.com, which has raised nearly \$10,000.

Brodmerkel will graduate summa cum laude with a 3.88 GPA and will be attending graduate school at the University of Indianapolis in the fall.

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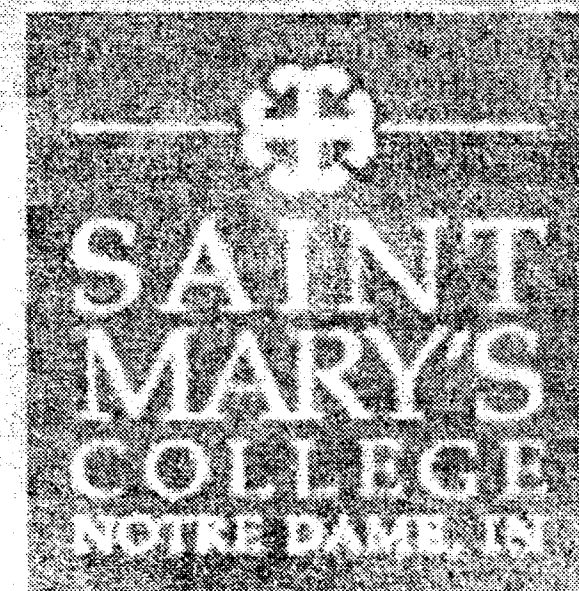


Brodmerkel

Please recycle The Observer.

## QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE CLASS OF 2009

- ★ 42% of students participated in study abroad opportunities
- ★ 69% reported they actively participated in service opportunities
- ★ 8% reported they'll go into service programs after graduation
- ★ 1.5% reported they'll be joining the armed forces
- ★ 33 states are represented in the class



# ND Response organizes demonstration on campus

Coalition will hold 'prayerful and constructive' series of events over duration of 24-hour period

By AARON STEINER  
News Writer

ND Response, a coalition of 11 Notre Dame student groups opposed to President Obama's commencement visit, will hold their biggest event yet when they begin a "prayerful and constructive" demonstration Saturday night, a series of events that is scheduled to stretch nearly 24 hours.

The ad hoc group composed of 11 student clubs is leading the only on-campus demonstration scheduled this weekend in response to Obama's visit. The group will host a prayer vigil, outdoor mass, rally and an alternative event — a meditation — for seniors boycotting their graduation.

A May 12 press release from the coalition said they aim to "literally fill Notre Dame's South Quad with Notre Dame and pro-life supporters from around the country."

The group has invited anyone who is "interested in respectfully and constructively standing alongside us as we

give witness to Notre Dame's Catholic identity and affirm the sanctity of life," according to ND Response's Web site.

The demonstration events will begin Saturday at 9:30 p.m. with all-night prayer vigil in the chapel of Alumni Hall. Local Bishop D'Arcy, who is boycotting the ceremony based on the University's invitation to Obama, is scheduled to be present at the beginning of the vigil.

Events on Sunday, the day when primary Commencement ceremonies will take place on Notre Dame's campus, begin at 10:45 a.m. with a Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament in the Alumni Hall chapel, moving outdoors at 11:15 a.m. for a Mass.

The outdoor Mass will be celebrated on South Quad outside the Rockne Memorial building.

The primary event of the day, a rally, will begin immediately after the Mass on South Quad.

Some six speakers will be present for the rally, including Fr. John J. Raphael, principal of St. Augustine High School in New Orleans, La., and a Notre Dame alumnus;

Elizabeth Berger, former chair of the board of the Woman's Care Center and a Notre Dame alumna; Professor David Solomon of the philosophy department and director of the Notre Dame Center for Ethics & Culture; Fr. Wilson Miscamble, a professor of history at Notre Dame; and Lacy Dodd, an alumna of the University who also serves on the board of directors of the Room at the Inn in Charlotte, N.C.

Then, at 2 p.m., ND Response will hold a "Class of 2009 Vigil for Life" at the Grotto on Notre Dame's campus.

"Those supporters in attendance will be urged to join seniors who have decided not to attend graduation at a prayer vigil on campus," according to the group's Web site.

"Fr. Frank Pavone, national

director of Priests for Life, will be leading a Scriptural Rosary during this prayer vigil," the Web site states.

A post-commencement honor ceremony and party are scheduled for 6 p.m. Sunday, held by ND Affirm Life, a national coalition group organized in response to the Obama invitation, at the State Theatre in downtown South Bend.

ND Response, although having coordinated events with outside organizations, is not

officially associated with any outside groups.

While inviting those outside the University community to the demonstrations, the coalition states on their Web site that graphic images "not in keeping with the tone of this rally" will not be permitted on campus and those violating this request may be escorted from campus by security.

Contact Aaron Steiner at [asteiner@nd.edu](mailto:asteiner@nd.edu)



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Supporters gathered April 5 at a prayer rally in front of the Main Building, which featured speeches about abortion.

## An Open Letter to the Students of Notre Dame

**What's the big deal with Notre Dame honoring President Obama?** Shouldn't we be happy that we are at a point where our country can elect a minority to be President? Obama brings important gifts to the office, most particularly his unique background, his intellect, his eloquence and his ability to inspire people. So he's pro-choice. That's only one issue, isn't it?

These are the types of questions that are currently dividing the ND family. And they will continue to be asked long after this year's graduation. This is not a time for politics and rhetoric; it is a time for sound scientific, moral and ethical reasoning. Let's boil it down a little:

- (1) **Human life begins at conception; that is a scientific fact.** Biology majors, help us out. Every graduate level biological textbook explains that human life begins when a sperm from a man fertilizes an egg from a woman. That's the moment of conception - when a separate biological entity with its own unique DNA begins to live.
- (2) A basic principle of natural law is that **it is always wrong to intentionally kill innocent human beings.** The intentional killing of innocent children is intrinsically different from the intentional killing of guilty and dangerous criminals or the soldiers of aggressively advancing armies. Some killings can be justified under moral theories of self-defense. No theory of self-defense justifies the murder of an innocent child.
- (3) President Obama isn't a bystander in the abortion debate; **Obama is the abortion movement's star point guard.** His recently enacted policies have opened up Federal taxpayer funding for abortions and experimentation on live human embryos; and they threaten "conscience clauses" that allow health care workers to refuse to take part in medical procedures (like abortions and sterilizations) that offend their moral conscience. His appointments to crucial cabinet positions reflect his pro-abortion views. And he has promised to do more.

**By honoring President Obama, ND is presenting him as someone to be admired and emulated.** That's what it means, "to honor." Yet, the President's policies concerning the most basic human life issues are ethically and morally wrong. This is the type of conflict that the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops sought to avoid when it said that: "The Catholic community and Catholic institutions should not honor those who act in defiance of our fundamental moral principles. They should not be given awards, honors or platforms which would suggest support for their actions."

**Let's be honest, Obama's not coming to ND for a debate.** He's coming because the administration thinks that the "prestige" of having a sitting President on the ND stage takes precedence over the concerns of the teaching office of the Catholic Church. And for that, the words of Christ are instructive: "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?"

Notre Dame is not USC or Harvard. It is a Catholic university that cannot separate itself from the Catholic Church without losing its soul. I want President Obama to be a great president, but his heart needs to be awakened and his mind enlightened about the sanctity of each human life. In light of the views that Obama currently believes, promotes and enacts, **the University's honoring President Obama is a mistake.**

Yours in Christ,

Monsignor Christopher Nalty ND '84

Msgr. Christopher Nalty is a 1984 graduate of Notre Dame. He also received a JD and an MBA from Georgetown. After practicing law for six years, he entered the seminary and was ordained a Catholic priest in 1999. Msgr. Nalty recently completed a five year appointment as a Vatican official, and is currently a pastor in New Orleans.

## THE OBSERVER

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## What I really learned at Notre Dame

Before I begin, I need to apologize to my parents. They invested all that time and energy on me and my education, and all they really needed to do was pay rent for me in the house I spent most of the last nine months living in.

I learned more there anyways.

The first thing I learned was the importance of cultural diversity.

Diversity doesn't just mean basic differences between people that you hear about most of the time in cultural-based classes, such as racial or gender diversity. (Sure, I lived with a Filipino the last three years, but it would be wrong to pigeonhole everyone's differences into what they look like — especially at a place like Notre Dame.)

As a group we embraced the subtle differences that exist among people from the South, engineering majors and even Zahmbies. Without these different cultures, I never would have listened to anywhere near as much Toby Keith, couldn't have built a structure to prop up a hose in Lake Geneva or ... well I didn't learn that much from the Zahm guy.

That diversity also helped us out this year because everyone had their own particular skill set that made everything easier. If we needed a fridge moved from just one person,

we had a guy for that. If we needed to know who the Tsar of All the Russias was in 1815, we had a guy for that. If we needed someone to run 13 miles with you no problem, we had a guy for that, too.

I also learned about how important it was to remember what really matters.

Sure, when you first got a bad grade, you likely weren't very pleased about it. When I got a C- on a freshman philosophy test (damn you David Hume), I was very upset at the time, but I think I've just about moved on by now.

But when you are with your friends and something great happens, it's something you will always look at and smile.

Living together for a year, obviously we've been through a lot together. So that we would always have our memories from senior year, we decided to make a mnemonic device to help remember what happened.

We took a break when we got nine pages in 15 minutes.

But when you want to look back at your time in college, I would bet dollars to doughnuts that you are going to want to reminisce about things like porch sitting or the Kahuna and not worrying about that paper you didn't do so well on.

The last important lesson I learned from 627 St. Peter St. was how much I needed to cherish my last year here at Notre Dame.

There probably won't be another time in any of our lives when we can get away with the sort of things we did here. I really don't think the best way to prepare for a real job than

staying up until about 4 a.m. to play Rock Band with friends, but it seemed like a great idea to prepare for class some days.

There were so many things I did this year I couldn't have imagined doing coming in as a freshman, and just about all of them were great experiences at the time and will remain great memories for years to come.

The old cliché about college is that these are the best four years of your life. That will most likely turn out not to be true for most of us, myself included. There are many great things to live in the future, and many more great experiences and memories to make.

But when I look back at that list from this year, I know that this will definitely crack the top four.

*Jay Fitzpatrick was a double major in history and Arabic Studies who lived in Dillon Hall for three years and, obviously, off-campus senior year. He will be working for the federal government next year, although he isn't exactly sure what his job entails.*

*At his time with The Observer he is most proud of the fact that he can now name the nicknames for all 120 Division IA football teams.*

*He would like to thank his parents and his fiancée for all of their love and support during his time at Notre Dame. Without you three he couldn't have accomplished anywhere near the things that he has.*

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Jay Fitzpatrick

Managing  
Editor  
Emeritus



Katie Kohler

Assistant  
Managing  
Editor  
Emeritus

You learn a lot when you get to senior year. I have learned that eating Penn Station three times a week is wrong. That you have to study to get good grades. That when you leave your license on the floor at

Corby's, sometimes you won't get it back. That senioritis is, in fact, a real and contagious disease. But more than anything, I learned that four years is a very, very short time.

Living with people, eating with people, learning with people forces

you to make fast friends, which is why and how I am friends with the people I am now. My friends and I were talking the other day about our freshman year roommates and how we became friends even though we didn't live together. We became friends because we went to the bathroom at the same time or went to Vendoland at three in the morning. It's the little things that brought us all together.

If I had any advice to give to a

freshman, I'd say a few things. A) Go to class. B) Appreciate the dining hall food because once you live off campus, you have to fend for yourself. C) Be spontaneous. Just do things that make you happy because, like I said earlier, four years is a very, very, very short time.

When I think about my four years, it's basically impossible to do without thinking about The Observer. During Frosh-O, I walked into the basement of South Dining Hall and listened to some very intimidating people talk about the paper. I picked up my first story about the opening school Mass and butchered it. Surprisingly, I decided to keep writing and with the help of some wonderful seniors, I got the swing of things. Then I started work in the office. Then I became Assistant News Editor. Then I was the Saint Mary's Editor. Then I was the Assistant Managing Editor. Then I was working in the office three days a week at all hours of the day. Thinking back, sometimes I wonder why I sacrificed so much time for The O. But then, I think about all the doors it opened up for me.

I met some great people, learned a lot and became a part of something really great. Even though some people bash The Observer or don't read it, so

many other people rely on it for campus news or at least a good Viewpoint war. We worked so hard everyday and I am proud that I was a part of it ... I also met some pretty cool people in the process.

So basically, I loved college very much, and I am so happy that I decided to come to Saint Mary's. Even though the job market isn't too promising, I wish everyone the best and hope I run into people in the most random places. Happy graduation and while not many people will get this reference, hey Pothees and goodbye BroooOOOOothers.

*Katie Kohler is a senior political science major. After graduation, she is working for Arlen Specter, yes, Arlen Specter, in D.C. for the summer. After that, she is on God's good humor. Katie enjoys Degraasi, EZ-Mac, her Snuggie, Titanic and long walks on the beach. She does not enjoy jellyfish or golf. She wants to thank everyone who paid for her education (cough, Marmie and Jeff-Z) and wants to say haaaaaay to her sisters, Meemerz, Tare and Rat. Peace out homes.*

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### QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"I am careful not to confuse excellence with perfection. Excellence, I can reach for; perfection is God's business."*

Michael J. Fox  
U.S. actor

### QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"Never let the future disturb you. You will meet it, if you have to, with the same weapons of reason which today arm you against the present."*

Marcus Aurelius Antoninus  
Roman Emperor

## Uncertain futures

The last time I sat in the JACC for a graduation was four years ago. It was my sister's graduation and I truthfully couldn't tell you who gave the commencement speech — I do remember spotting Fr. Jenkins closing his eyes for a few minutes on stage, it was just that memorable. For myself and all of my classmates, that won't be an issue.

The class of 2009 has gone through a lot since we first stepped foot on campus. We were here for Fr. Jenkins inauguration and got to see Tom Brokaw moderate a debate. And now as we leave we deal with another newly inaugurated president, granted it's the President of the United States. We've dealt with an airplane carrying a picture of a 10-week fetus flying around campus and past our apartment windows for the past few



Deirdre Krasula

Assistant  
Managing  
Editor  
Emeritus

weeks. But I don't think I'm alone when I say that I'm pretty indifferent at this point.

Yes I'm frustrated that graduation could potentially be a circus and that we might have to line up at 11 a.m. for security purposes. But the thing is, we're graduating at a unique time in history and while it might be frustrating and somewhat scary, I'm also excited.

We get to listen to what President Obama has to say and while everyone may not agree with his beliefs, we are one of three schools in the country that will get to say the president was their commencement speaker.

And while some of us will be headed into the corporate world or graduate school, not everyone knows where they will be a year from now. Yes I don't have a plan right ahead of me, but a lot of people don't, the chaos en masse is somewhat settling. While the current economy has made the job hunt harder than ever, there has been some blessing in it. I'm not willing to settle for something that I won't be excited to do, I know that I want to continue in my journalism career and find a job that I love going to every morning (or

possibly every night). So while I'm stressed that my immediate future isn't planned, I know that my long term future will be something I'm happy with.

I think my four years at Notre Dame have allowed me to settle into that mentality. I poured my heart and soul into the relationships I made here, and those people have allowed me to be confident in who I am and where I'm going. My friends are what I'll miss most about the Golden Dome. That's why my uncertainty has become less and less frustrating as senior year progressed. I stopped worrying about what my first job would be out of college, after all most people hate their first job anyway, and I started focusing on enjoying what little time I had left. I remember my sister telling me that the years seem to get shorter and shorter as you get older — she could not have been more right. It seems like yesterday I was walking around Bond Quad trying not to cry as my family drove away. I'm almost positive there will be tears again this weekend.

I'm ready to move on, I'm happy I won't have to sit in a classroom for potentially a very long time, but I'm

not ready to walk away and start over again. I came to Notre Dame as the only person from my high school, and I walk away with the best friends I've ever had. I wouldn't trade my four years here for anything and I know that no matter what happens I will always look back and remember the laughs and the smiles, not the fights and the drama. I look forward to figuring out what path I'll follow, and I know that I'll always keep Notre Dame close to my heart, and my friends on speed dial.

*Deirdre Krasula will graduate with a degree in Finance and English. She doesn't have a job lined up yet, but is still in the interviewing process for any and all broadcast journalism jobs. She would like to thank all the Badin girls, Katie Rose, Katie, Becki, Hannah, Megan, VyVy and Jacquelin, for always being there no matter what. She would also like to thank her parents and her sister who have been her support system since day one and have always encouraged her to chase her dreams.*

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## Words of wisdom

Do you remember that song about sunscreen? It wasn't really a song, to be honest. It was more of a list, a collection of advice seemingly gleaned from someone's life adventures. I remember the singer/narrator discussing the difference between moving to NorCal and moving to SoCal. He also mentioned that the wisest people he knew still had no idea where their lives were headed, along with a slew of other random observations. Each had the air of experience, despite bordering on cheese until the song's final second.

The anchor point, you might recall, was wearing sunscreen. He told us to be smart and lather up, to metaphorically protect ourselves from the bad rays that could break through our barriers. Or, you know, to ward off skin cancer and its malignant brethren.

Even today, I still don't remember to wear sunscreen every time I go outside. I should, given that I practically reflect sunlight during the winter months, and have yet to adjust to the oncoming summer sun beyond the errant freckle on my nose.

But beyond the sunscreen, beyond the pseudo-wisdom, was an idea that I actually liked: taking a minute (or more) to tell someone else what you've learned from life. The exercise might seem kind of pompous coming from a 22-year-old undergraduate (sweet Lord, I'm a 22-year-old undergraduate), but I'll keep going nonetheless. I won't tell you to wear sunscreen, because you already know your own bits of wisdom. If anything, this is a chance for me to sit back and reflect. Maybe you'll recognize some of what I came to know in your own experience under the Dome. If not, you can use my printed column as packing material when you box up your lives on Monday morning.

First, take the canyon jumping approach to life. I'll explain. When I studied abroad, I took a trip to Interlaken, Switzerland, the "Extreme Sports Capital of Europe!" I was the last person you'd expect to visit such a place: I liked my feet firmly on the ground, usually covered in sensible shoes. But I had the opportunity in Interlaken to go canyon jumping — not unlike bungee jumping — and had a choice. To jump, or not to jump?



Analise Lipari

Scene Editor  
Emeritus

Rather than give myself an out, I paid my 150 Swiss francs, climbed the mountain, strapped on my harness and free-fell 90 meters.

The point? If there's a new experience that you could have in life — as simple as trying a new food, or as big as moving to a new city — and you know you might back out, push yourself. Push yourself until there's no turning back, and you'll be surprised by how much you grow.

Learn to say "thank you" to everyone that makes your life as easy as it is. I think it's safe to say that students here are extraordinarily blessed to find themselves on a campus where hot food is waiting for them daily, where their housing is guaranteed and where their toilets are cleaned by someone else. This isn't magic, nor is it Notre Dame's legions of house elves that live in the South Dining Hall basement. The men and women who really make this University run are as far from the spotlight as you can get, and most deserving of your thanks. Go out of your way and give it.

Try the spicy sea nuggets once. Or whatever culinary equivalent you encounter that might scare you half to death.

The stuff of the world today is translation: how we interact, how we communicate and how we meet each other at the places where we are. Equip yourself with your metaphorical phrase book, and go!

Say what you feel, and say what you mean.

Smell the flowers. Even the ugly ones — they might smell the best.

Take pictures. You don't always have to post them on Facebook, or tag yourself every time, but take them. It's surprising how much you forget as time goes by.

Call your parents — but not too often. They want to see you grow up, too.

Keep wearing your goofy-looking pajama pants well after graduation.

Lastly, it's okay to use the word "graduation." Even if I called it "the g-word" until maybe three weeks ago.

*Analise Lipari is going to graduate, no matter what. As a soon-to-be member of the ACE program, this New Hampshire girl will be teaching Language Arts in Dallas, Texas come August. As senior week goes on, you'll hear her using her Mufasa voice more and more often. Remember who you are, Simba. Remember who you are.*

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## Great expectations

Dearly beloved, we have gathered here to say our goodbyes. I, for one, tried to avoid saying goodbye in written word because I know it will be preserved in the archives of the interweb and The Observer paper morgue, and because it means I will be held accountable for my last publishable words here at Notre Dame.

Unfortunately, a disgruntled former Viewpoint Editor threatened me with something so horrific that I find myself staring at a word processing program two hours before I can fully enjoy the senior week Cubs game trip at Wrigley field. So, in the interest of protecting my class from having to read an entire page of Black Dog comics in The Observer senior week edition, I'm taking one for the team — you can thank me later.

But first, I'd like to thank all of you. When I arrived here as a freshman, a racial and religious minority, I didn't have any expectations regarding our class aside from those detailed by the admissions office (80 percent Catholic, 90 percent participated in a varsity sport, 90 percent graduating in the top 10 percent of their class, etc.). Instead, I expected to have a productive four years of study culminating in an acceptance to medical school. Those expectations have been met. Many of you are (or were) in fact, intelligent, athletic and pious, and I am on my way to being a bona fide doc. However, I did not expect to have the privilege of being shaped by such a supportive and impressive community of peers in the past four years. I did not expect to learn so much about myself through the development of relationships I would be lucky to continue later in life.

So thank you, class of 2009, you have made all of the difference since freshman year. You have made life interesting with your collective support against abominations of nature such as quarter dogs, the bun runs and, of course, Stepan Center. You have shown yourselves to be sympathetic through mourning with Virginia Tech, and pursuing causes for the benefit of the world beyond Notre Dame. You have proven yourselves dignified in ushering a period of change in welcoming President Obama despite the chagrin of the Catholic Church and you have become a symbol of bionic strength in the midst of the swine influenza virus.

In parting, thank you for equipping me with the ability to face the real world, with the audacity to believe that I can contribute to its improvement, and with knowledge that I won't be alone. In the words of my second favorite Tiny Tim, "God bless us — every one!"

*Jess Lee is graduating with a degree in biology. She will be attending med school at Indiana University School of Medicine next fall. She is, obviously, a fan of Chipotle. Her column was several hours late and several hundred words short. She can be contacted at jlee13@nd.edu*

*The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.*



Jess Lee

Photo Editor  
Emeritus

## The things I'll miss

With the firestorm of anti- and pro-Obama coalitions and Viewpoint letters popping up and pouring into campus lately, it's sometimes easy to forget that there's an institution across the street from Notre Dame.

But, come Saturday, I will listen to a prestigious broadcast journalist — Judy Woodruff, in case you've forgotten — address students, shake hands with a 1972 graduate of the same institution, receive a degree and join the ranks of Saint Mary's College alumnae.

Four years ago, I couldn't wait to leave. I had only been on campus for five weeks, but those five weeks seemed to be the longest of my life.

Four days ago, I sat at the alumnae luncheon and couldn't believe it had gone so fast.

If I could tell my freshman self one thing it would be: it's all going to be



Liz Harter

*Saint Mary's  
Editor  
Emeritus*

okay.

Advice I need to listen to once again as I have no idea what I'll be doing as of May 17.

I made the best friends anyone could ever ask for while I was here. I still can't fathom the fact that next August I won't be moving into a dorm room getting ready to start production on the first Observer of the year while my friends get ready for band camp.

I can't imagine life without Katie, my BFFF, one floor above me. I look forward to our motorized wheelchair races in the nursing home.

Without Jim to keep me sane when the world seems to try it's best to unhinge me.

Without Jessie always ready with some chocolate or the box of goodies to eat while watching "The Office" and tales of Vegas to brighten my day.

Without Jared — wait, you've been gone for a year already.

Without Emily always ready to watch "Lost" with me.

Without Melissa, who hates pants, to fawn over JRM and lament our migraines together.

Without Deanna to survive Spanish classes, eat Ritter's and take walks with.

Without Matt of the Saxophones to ask to a dance in the newspaper.

Without Angela always ready with a hug and ready to order pizza to make a bad night better.

Without Mary Ellen to have random dance parties with in my parked car and to make fun of my sudden obsession with wings.

Without Mandi and Ashley to gossip about The Observer with.

Without Buddie to take creepy stalker pictures of at Friday Marchouts.

Sorry I lapsed in the stalking this year, but we'll always have "Buddie does MSU."

Without Kristi, whose futon became my second bed during sophomore year.

And without Mickey to stop and chat with at the Student Center front desk. Don't forget to make me your press secretary when you become president someday.

I'll miss the little things about being at Saint Mary's. The peaceful feeling I always get seeing nuns taking walks on nice spring days; the beauty of the Avenue in the fall; the quietness of campus in the summer; and even the seemingly endless winters. Without them we wouldn't have had amazing snowball fights or been able to sled

down the steps of Moreau at midnight.

Even though there have been bad times, hard times and even horrible, no good, very bad days, the fact of the matter is that this place and all of the friends I met here will forever be in my heart and I'm glad I became a Belle.

So, to the Class of 2009 on both sides of the street, thank you for the memories and the friendship. Good luck in everything you set out to do.

*Liz Harter is graduating with a degree in English Writing. After graduation she will be gainfully unemployed in Cincinnati, Ohio so if you hear of any leads send them her way. She wants to especially thank her Mom and Dad for everything they've done for her over the years. And thanks to The Observer. We've had our ups and downs, but in the end, I devoted a huge portion of undergrad to you in the basement. To all my fellow editors, thanks for allowing me the pleasure of working with you all and a special thanks to all my writers for putting up with my insanity.*

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## I'm a survivor

Be patient with me, I've never done this before. Write an article, I mean. But, thanks to my liberal arts education — I love putting that on my resumes, it always sounds so impressive — I think I can handle it. After all, look at all I've been through.

I've survived four years of living in Farley. The hardest part was having roommates for the first three years, meaning I had to keep my room somewhat clean. Thank you, Lauren, for not minding that my solution involved stuffing everything under my lofted bed and covering it up with a shower curtain.

I survived five semesters of work at North Dining Hall. I'll never forget working Saturday brunches, especially on football game days, nor all the lovely Napkin Mountains and Leftover Upside-Down Cup Volcanoes people have gifted me during my shifts. Greasy half-eaten chicken bones and breakfast leftovers saturated in orange juice still make me a little queasy.

I survived a tornado at Notre Dame during senior week a few years ago, when the poor Basilica lost one of its spires. Once the hazy green sky faded back to its usual grey-blue, it was fun exploring the new jungle created on North Quad by all the fallen trees.

I survived designing The Shirt 2009, and all the criticism that has come as a result of the gold color. Luckily, Viewpoint letter-writers have been too distracted by a certain airplane and protest campaign to offer many nasty comments this year. I think it actually looks awesome with blue jeans, which everyone wears to the game anyway, because then the outfit is Notre Dame Blue and Gold.

I survived a getting lost on a hik-



Mary Jesse

*Graphics  
Editor  
Emeritus*

ing trip in the south of Chile. After wandering for a considerable amount of time through a waist-high field of thorns with a dead flashlight and worthless cell phone (I get better reception in the basement of my dorm), I found my group just as the sun was setting and the storm winds were picking up. Dinner was tuna and smashed granola bars for the fourth day in a row — clearly, we are experienced campers.

I survived 21 years without underage drinking, followed by very crowded birthday initiations at The Backer and Finny's during Blue-Gold Weekend. I've still never been to Fever, but some tell me this is possibly a good thing.

I survived the Holy Half Marathon this year ... in South Bend's specialty: overcast wintry-mix and 32-degree weather. This semester was the first time I've run more than two miles consecutively in my life. I should also mention that I hate running. Thanks Teresa, I never could — or would — have done it without you!

I've survived a year-long relationship with my boyfriend, intelligently started just as summer vacation began last year, even though we wouldn't be in the same country again until the fall. Happy anniversary, Greg!

I survived a design thesis project that is currently on display in the Snite Museum of Art. It's an animation to teach young children the basics of Catholic Social Teaching. I put a lot of work into it, so take the kids and go see it because it's there until Monday. This is a shameless self-plug.

Finally, I've survived writing my first article, all 582 words of it. I hope it wasn't too terrible for a first attempt.

*Mary is a BFA Graphic and Industrial Design major, and after graduation she will move back in with her parents and hope to win the lottery.*

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## Never the same

It's hard to imagine life after Notre Dame.

The great honor of my life has been being a student at this University, the only school I ever wanted to attend. For two years in high school, I kept a Notre Dame magnet in my locker, reminding myself before every test, every project, that my goal was to live under the Dome for four years.

And I've done that. But in my last semester at college, I've been asking myself why I didn't major in architecture, or do a double major, anything to give myself just a little more time, a few more months or years to soak up Notre Dame.

Because it's hard to imagine life without some of my best friends a few steps away from me, ready to talk at noon or 3 a.m., about nothing or everything.

It's hard to imagine life without a DeBartolo Hall, a Waddick's, The Huddle, the popcorn machine in CoMo.

It's hard to imagine life without football Saturdays, without complaining about The Shirt, then wearing it, without Knights of Columbus steak sandwiches, without brats, without dorky dorm cheers, without the Notre Dame Victory March, without push-ups after touchdowns.

It's hard to imagine life without Reckers, without Nick's Patio, without Piano Man, without \$3 cab rides, without The Backer, without Corby's, without Finnegan's.

It's hard to imagine a life without parietals, without Mass in every dorm, without candlelight dinners.

It's hard, because I hoped, irrationally, that my four years at Notre Dame would go on forever. Of course, I always knew that one day it would end, but I didn't think the time would go so quickly.

"I don't think there's any point in being Irish if you don't know that the world is going to break your heart eventually," said Daniel Patrick Moynihan, then an assistant secretary of labor, in reaction to President Kennedy's death. "I guess that we thought we had a little more time."

I thought I had more time. On a hot August day earlier this year, after running around the lakes, I sat on South Quad and willed the time to slow down. I willed the days to go by slowly, but of course, time marched on, and soon the first of the lasts — the last first day of class, the last



Kaitlynn Riely

*Associate  
News Editor  
Emeritus*

home football game, the last Christmas dinner at the dining hall — gave way to the last of the lasts — the last Spring Break, the last day of class, the last week of final exams.

"It will never be the same again," a friend of mine said at dinner a few months ago. We were talking about whether, years after we graduated, we would still be able to reunite, to come back to Notre Dame and pick up where we left off.

No, it will never be the same. When we come back, we won't be in the Notre Dame bubble. We'll be outside, looking in, probably wanting to return.

As I've savored the very last of the lasts, I've tried to tell myself that maybe that's okay.

Maybe it's okay that I'm moving on. I've given Notre Dame my all — my 4 a.m. finals nights at the library, my 20-page papers, my late nights at The Observer that I thought would never end — and Notre Dame has given me its all — a beautiful campus that takes my breath away every time I drive up Notre Dame Avenue, a world-class education, professors who have inspired me, a dorm filled with lifelong friends and an experience in London that I'll never forget.

Notre Dame has made me a person who, I hope, will go out and do good things for this world.

But on Sunday, my school is going to break my heart. I'll receive my diploma, walk up the stairs of the Main Building, and nevermore be able to call myself a Notre Dame student.

The only solace is that, though Notre Dame undergrad doesn't last forever, memories do, and here, I've made memories that will stay with me long after I've left 46556.

A friend of mine told me Father Hesburgh gave her advice about what to do before leaving Notre Dame.

Go to the Grotto, he said, say a prayer, and promise you'll be back.

Notre Dame, I promise I'll be back.

*Kaitlynn Riely is graduating with a major in American Studies and a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. She will be taking a position at the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette for the summer. She would like to thank her parents, who have made everything possible and her five younger siblings, for listening enthusiastically to four years of college stories. She would also like to thank all the Pangborn girls, without whom college would never have been so much fun, and give a special thanks to Observer writers and staffers, past and present, who defined my Notre Dame career.*

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Friday, May 15, 2009

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## EXCERPTS FROM PAST ISSUES

### Four Years in Review

#### *Academic freedom: problem?*

Perhaps the ongoing discussion of academic freedom and Catholic character has reached the point where we should make an effort to ask, "What is really at stake in this dispute?"

Some of us agree that the basic question is simply, "To what extent and why must (or should) recognized student organizations, at Notre Dame or any Catholic university, refrain from discussions and performances of materials which question or challenge standard Catholic teaching concerning sexual morality?"

I have yet to hear a strong Catholic voice explain why, or discuss whether, a Catholic university fully tolerant of student freedoms on such matters is on the slippery slope to secularization. Perhaps there are arguments of that kind, but no one, neither our President, Father John Jenkins, nor the Chancellor of the University of Dayton, Father James Heft, has produced such an argument in this discussion so far.

Edward Manier

professor

Department of Philosophy

March 9, 2006

#### *Obama speaking*

I am Roman-Catholic, pro-life and middle-upper class citizen with strong leanings toward the Republican Party. Oh, and one more thing: I am ecstatic that the President of the United States is coming to speak at my graduation Commencement. Within hours of the big announcement on Friday, I was receiving infuriating e-mails from my fellow pro-lifers calling for the immediate repeal of President Obama's invitation to Notre Dame. "We must stand against evil," said one message. "He supports gay marriage, which is an affront to the family," read another. "He should not be given this opportunity to confuse our youth." One message went so far as to compare Obama with history's most hated villain. The email read: "The German people supported Hitler because he was dynamic and promised jobs and food. There is more to a man than his charisma." There is also more to a man than his views on the single issue of abortion. Such rash and radical comments not only fail to promote the end of abortion, they undermine the entire pro-life movement.

In an emergency press release issued by the Pro-Life Action League, National Director and Notre Dame alumnus Joe Scheidler made the following statements: "Over the first two months of his administration, Barack Obama has established himself as the most pro-abortion president in U.S. history. My alma mater should not be providing a platform for this president. Father Jenkins cannot expect pro-life Catholics to stand back and allow the most pro-abortion president in U.S. history to make a mockery of Notre Dame's Catholic identity." As a pro-lifer myself, I understand where Scheidler is coming from; I, too, am concerned for the pro-life movement under the Obama administration. I simply cannot agree, however, with the idea that Notre Dame, one of the finest academic institutions in the nation, should deny the President of the United States a platform to speak solely because of his views on abortion. Obama is not coming to Notre Dame to speak about abortion, nor is his speech supposed to play a pivotal part in the formation of our Catholic identity.

It is our responsibility, not our Commencement speaker's, to continue to cultivate our Catholic identity and apply it beyond graduation. The role of a Commencement speaker is to welcome college graduates into the real world, arm them with knowledge of complex and evolving issues, and inspire them to be passionate and influential citizens of a global community. I simply cannot think of anyone more qualified to do these things than the leader of the free world, President Barack Obama.

Thus, to my fellow pro-lifers: let us battle the president on each and every issue pertinent to life, but let us not undermine our intelligence and our patriotism by forsaking other important issues in the reckless pursuit of one. The world will not stop turning for the abortion issue to be resolved. We as Catholics are therefore called to be dynamic citizens who take a multi-dimensional approach to making our world a better place; this means listening and learning from influential world leaders such as Barack Obama. To disinvite the President of the United States based on a single issue, even one as important as abortion, would be a disgrace both to our Catholic identity and to this great Catholic University.

Mark Weber

senior

off campus

March 21, 2009

#### *The hook-up culture*

Dear six guys I've hooked up with this semester, Thank you for the hook-up. It was ... decent. From my experience, it was a typical freshman year hook-up.

Some of you shamelessly lead me on, while with others it just sort of happened. Obviously, I wanted it too because I definitely didn't stop you. In fact I love to kiss boys, my roommates and I refer to it as "my hobby."

Yes, the hook-up itself was fine, but afterwards we've run into a problem. The problem is the dining hall, at parties, the quad and in class. It's the way that you look at me, with that awkward stare that makes me want to scream "Yes we did hookup once and no we haven't talked since then!" Other times we see each other and you quickly dart your eyes to avoid eye contact or suddenly become enthralled in conversation with the nearest object. To be fair, I think I may have gotten a "hey" from one or two of you before (it's been a while though, so forgive me if my memory isn't perfect).

What about my number, did you ask for it just as a matter of course? Is it your way of saying, "Thanks for the hook-up, can I have your number so that I can delay your realization that we are never going to speak again?" Well it worked, I gave every one of you my number and haven't heard from most of you since. How many of you would actually call me if you needed someone to go grab lunch with? Or if you needed help studying for a class that we both have? How many of you haven't deleted it, or are just now realizing that I must be that mysterious "Melissa" entry in your contact list?

Don't blame me for not calling you, a broken phone can attest to the fact that I've lost most of your numbers. I doubt you would answer even if I

could call you. I'm a good person and an even better friend. But obviously, since we hooked-up, it would be too much to ask that we ever consider friendship as an option. Ignoring each other, apparently, is the only choice that we have.

Of course, I don't render myself blameless. Our hook-up was the most convenient form of instant gratification that we could find. I realize that and I admit to being just as guilty as you are. But next time I smile at you on the quad, or say hi to you in class, can you pretend that you haven't gone both deaf and blind since that night that we met at that party?

Although I doubt that you are willing to do that, I am sure of one thing: You six guys are where I draw the line. This weekend, and all weekends until I graduate, I refuse to add to this list. I won't hook-up with any more random boys. Not because the act itself wasn't enjoyable, but because this campus isn't that big and I can't afford to have any more boys refusing to look me in the eye when I walk down South Quad. At Notre Dame, I am looking to make friends (not boyfriends, fiancés, or husbands) and hook-ups obviously lead to anything but friendship. I can find a new hobby, hopefully something that really does make me happy, but I will not hook-up. I'll see you at the dining hall.

Sincerely, Melissa.

P.S. — Don't worry about our kiss under the arch — unless we move to Utah, it's unlikely that all six of you will find yourselves married to me.

Melissa Buddie

freshman

Lyons Hall

Nov. 13, 2008

#### *Belles — lighten up*

Every day I get The Observer and flip to Viewpoint to see what debate is raging. The past few days, after reading the responses to the Jockular comic, I can only say that Jockular has been taken far too seriously. As many comics today, Erik Powers and Alec White are satirists, so obviously they use Jockular to poke fun at everyday events.

We've all seen The Simpsons, Family Guy or South Park. During every episode, they target a different aspect of daily life to laugh at, sometimes even things dear to us. But do we take offense? No. Those of us who can recognize and appreciate satire just laugh and turn up the volume. That's exactly what I'm calling all Belles to do: laugh and turn up the volume. Don't take it personally that Saint Mary's is this week's target of satire, because

that's all it is — a little sarcastic fun.

In no way do I feel that I am betraying my fellow Belles through this opinion. I love Saint Mary's; hence the reason I am here and not at Notre Dame. I am proud of this school and the women in it. But I feel that we should not take things so much to heart. Ethel Barrymore said, "You grow up the day you have your first real laugh at yourself." So lower your shields, put down your weapons, pick up today's Jockular — and have a good laugh.

Maggie Yancy

Andrea Beres

freshmen

Saint Mary's College

April 12, 2006

#### *Original fight song cherished*

At this point, I've grown accustomed to biting my lip and grimacing at certain times when Notre Dame students, faculty and alumni try to instill their opinions, viewpoints and beliefs into others. This has held true until I recently read Caity and Erin Schneeman's letter to the editor, "Reconsidering the Victory March" (Oct. 30).

While few people would refer to me as "old fashioned," I am still a firm believer that certain traditions should remain unscathed - above all, the "Notre Dame Victory March." I'm a proponent for equal rights, yet I can't help but ask myself the question: Can anything be left sacred anymore? The reason that most Notre Dame fans are fans is because of the traditions and pedigree associated with the University.

While people are on such a kick to appease the minority by making every tradition as politically correct as possible, they isolate the majority and forget about what most people care about. I've witnessed many great Notre Dame traditions die since I started as a student and the very mention of changing the lyrics to the "Victory March" fills me with the same sadness and rage I usually associate with watching Tyrone Willingham coach a football game.

What's next? Should we start redrafting the Declaration of Independence because it doesn't state that "all men and women are created equal"? Words might just be words but like the Declaration of Independence, the "Victory March" has meant a great deal to a number of people and to change it now would be an injustice to every person who has walked the steps beneath the Golden Dome.

The thing that you must remember, Caity and Erin, is that this University was founded in 1842, not 1972. So, while I find Caity and Erin's family traditions to be "interesting" and "cute," I, along with the rest of the Notre Dame family, will continue to sing the original and real version of the fight song written by the O'Shea Brothers in the early 1900s.

Honestly, if Caity and Erin feel oppressed or shorted in any way by reading my opinion, then I would like to remind them that the beautiful gates of Saint Mary's College are always open. Last time I checked, there was no discussion of incorporating a male presence into its fight song.

Matthew Wrablik

Class of 2006

Los Angeles, Calif.

Oct. 30, 2007

# The Year's Best MOVIES TV

By JORDAN GAMBLE

Scene Writer

Whether it was in the theater, on DVD or in DeBartolo 101, the past twelve months have given college students new sources of procrastination, catch-phrases, and fodder for dorm room posters. Here are the top 10 movies of the past year, in no particular order:

## 1. Slumdog Millionaire

This Oscar-winner for Best Picture deftly balances gritty, tragic realism with fantasy in a modern-day fairy tale about a poor orphan teenager from the slums of Mumbai who improbably wins the jackpot on India's version of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire."

## 2. The Dark Knight

Before it even got to theaters, the latest installment in the revamped Batman franchise was a hit of hype. In one of the last roles before his death, Heath Ledger delivers an amazingly transformative, Oscar-winning performance as the creepy and morbidly funny Joker. Director Christopher Nolan keeps the movie tight and tense for most of its two-and-a-half hour run time, building suspense to a crescendo that nonetheless keeps the path open for another sequel.

## 3. The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

It's like Forrest Gump: set in the South (here, primarily Louisiana), with a protagonist always bumping into the requisite major events of history (the end of World War I, Hurricane Katrina), and holding out for that one girl (a red-headed Cate Blanchett). Of course, in "Benjamin Button," the lead character just happens to age in reverse. The visual effects are stunning, effectively transforming Pitt's character into a hobbled, gray-haired, wrinkly child and the eerie teenaged-looking old man Benjamin becomes by the end of the film.

## 4. Pineapple Express

In another product from the Judd Apatow factory of raunch and romance (here it's more of a bromance), a stoner (Seth Rogen) and his pot dealer (James Franco) aren't just paranoid — they really are on the run from corrupt cops and violent gangsters. It all ends in a fiery inferno of a showdown at a hydroponic weed factory. With a lot of blood, profanity, and nerdy white guys wielding guns, this might be a very clever PSA about how your life can actually go to pot if you get high. Or it's just hilarious.

## 5. Twilight

Traditional vampire enthusiasts probably didn't know what hit them. It didn't have the best script ("This is the skin of a killer, Bella!") or the best special effects (that skin sparkling rather harmlessly in the sunlight), but fans of the book series, stalkers of Robert Pattinson and unsuspecting boyfriends made this movie a huge success at the box office

and on DVD.

## 6. Revolutionary Road

Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio return to the screen together in a film decidedly less epic than "Titanic" but nonetheless tragically hopeless. The duo play April and Frank Wheeler, a couple trying to break out of the monotony and apathy of suburban 1950s Connecticut, but never able to attain their dreams. It is certainly not a happy, fun time at the movies. Still, DiCaprio and Winslet deliver fantastic performances worth seeing.

## 7. Wall-E

Who knew a trash compactor and a flying iPod could induce such heart-melting cuteness? Wall-E and E.V.E. have more chemistry as computer-animated robots than quite a few live-action, human screen couples do. For a movie that goes its first 45 minutes without any dialogue, Pixar's latest endeavor sure packs a lot of messages — love, perseverance and environmentalism, to name a few.

## 8. The Happening

This is yet another nuanced, subtle film about environmentalism. With gripping performances and flawless plot execution, this thriller — ha, just kidding! This was easily the biggest "what the heck?" movie of 2008. Director and writer M. Night Shyamalan grasps for anything resembling logic or suspense, and ends up with not much of either. Mark Wahlberg and the rest of the cast routinely looked confused or bored, and their characters tend to make ridiculous decisions at just the right time to move the plot along. Spoiler: Plants did it! They made everybody kill themselves, to get back at humanity for spilling noxious fumes into the atmosphere. Duh! So it is a film about environmentalism — in a way.

## 9. Step Brothers

Will Ferrell and John C. Reilly team up again in yet another dumb-buddies flick, this time playing middle-aged stepbrothers Brennan and Dale. This is all the cohesion the film needs as it veers around from one ridiculous situation to the next, which are little more than showcases for Ferrell and Reilly's outrageous physical comedy and dialogue.

## 10. Iron Man

Robert Downey, Jr. returns to Hollywood in another new comic book franchise. Jon Favreau, the same director behind comedies like "Elf," makes the movie a slick and fun origin story that nicely toes the line between exposition and action. As Tony Stark, the playboy genius who becomes a superhero, Downey uses copious amounts of charisma to pull the whole persona together. With such a great response from audiences, a sequel is in the works for 2010.

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By CAITLIN FERRARO

Scene Writer

After suffering through the painful writer's strike, the 2008-2009 television season was a refreshing comeback for television in general. Viewers witnessed many firsts and lasts throughout, and certainly some unforgettable moments. Shocking twists and turns came from all directions. In a sea of so much goodness, and of course some badness, particular shows and moments stand out:

## Best Death

It had been known for months that Edie was going to die on "Desperate Housewives." Few cared that Bart Bass died on "Gossip Girl," although it did lead to some beautiful scenes for Ed Westwick as Chuck. But did anyone expect Kutner (Kal Penn) to commit suicide on "House"? Or that his death would set off a chain of events in which House would end up in Cuddy's arms? Or that this all began when Kal Penn chose to leave the show to work for — Obama? While the death was not shown, the way it affected the rest of the characters was beautifully scripted and portrayed. Foreman stepped up and was there for Thirteen. Chase and Cameron got engaged. And House actually doubted himself, for once. Kutner's suicide was both shocking and served a greater purpose to the show's overall storyline. Kudos.

## Best New Series

There are always misses when the new television season rolls around, but every once in a while there are hits. CBS' "The Mentalist," FOX's "Fringe" and HBO's "True Blood" are all examples of great new shows. Simon Baker is fantastic on "The Mentalist" as he exudes charm while catching bad guys, all the while waiting to find the serial killer, Red John, who killed his wife and son. "Fringe" is a wonderful amalgamation of weirdness as an FBI agent works together with a once-institutionalized-doctor and his wisecracking son to solve crimes that involve "fringe" science. And "True Blood," a series, based on the "Sookie Stackhouse Novels," is about a woman with psychic abilities that finds herself entangled with a vampire and a serial killer. Beware though that this salacious show is definitely an adult version of "Twilight."

## Best Series Finale

"Scrubs" ended with a touching and funny series finale. "The Shield" pulled out all the stops for its concluding episode. But the best finale of this season goes to SciFi's "Battlestar Galactica." The re-imagining of the 1980 series began in 2003 and has since then found a devoted audience. The show has a complicated mythology pertaining to the battle between Cylons and humans, but all the questions were beautifully answered in the 2009 finale. They found a suitable place to live and all our favorite characters

## MUSIC

By STEPHANIE DEPREZ  
Assistant Scene Editor

Music this year had successes in many genres. From Britney Spears and Beyoncé to Death Cab and The Decemberists, established artists' new albums led to most welcome successes. Soundtracks made a comeback, bolstered by the "Twilight" sensation.

Television and commercial placement brought new artists to the forefront, thanks to the likes of "Gossip Girl" and Mac computers. Overall, big stars made big bucks, and new artists realized that ancillary markets may be the place to start.

Big hits in the world of R&B included Beyoncé's schizoprenic album "I am ... Sasha Fierce." There's nothing like an alter-ego to shake up your musical look.

Hits like "Single Ladies" have fueled a new dedication to learning the music video-specific dance. Other dance-floor hits from the year include T.I. & Rihanna's collaboration "Live Your Life" (is that really the Numa song?) and the ever-popular Band of the Fighting Irish number, "Shake It" by Metro Station. There's nothing quite like a frisky tuba section to get the blood flowing at a football game.

Other accolades go to the lyric-shifting antics of Akon's "Right Now (Na Na Na)" who just wants to "make up right now," according to your local FCC affiliate (not "make love"). And who could have missed the lyrical genius of that music maven Spears, who's got everyone begging to "If You Seek Amy." Right.

Indie rock also had solid success this year, including the release of a new Death Cab for Cutie album last summer. The most recent hit has been the album "Hazard's of Love" by The Decemberists, which has been slowly working its way into the minds and hearts of hard-core and casual listeners alike.

Coldplay, known for main-stream rock, nettled their way into the indie-psyche with the mega-hit "Viva La Vida" and the now-ubiquitous title-track.

Musical product-placement has been a boon to many new artists this year. Bon Iver's quasi-hit album "For Emma, Forever Ago" has songs that have made it

into a slew of other venues, including the TV show "House" and the compilation album for AIDS awareness, "Dark Was the Night." Yael Naim, though barely recognized for her name, wrote herself a household tune with the song "New Soul" that was featured in the commercials for Macbook Air.

Few have heard of Orba Squara, but they wrote the song in the iPhone commercials, called "Perfect Timing," which anyone who has been within a 10-foot radius of a television in the past eight months has heard.

"Twilight" has done wonders for every artist or band featured on the movie soundtrack, including Muse, which received prime placement in the film's stylized baseball scene.

Any record of the year in music would be fool not to mention the two leading ladies of self-indulgent pop-sensation: Taylor Swift and Miley Cyrus. The former's utterly inescapable "Love Story" was featured in the Keenan Review (cleverly reincarnated as "Hook-Up Story") and was used in a least one actual marriage proposal on campus (so far). ("It's a ring by spring story, she's already said yes!")

Cyrus starred in the "Hannah Montana" movie, which featured the new song "The Climb," with lyrics that are disturbingly appropriate for anyone graduating this year.

Music flowed through campus in all the right venues this year, with the latest

dance beats spinning at Hip-Hop Night, up-and-coming indie outfits headlining at Legends and 90s throwbacks being pumped through South Dining Hall. Special thanks go to the Band of the Fighting Irish for rekindling campus love for Bon Jovi, whose cameo was the highlight of pep rally appearances. The latest and long-forgotten acousti-hits were showcased at Acousti-café all year long. Broadway managed

to tap into the campus psyche at least once a semester with help from the likes of PEMCO and Fortnight Productions. Overall, it was a successful year in music-dom here under the Dome.

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*Taylor Swift's  
utterly  
inescapable "Love  
Story" was fea-  
tured in the  
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marriage  
proposal on  
campus.*

*Few have heard of  
Orba Squara, but  
they wrote the  
song in the iPhone  
commercials,  
called "Perfect  
Timing," which  
anyone who has  
been within a 10-  
foot radius of a  
television in the  
past eight months  
has heard.*



found a sense of completion in one way or another.

### Best Reality TV Show

One of the best reality show's this year was VH1's latest creation "Tough Love," a show surprisingly not like the other shows on the network that tend to border on sleaziness. Instead, the show's premise was that match-maker Steve Ward would help eight women find love by discovering who they were, and finding out what men really think. In addition, one cannot ignore the sensation that was "The Bachelor" this year. The nation witnessed as Jason Mesnick dumped his fiancée Melissa Rycroft and then minutes later was reunited with runner-up Molly Malaney. Shocking? Wrong? Terrible? Maybe, but it was definitely great television.

### Best New Series that Was Over Before it Began

Every year there are shows that are hyped but unfortunately do not last. This year NBC's "Kings" (and possibly FOX's "Dollhouse") hold this unfortunate honor. R.I.P. to "Kings" and other great shows that did not last the season: "Pushing Daisies" and "Eli Stone."

Overall, some shows have stepped up their game this season and keep getting better and better. Shows like "Mad Men," "Lost" and "Dexter" have been great dramas this television season. And the seventh season of "24," which had been postponed due to the writer's strike, returned in January with a vengeance. The best comedies this year have been "How I Met Your Mother," "Big Bang Theory," "The Office" and "30 Rock." Tina Fey and company rolled right through the Emmy's, collecting statuettes all over the place.

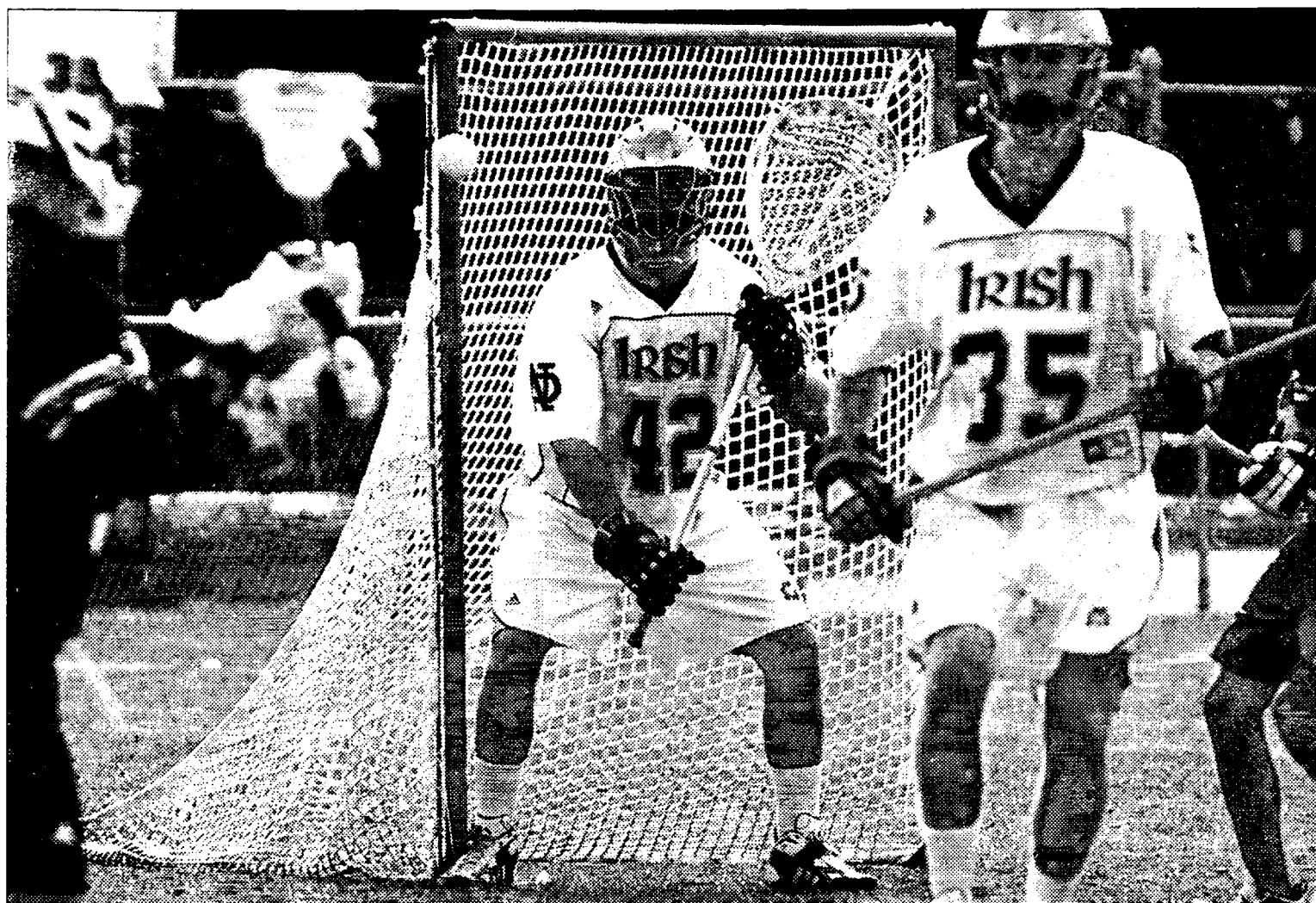
Television this year also brought us entertainment in the form of the Democratic and Republican Conventions. At times they were important to watch in order to be informed voters, but they were also fodder for the "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart," "The Colbert Report" and "Saturday Night Live." These shows really outdid themselves with the help of election year material.

The 2008-2009 television season has been a great one, and it is not even over yet. There are a plethora of season finales yet to come and burning questions that hopefully will be answered. Is William Bell (Leonard Nimoy) responsible for the Pattern on "Fringe"? Who will win "American Idol"? How will Heidi and Spencer get married on "The Hills"? (Just kidding on that one.) Who is the mother on "How I Met Your Mother"? Will everyone survive the series finale of "Prison Break"? Will Izzie (Katherine Heigl) survive her horrible brain cancer and how will it affect the rest of Seattle Grace? You'll have to stick around this season, - and perhaps the next - to discover the answers.

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## MEN'S LACROSSE

## Perfection falls in first round



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Senior goaltender Scott Rodgers eyes an oncoming shot from a Bellarmine attacker in a late March game. The Irish beat Bellarmine 11-6.

By MICHAEL GOTIMER  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame's unbeaten season came to a screeching halt Sunday in a 7-3 loss to Maryland in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

"We're a very good team," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. "I'm not going to beat up our team for going 15-0. We had a great season, but we didn't play well today and therefore we lost."

The Irish started off the season with nonconference wins over Loyola (Md.), Penn State, and Dartmouth. On March 8, Notre Dame notched its most impressive win of the season over then-No. 3 North Carolina.

Notre Dame rolled through Great Western Lacrosse League (GWLL) play, winning each game by no fewer than

two goals and rising as high as No. 2 in the nation. The Irish conference dominance continued in the conference tournament, which they won with victories over Quinnipiac and Ohio State.

The cornerstone for Notre Dame's success this season was its defense, which allowed a nation-best 6.19 goals per game. The Irish backline was anchored by senior netminder Scott Rodgers, who led the NCAA with a 6.14 goals against average and a 0.663 save percentage.

In addition to their team accomplishments, the Irish boast a number of seniors with significant individual achievements, which came to a peak during their final season on campus. In April, senior attacker Ryan Hoff and Duncan Swezey, midfielder Peter Christman, defenseman Regis McDermott and Rodgers

were all named first team all-conference in the GWLL, which the Irish have won each of the past three seasons.

Furthermore, Rodgers, who leads the country in goals against average, was named GWLL Player of the Year and has been named a finalist for the Tewaaraton Trophy, which is awarded annually to the nation's top lacrosse player.

"More than anything else, they did things right," Corrigan said. "They worked hard, loved each other, loved play lacrosse and represented Notre Dame in excellent fashion. They love what they're doing, love being a part of the team, and bring a sense of fun to the team."

Corrigan ultimately thinks that this is the best lesson that his seniors could teach the program that they have contributed so much to in their four years on campus.

"The lesson [from the seniors] is that you should do something because you love it and do it right," Corrigan said.

Contact Mike Gotimer at  
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## WOMEN'S LACROSSE

## MVP Goodman leads Irish to Big East crown

By MEAGHAN VESELIK  
Sports Writer

The Irish defeated Vanderbilt 19-13 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament on Sunday, and will face North Carolina this weekend in the tournament quarterfinals.

"Our success has been expected and unexpected," Notre Dame head coach Tracy Coyne said. "We had some key players choose to leave the program in the beginning of the year, which made us re-evaluate our direction. The seniors, in particular, have done an incredible job in doing that and a great job in bringing the team together."

Notre Dame (16-4) has had one of their most successful and record-setting seasons this year. Winning the Big East Championship for the first time was just a highlight for the 2009 Irish team.

Making an impact on the team over the last four seasons are the four Notre Dame seniors: captains Shannon Burke and Jillian Byers, defender Beth Koulup and goalkeeper Erin Goodman.

Leading the defense, Burke has a season 56 ground balls, 31 draw controls and 42 caused turnovers, a Notre Dame single-season record, as well as seven offensive points. Named to the All-Big East First Team with teammates Byers and sophomore midfielder Shaylyn Blaney.

Protecting the goal for Notre Dame is the record-

breaking Goodman. Not only is she the all-time winningest goalkeeper for the Irish, but Goodman has also started in 55 consecutive games, playing the most minutes overall of any Irish goalkeeper.

Goodman holds a career record of 38-17 for a .690 winning percentage, and was named this year's Big East MVP.

Byers is statistically the most successful player Notre Dame

has ever seen. She is the all-time points leader, with 325 off of her 253 goals and 72 assists. Her 74 goals and 36 assists coming this season make her the second Irish player to ever score over 100 points in a season and are career highs. She leads the Big East in goals and point totals while ranking second nationally for points, and was named the league's co-attack of the year with Syracuse senior Katie Rowan. Byers is also the NCAA's all-time active leading goal scorer.

"Individually, they [the seniors] are all outstanding competitors," Coyne said.

"Looking back on the last four years and all they have learned and become, they represent the Notre Dame family well, and are all great people. They have really raised the level of

competitiveness of the program. Their legacy is always looking for ways to get better, all the time."

The Irish will face North Carolina in Chapel Hill on Saturday.

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*"The lesson is that you should do something because you love it and do it right."*

Kevin Corrigan  
Irish coach

*"Their legacy is always looking for ways to get better, all the time."*

Tracy Coyne  
Irish coach

## CLASSIFIEDS

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 024 South Dining Hall. Deadline for next-day classifieds is 3 p.m. All classifieds must be prepaid. The charge is 3 cents per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without issuing refunds.

## WANTED

PASTORAL ASSOCIATE St. Christopher Parish, Speedway, Indiana, is seeking a full-time Pastoral Associate. The successful candidate will be primarily responsible for Womens Spirituality programs and Parish Outreach ministries, and Pastoral care. A Masters degree in Catholic theology, sacramental theology and Pastoral Care or another related discipline is also required. The successful candidate must have a minimum of five to seven years of ministerial experience and demonstrate the ability to participate with the Pastoral staff to provide a comprehensive spiritual mission for the Parish. Saint Christopher is an established parish with approx. 2,000 families located in the Speedway community on the westside of Indianapolis. Interested candidates should submit their resumes and letters of reference by May 20, 2009 to Search Committee, St. Christopher Parish, 5301 W. 16th Street, Indianapolis, IN 46224 or via email to info@saintchristopherparish.org.

## FOR SALE

Very nice 2-bdrm home, totally remodeled inside and out. New roof, windows, siding, gutters, front door. Nice large deck. New kitchen, ceramic tile, light fixtures. All new appliances. Fresh paint, new carpet, brand new bathroom, fenced yard with oversized 1-car garage. Nicely landscaped. 1.5 miles to ND. Broker owned. \$74,800. Amy Ziolkowski, ReMax 100, 574-360-4800.

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LUKE TABIT, You are an amazing young man. Continue to work hard. You will do well in whatever you do. We love you, Mom and Dad

Outlined against a blue-gray October sky the Four Horsemen rode again. In dramatic lore they are known as famine, pestilence, destruction and death. These are only aliases. Their real names are: Stuhldreher, Miller, Crowley and Layden. They formed the crest of the South Bend cyclone before which another fighting Army team was swept over the precipice at the Polo Grounds this afternoon as 55,000 spectators peered down upon the bewildering panorama spread out upon the green plain below.

Notre Dame, our Mother Tender, strong and true Proudly in the heavens, Gleams thy gold and blue. Glory's mantle cloaks thee Golden is thy fame, And our hearts forever, Praise thee, Notre Dame. And our hearts forever, Love thee, Notre Dame.

## ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

## Perfect season ends with loss in championship

By DOUGLAS FARMER  
Sports Writer

Notre Dame entered the season with a lofty goal — to win a national championship.

Even though the Irish fell short of that goal, they still earned many trophies and accolades that will distinguish this season in the Notre Dame history books.

After a perfect regular season and successful run through the NCAA Tournament, top-ranked Notre Dame met up with No. 5 North Carolina in the College Cup Final. Despite a quick goal by senior forward Kerri Hanks just 16 seconds into the game, the Irish could not keep Tar Heel Casey Noguiera from finding the back of the net. Noguiera's two goals were too much for the Irish to overcome in the 2-1 defeat.

While Notre Dame obviously wished for a different outcome, not even Hanks could feel bad for the team.

"That definitely wasn't our game plan [scoring early]. You score a goal early and that's good for our team, just try to keep doing it, but obviously we didn't get it done," Hanks said. "I thought we played a good game, but that's how it goes, the game of soccer."

Looking back on the season it is quite clear that the Irish put together a season to remember, with or without a final vic-

tory.

Notre Dame first won both the Inn at Saint Mary's Classic and the Carolina Classic, including a 1-0 defeat of North Carolina, in routine form. The strong offense led by Hanks outscored their first six opponents 22-1.

This offense and Hanks proceeded to post a 25-0-0 record leading up to the final meeting with North Carolina. Within that 25-game run, the Irish won the Big East final over Connecticut in overtime, 1-0, and advanced to the NCAA quarterfinals by topping Minnesota 1-0 in an extended period as well.

In order to reach North Carolina in the final, the team beat No. 6 Florida State 2-0, and No. 3 Stanford 1-0.

All season long it was Hanks' play, records and leadership that paved the way for the Irish.

"She [has] what separates the good players from the great ones," Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. "Great players have that constant mentality to win at all costs."

Hanks agrees that she puts winning above all else, and indeed, she has. The senior class has recorded a four-year record of 92-10-3.

"I would rather win than have the records," she said. "I just want the younger players to look up to me."

Nonetheless, record and



JESS LEE/The Observer

Irish sophomore midfielder Rose Augustin goes for a loose ball during Notre Dame's 1-0 overtime win against Connecticut in the Big East championship game.

accolades have seemed to gravitate towards Hanks. She was named to the NSCAA All-American first team along with fellow senior Carrie Dew. Senior Brittany Bock was named to the second team. Hanks, junior goaltender Kelsey Lysander, and freshman Courtney Barg were named to the NCAA All-Tournament

Team, while Dew received Defensive Player of the Year honors.

In January, Hanks received the Missouri Athletic Club Hermann Trophy, awarded to the nation's top NCAA Division I player, her second M.A.C. Hermann Trophy in two years. Hanks is the first to acknowledge others deserve recogni-

tion for her success.

"It would be impossible without my teammates to finish off those assists and set up those free kicks for me to take," she said. "Without my teammates and [Waldrum] I wouldn't be able to get those records."

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# THE OBSERVER

We express our deep *thanks* to the following *seniors* for their hard work and *dedication* over the years.

Travis Allen  
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Greg Arbogast  
Brad Blomstrom  
Maddie Boyer  
David Cavadini  
Caitlin Conway  
Zhibin Dai  
John Donovan  
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Syzmon Rzyner  
Elizabeth Stevens  
Mandi Stirone  
Fran Tolan  
Mark Witte

We wish you all the  
*best of luck*  
in the years to come.

## ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

## Duos' success leads way through tough schedule

By DOUGLAS FARMER  
Sports Writer

Posting 24 wins against only four losses, the Irish filled the spring with highlights and success. In one of the best seasons in program history, Notre Dame (24-4, 5-0 Big East) made it to the semifinals of the ITA National Team Indoor Championships, reeled off an eight-match winning streak, won the Big East Championship without suffering defeat and earned the fifth seed in the NCAA Tournament.

Entering the season, the Notre Dame held the No. 17 ranking in the polls. The team however, had a much brighter outlook for the season.

"With the bunch we had returning and two freshmen we knew could play a very big part coming in, I felt we were a top five team and a team that could contend for a national championship," head coach Jay Louderback said.

The team opened the season with a convincing 6-1 victory at Ohio State. Then the team went down to Arkansas and defeated both Pepperdine and host Arkansas to qualify for Indoor Championships ranked 14th.

"We knew it would be tough to qualify at Arkansas," Louderback said. "[The victory] did give a hint to what we had for the season, especially playing on the road."

At the Indoor Championships the Irish exceeded many expectations. First the team defeated No. 5 Stanford 4-3, and then topped No. 4 Baylor 4-3. The Irish fell to No. 1 Northwestern in the semifinals, but a statement had been made.

"It showed us how good we could be," senior captain Kelcy Tefft said. "All of us felt we had a very good team, and then we went out and proved it to ourselves and everyone else, which gave us some extra confidence."

Following the defeat to Northwestern, Notre Dame rolled to eight straight victories before falling on the road to No. 7 Georgia Tech. All season long, the Irish only lost to the stiffest competition, falling in rematches to Baylor, 5-2, and closely Northwestern, 4-3.

"Losing to those types of teams doesn't hurt the confidence much," Louderback said. "It's tough to go through the year playing so many ranked teams. To not lose to any outside the Top 10 is not easy."

Indeed the schedule Louderback put together for the 2009 campaign was tough. Notre Dame played top 25 teams 12 times, and only lost in four of those matches. Through the whole season, the Irish faced 14 teams in the NCAA Tournament, and defeated ten of them.

"It was really rough this year. We traveled a lot and Coach dropped a few teams in order to add teams like Baylor and Georgia Tech, top 10 teams," Tefft said. "That is the way I would have it. We play the top teams every year so when we get to the NCAAs we know what we have to do beat those teams."

To conclude the season, Notre Dame went undefeated in Big East competition. In the Big East Championships, the Irish dominated en route to its ninth overall Big East title.

"One of our goals this year was to win the Big East Championship," Tefft said. "We were glad to do that."

In doing so, Notre Dame nearly swept Big East accolades. Tefft earned her second consecutive Big East Player of the Year, while freshman, and Tefft's doubles partner, Kristy Frilling was honored as Big East Freshman of the Year. Joining the two as members of the All-Big East team where juniors Cosmina Ciobanu and Kali Krisik along

with freshman Shannon Mathews.

"We were very deserving to have so many people on the all-tournament team," Tefft said. "We were the best team there, and had the best players there."

*"We were the best team there and had the best players there."*

**Kelcy Tefft**  
Irish senior

After such thorough season long success, the Irish were selected as the fifth seed in the NCAA tournament, and hosted the first two rounds.

Notre Dame defeated Illinois-Chicago 4-0 and then topped Michigan 4-1 to advance to the Sweet Sixteen. The Irish will face No. 12 Clemson Friday at College Station, Texas.

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IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Senior Kelcy Tefft returns a serve in the second round of the NCAA Tournament against Michigan Saturday.

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Devin Easter	Kathryn Loubsky	Tiffany Wert
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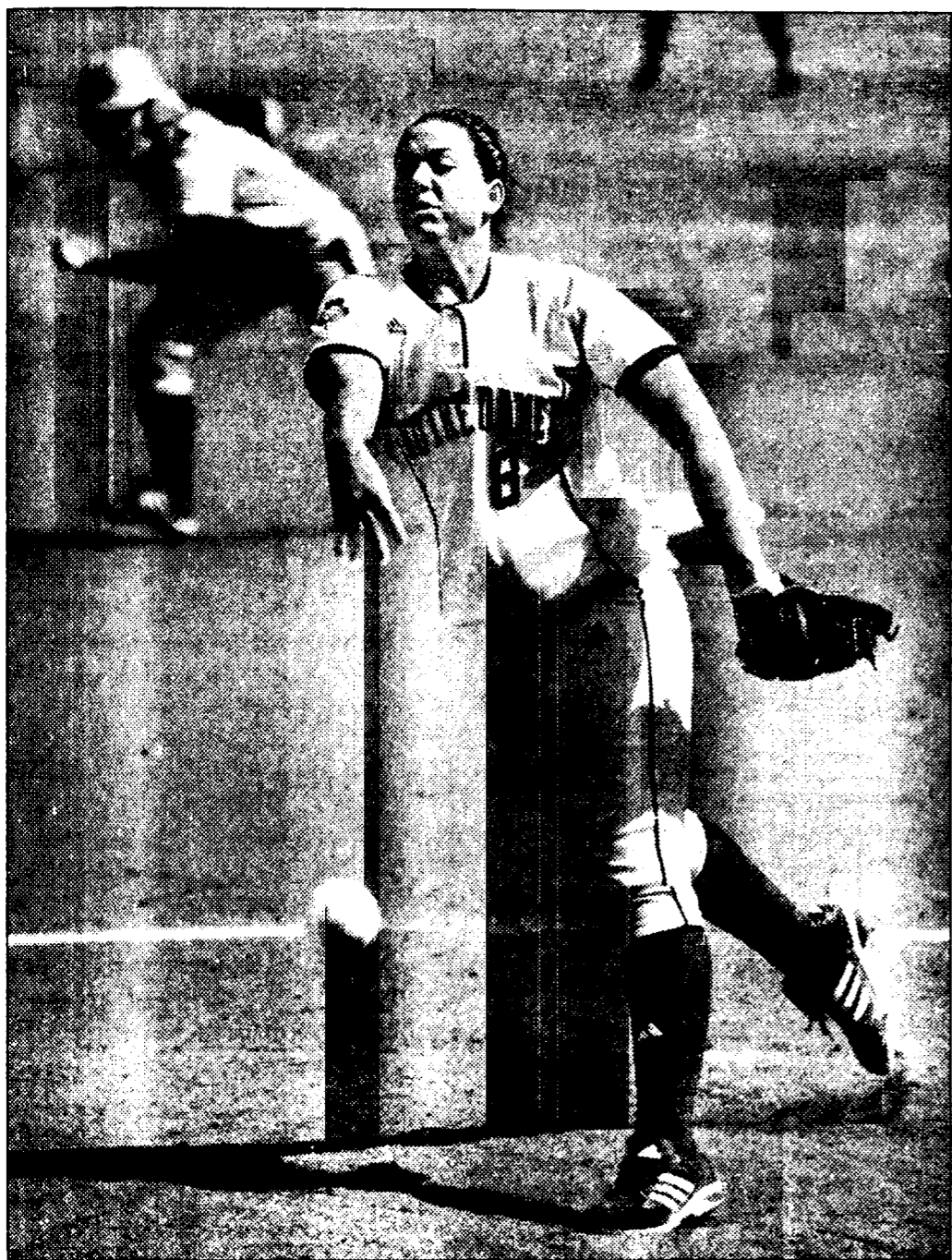
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## ND SOFTBALL

## Big East champs now face NCAA Regionals



Senior pitcher Brittney Bargar delivers against Pittsburgh on April 4 in a 5-2 Notre Dame loss.

TOM LA/The Observer

By MOLLY SAMMON  
Sports Writer

The Big East champion Irish head to Ann Arbor this weekend to compete in NCAA Regionals to face No. 5 seed Michigan, Miami (Ohio) and Cleveland State in group play.

Notre Dame defeated DePaul this past weekend 1-0 to win the conference tournament, earning an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. Senior pitcher Brittney Bargar held the Blue Demons scoreless in the championship game and was named the tournament's most outstanding player.

During the course of the season, the team excelled defensively largely in part to having two stellar starting pitchers, Bargar and sophomore Jody Valdivia.

"As a ball player I have completely changed," Bargar said. "Coming in as a freshman I was a pitcher that relied on throwing the ball past the hitters with a screw ball and a curve. As a senior I now rely on hitting my spots and my movement on my pitches."

A recent honor for an individual player was given to Valdivia, the most current recipient of the Big East Conference Pitcher of the Week. Valdivia's 1.94 E.R.A. and 28 strike-outs from the weekend helped the Irish beat three different Big East Conference teams, Providence, Georgetown and Louisville during the last week of the current season.

"I think we had a great season offensively," senior Linda Kohan said. "We made the adjustments we needed to and hit for power."

Freshman third baseman, Dani Miller made a name for herself offensively this season, with three grand slams, 10 homeruns, and a .342 batting

average that consistently yielded hits. Junior infielder Christine Lux also proved this season to be an important offensive asset to the Irish. Lux hit 15 homeruns and led the team in RBIs, accumulating 50 during the regular season.

"We have hit more home runs than any other Notre Dame softball team and we have also learned how to feed off of each other," senior pitcher Christine Farrell said.

The improvements that the Irish have made this season in comparison to last season can be traced back to a set of talented underclassmen ballplayers.

"I think all underclassmen play different roles and all of them have a chance to impact this team," Bargar said. "When [the seniors] leave, look for Katie Fleury, Christine Lux, Heather Johnson and Sadie Pitzenberger to have huge impacts as leaders."

The girls saw the bulk of their major competition in the earlier games of the season. They faced many difficult opponents from other conferences, such as top-ranked Alabama and other top 10 teams in the NCAA, including UCLA, Stanford and Oklahoma.

"Getting past some of the losses we took in preseason was our biggest challenge," senior outfielder Beth Northway said. "We expected more of ourselves, and I think we approached it believing that we were better than those games indicated and have spent the rest of the season working to prove ourselves as the team we are."

The Irish will compete in the double-elimination regional beginning today against Cleveland State.

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## BASEBALL

## Improved ND closing strong

By MATT GAMBER  
Sports Editor

Irish coach Dave Schrage thinks his team is playing its best baseball of the season as it prepares for the Big East tournament, which is set to begin Tuesday in Tampa, Fla.

Notre Dame (30-20, 13-11 Big East) has won five of its last six games before its final conference series of the season begins today, at St. John's in Jamaica, N.Y. And in that stretch, the Irish took two of three from South Florida, the Big East's top team that had lost just two conference games all season before visiting Notre Dame.

"We played really well and showed a lot of heart in all three games, coming from behind," Schrage said. "I liked how we came together and played, and we got a great spark from our seniors."

No senior has given his team more sparks than shortstop and captain Jeremy Barnes, who is one of two players — along with junior center fielder A.J. Pollock — to start every game for the Irish this season. Barnes led Notre Dame in batting average (.358), home runs (10), RBIs (57)

and total bases (122) heading into the weekend, and he trailed Pollock by just one for the team lead in hits.

While Barnes has had the most eye-popping statistics of any of his classmates, Schrage said the constant presence of all five of his seniors — Barnes, co-captain Ryan Connolly, Sam Elam, Eddy Mendiola and Evan Sharpley — has been invaluable on a team with several young, up-and-coming stars.

"They have meant a lot to us from a leadership standpoint," Schrage said. "Barnes and Connolly couldn't have been better captains, and they have all been great in the clubhouse and meant a lot to the program. We're certainly going to miss them."

The Irish will certainly have an opportunity to make some waves and extend their season in the conference tournament. If Notre Dame takes two of three from St. John's this weekend, the Irish will earn the No. 4 seed in the Big East bracket after getting off to a fairly slow start.

But Notre Dame has played more consistent ball of late, and Schrage said his team has shown it can play with anybody.

"What's strange about this season is we've won two of three from all the teams at the top of the league," Schrage said. "We've got a lot of confidence, and I like how we're playing right now."

A strong showing against the Red Storm would go a long way in preparing the Irish for what lies ahead in the Big East tournament, Schrage said.

"We want some momentum going into the tournament," he said. "You want to be playing your best baseball at the end of the season."

With solid starting pitching from Cole Johnson, Brian Dupra and Eric Maust, and a balanced lineup that starts with speedy outfielders Pollock and Golden Tate, Schrage said his squad may have the right pieces to make a late-season run.

"In the league tournament, it's the team that plays the best for four days. That's baseball," Schrage said. "You've got to get hot, get good pitching and get some timely hits. We're going to be playing great competition, but whoever we play, our kids are going to feel like we can beat them."

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## MEN'S SOCCER

## Irish shocked in second round

By MATT GAMBER  
Sports Editor

For a senior class that had reached the NCAA Sweet 16 in each of its first three seasons, a Nov. 25 season-ending loss to Northwestern in the tournament's second round was both shocking and shattering.

"This group of seniors really set their hearts on the Final Four," Irish coach Bobby Clark. "I just feel so sorry for the seniors. I don't know if I've ever seen a locker room more disappointed after a game."

The loss was the first — and only — at home for Notre Dame (12-7-2) after a regular season during which the Irish posted a 9-0-1 record at Alumni Field.

"Even though they were disappointed, they handled it very well, they handled it like sportsmen," Clark said. "Their legacy may be that they helped next year's team. I know it's going to happen. There's going to be a team that before very long will make it to the Final Four. I don't know when, but I know it'll happen sooner than later."

Not all was lost, however, for a team Clark had often called his best at Notre Dame. The Irish captured the Big East regular-season title for the second straight year, a first in the program's history.

"They played very nice soccer — as nice a playing team as I've ever had," Clark said. "They're a great group, and I don't know when I've had a group with such a great attitude. All my teams have been very good, but in many ways they were a special group. They all came in very fit and worked their tails off."



JESS LEE/The Observer

Senior forward Bright Dike fights for a ball in a 3-1 win over Providence on Oct. 19. Dike led the Irish with 12 goals.

Walk-on defender Terry Lee epitomized the work ethic of the senior class, Clark said. He called the 5-foot-9, 155-pound senior "one of the inspirations behind this team" because of the effort he brought to practice on a daily basis.

After back-to-back all-Big East selections, senior defender Matt Besler was named a preseason All-American heading into this year. He didn't disappoint, earning individual weekly conference and national honors several times throughout the season while starting every game for the Irish and being named an All-American.

"A terrific senior year, but a terrific four years as well," Clark said of Besler, who was the first-round pick of the MLS' Kansas City Wizards.

Notre Dame's leading scorer, senior forward Bright Dike (12 goals, 29 points), could be granted a fifth year of eligibility after not playing as a junior. Defender Cory Rellas and goalkeeper Andrew Quinn, who was Notre Dame's starter this season until suffering an injury on Oct. 29, may also apply for another year after not seeing any game action as freshmen.

Whether it has some returnees or not, the nine-man senior class is one with which Clark has cherished his time.

"These guys are just all terrific guys and they have been fantastic," Clark said. "I just can't say enough positive things about them."

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**Congratulations to all seniors in the College of Arts and Letters who are entering a Master's or Ph.D. program next fall.**

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## FOOTBALL

# Bowl streak snapped after late season letdowns

By BILL BRINK  
Sports Writer

Talk about a turnaround.

No, not a complete 180 from the face-plant that was the 3-9 2007 season. It was a switcheroo from one extreme — a snowball-filled embarrassment of a loss to Syracuse at home on Senior Day and a blowout against USC — to the other, a honeymoon-esque escape to warm and sunny Hawaii.

When the Irish took off their swim trunks and floppy-floppies and got to work, they demonstrated the totality of their shift in a 49-21 win over Hawaii in the Sheraton Hawaii Bowl on Christmas Eve. The bowl win, Notre Dame's first since 1994, capped a 7-6 season that saw both promise and despair.

Notre Dame's start to the season had fans believing that last year's demons had been exorcized. The Irish defeated San Diego State at home, 21-13, on Sept. 6.

"It's a great feeling to get the win, especially coming off of last year," sophomore receiver Golden Tate said after the game. "To get a win in the first game, we feel much more confident."

Tate had six receptions for 93 yards and a touchdown in the game. Sophomore quarterback Jimmy Clausen completed 21-of-34 passes and threw three touchdowns.

Notre Dame's success continued against Michigan the next week. The Wolverines' new coach, former West Virginia head coach Rich Rodriguez, was still figuring out how to run his style of offense with the players he inherited. That, plus the monsoon that drenched Notre Dame Stadium and a good Irish running game, helped Notre Dame win 35-17.

During the game, junior linebacker John Ryan was shoved out of bounds and into Irish coach Charlie Weis, knocking him to the ground. Weis suffered a torn anterior

cruciate ligament (ACL) and medial collateral ligament (MCL).

"I'll show up as a coach, but I'll be gone for the year as a player. Tommy Brady's got nothing on me," Weis joked after the game. "I feel like an athlete. First time in my life."

Sophomore running back Robert Hughes ran 19 times for 81 yards and two touchdowns in the game, getting a ton of carries in the down-pour.

Notre Dame's early-season success stopped on the road against Michigan State. The Irish lost, 23-7, largely in part to the performance of Spartans senior running back Javon Ringer. Ringer rushed 39 times for 201 yards and two touchdowns.

"With Javon Ringer being such a dynamic guy, I think the one thing you needed to do was make sure you had everybody in every gap," Weis said in his Sunday post-game press conference. "And the few times in the gap where we didn't have somebody in every gap, like the one 60 yarder that he went for, was the one time if you go back and watch it you'll see there was no one in that gap where he ended up running through."

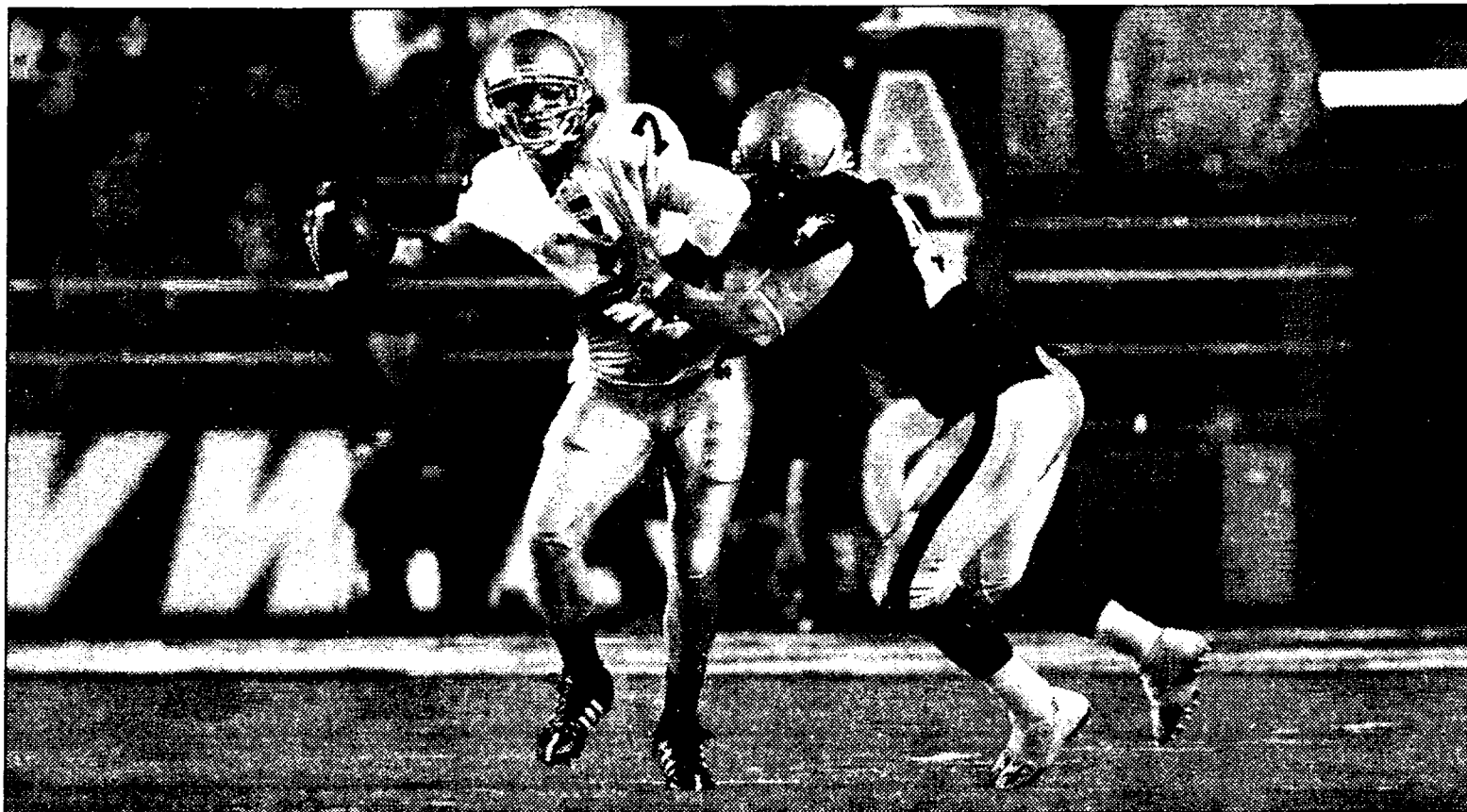
Clausen threw two costly interceptions, one in the end zone and one while the Irish were driving.

Spartans kicker Brett Swenson made three field goals in the game, one from 45 yards out.

Notre Dame got back on track with a 38-21 win against Purdue. Sophomore running back Armando Allen carried the Irish, rushing for 134 yards and a touchdown.

"We went out there and showed people that we really can run the ball," Allen said after the game. "We always hear that we can't run the ball, so to go out there and run the ball effectively is great."

Clausen had another good day, throwing for 275 yards and three touchdowns.



DAN JACOBS/The Observer

Sophomore quarterback Jimmy Clausen tries to break a tackle against Boston College in a 17-0 loss to the Eagles on Nov. 8. Boston College has defeated the Irish six straight times.

"I thought [Clausen] improved a lot," senior receiver David Grimes said after the game. "He was coming up to the line of scrimmage and calling plays just like Brady (Quinn) used to do. I think he grew up a lot today. I'm proud of him."

Freshman receiver Michael Floyd led the Irish receivers with six catches for 100 yards.

Sophomore kicker Brandon Walker, who had struggled up to this point, made a 41-yard field goal during the game.

"It boosted my confidence, the coaches' confidence and the players' confidence in me, so it was a relief," Walker said after the game.

Notre Dame moved to 4-1 with a 28-21 win over Stanford despite only 83 yards rushing. Clausen had his best game yet, throwing for 347 yards and three touchdowns while completing 72.5 percent of his passes.

"We were really getting Jimmy a lot of time and keeping him off the ground, and it just got going," junior tackle Sam Young said. "Our receivers made great plays. I thought the line did a pretty good job keeping Jimmy up and keeping him clean."

So then came a big chance for the Irish: A road game against a ranked North Carolina team that would cement the fact that Notre Dame had returned. But a costly second-half interception and a last-second play that almost worked doomed the Irish, who lost 29-24 in Chapel Hill.

Notre Dame scored first, on a 19-yard touchdown pass to Tate. The Irish led 17-9 at the half, but on the first play of the second half, Tar Heels linebacker Quan Sturdivant picked off Clausen's pass and returned it for a touchdown to make the score 17-16.

Junior running back James Aldridge scored to put the Irish ahead by eight, but two North Carolina touchdowns in the final six minutes put the Tar Heels ahead by five.

Notre Dame had a chance at the end of the game, but Floyd's catch came short of the end zone as time expired.

Despite the loss, Weis was happy with his team after the game.

"That team in that locker room today, it was the first

time in a long time where I've looked in their faces against a good opponent and it was a team that really feels bad," he said after the game. "And the reason they felt really bad is because they're starting to get it."

No worries, though, because after the bye week Notre Dame traveled to Seattle and trounced Washington, 33-7. Floyd scored a 51-yard touchdown pass on the first drive and the Irish never looked back. In fact, Notre Dame would have shut out the winless Huskies had Washington not thrown a six-yard touchdown pass in the final three minutes.

Aldridge rushed 13 times for 84 yards and two touchdowns in the game.

Back in South Bend after fall break, the Irish and Pittsburgh needed extra time to decide the game, but the Panthers won, 36-33, after four overtimes.

Notre Dame led 24-17 with 5:38 remaining, but a late touchdown pass tied the game. Pittsburgh kicker Conor Lee and Walker traded field goals in the first two overtimes. When Lee made his in the third, Walker attempted a 48-yarder that barely curved over the lower left corner of the crossbar.

In the fourth overtime, however, Walker missed a 38-yarder wide left. Lee knocked his through, and the game ended.

"It's not [Walker's] fault at all that we lost," senior safety Kyle McCarthy said. "He played a great game, and he is a big reason that we stayed in the game throughout. It's the offense and defense's fault just as much as anyone's."

Whatever demoralization resulted from Pittsburgh may have carried over into the next game, against Boston College in Chestnut Hill. Clausen threw four interceptions in a 17-0 loss. Boston College ran one of those interceptions back for a touchdown, and Eagles running back Montel Harris rushed for 120 yards. The Irish held Boston College to just 79 yards passing, but Notre Dame's offense could not take advantage.

"The defense put out a winning performance, unfortunately that's only one-third of the composition of a team,"

Weis said after the game. "It took us over a quarter to get into any kind of flow."

Notre Dame's record fell to 5-4 after being 4-1 at one point. The Eagles extended their winning streak over Notre Dame to six games.

Notre Dame's 43-game winning streak over Navy, snapped in 2007, now stands at one. Notre Dame eked out a 27-21 win that Navy threatened to ruin in the final minutes.

Notre Dame led 27-7, but Navy back Shun White broke a long touchdown run to make the score 27-14. The Midshipmen recovered an onside kick and after a long pass put them on the 1-yard line, they punched the ball in to make the score 27-21.

Then they recovered another onside kick, but Irish fans breathed easy when Notre Dame's defense stopped the Midshipmen.

Then came Syracuse.

Not good times for the Irish, who lost 24-23 to the Orange. Notre Dame led 23-10, but Syracuse scored twice in the fourth quarter, once with less than a minute left, to win. The Irish could only muster 41 yards on the ground in the game.

Against top-10 Southern California in Los Angeles, the wheels fell off. Notre Dame couldn't get a first down until the last play of the third quarter during a 38-3 loss.

Then came Hawaii, and Notre Dame stomped the Warriors in their home stadium. Clausen blew the Hawaii secondary out of the water, completing 22-of-26 passes for 401 yards and five touchdowns. Tate had 177 yards receiving and three touchdowns. Both set Irish bowl game records.

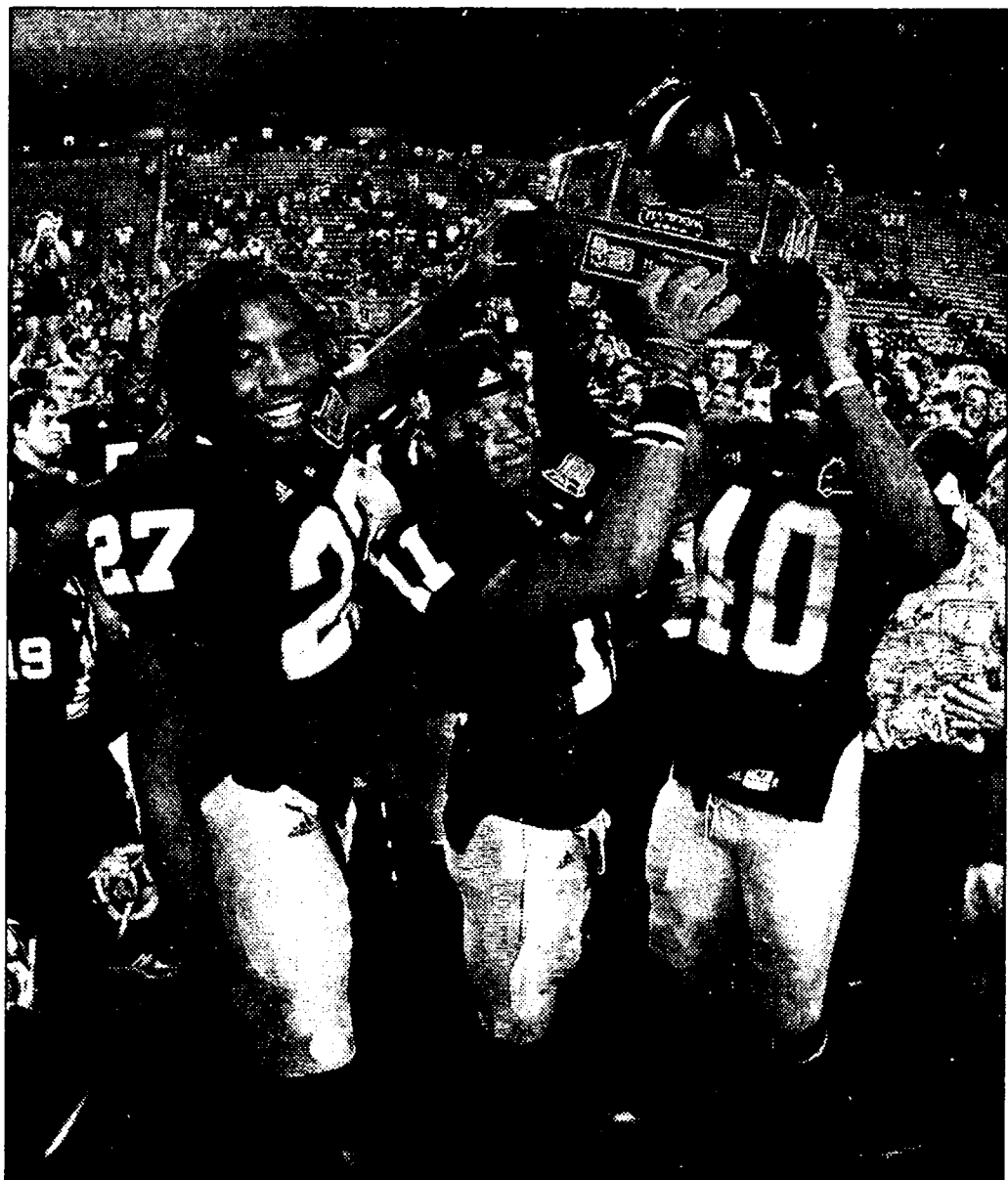
"I'm glad that we got the monkey off our back, and that we were the team that did it," senior defensive tackle Pat Kuntz said after the game.

## Notes:

♦ Senior safety David Bruton was drafted by the Denver Broncos in the fourth round of the 2009 NFL Draft.

♦ Pat Kuntz, David Grimes, Terrail Lambert, Asaph Schwapp and Mike Turkovich all signed with NFL teams.

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IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Seniors David Bruton, David Grimes and Maurice Crum celebrate with the Hawaii Bowl trophy after a 49-21 win over the Warriors.

## ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

## Injuries end Irish season, lead to Gophers' win

By BILL BRINK  
Sports Writer

Déjà vu can be positive or negative, and unfortunately the Irish got all of the bad kind and none of the good.

Notre Dame lost sophomore forward Devereaux Peters to a torn anterior cruciate ligament (ACL), the same ACL she tore last February. While we're at it, sophomore guard Brittany Mallory had the same injury. But there would be no return to the Sweet 16 for the Irish, who finished 22-9 but lost to Minnesota in the first round of the NCAA Tournament March 22.

The Irish received the No. 7 seed in the Tournament and got a chance to play at home in the first round, but lost 79-71 to the No. 10-seed Gophers.

The Irish gave up eight 3-pointers, a common problem for them all season. Five of them went to Gophers guard Katie Ohm.

"Same old story, every game, we can't defend the 3-point line," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said after the game. "It was a fantastic crowd out there today and we didn't give them their money's worth."

Ohm hit back-to-back 3s that acted as an early death knell for the Irish.

"When Ohm hit those two back-to-back 3s that was really the gamebreaker right there," Irish junior guard Melissa Lechlitner said after the game.

The Irish return every player next season, thanks to senior guard Lindsay Schrader's extra year of eligibility due to a torn ACL before her sophomore season.

Peters tore her ACL during a win over Boston College on Nov. 23. Since she only played in three games, she can receive a medical redshirt.

Notre Dame's start to the season boded well. The Irish began with a seven-game winning streak that included a 62-51 win over Purdue. Lechlitner scored 19 points to lead the team.

The Irish suffered their first setback at Michigan, where they lost 63-59 in overtime. Notre Dame missed layups in the extra period and allowed Michigan's Stephany Skrba to score twice in a row. The Irish also lost Mallory to her ACL injury in the game.

The Irish wouldn't lose again until they entered Big East play, running off seven straight victories. Included in these games was a 59-57 win over No. 20 Vanderbilt during which Notre Dame came back from down 18 points. Notre Dame outscored Vanderbilt 35-21 in the second half, led by Schrader and sophomore forward Becca Bruszewski with 12. Bruszewski scored 10 of her 12 points in the second half.

Once Notre Dame entered conference play, however, it had difficulty mounting a winning streak like it had against non-conference opponents. The Irish defeated DePaul and Georgetown but then lost three of their next four.

Marquette defeated the Irish on the road, 75-65, to start the skid. Notre Dame responded by edging St. John's 70-67 in a tough game. Schrader blocked a potentially game-tying 3-pointer to secure the Irish victory. Lechlitner had 15 points and Schrader and junior guard Ashley Barlow each had 13.

Two straight losses to Villanova and Rutgers dampened the win. The Wildcats beat the Irish 55-48 on the road and sank 10 3-pointers in the process.

"That's their game," McGraw said after the game. "I actually thought we did a decent job holding them to 55 points."

Barlow led the low-scoring Irish offense with 11 points. Senior forward Laura Kurz had 16 points for the Wildcats.

The Scarlet Knights didn't make life any easier when they visited the Joyce Center. Brittany Ray scored 26 points and Epiphanny Prince 24 in a 78-68 win over the Irish.

"I thought Rutgers' two best players stepped up and played great," McGraw said. "We battled at the end. We definitely tried to fight down the stretch but it was too little, too late."

Freshman guard Natalie Novosel led the team with 19 points, going 7-of-11 from field goal range. Lechlitner had 18 and Barlow added 17. This dropped Notre Dame's record to 15-4, 4-3 in conference play.

The Irish alternated wins

and losses for the next six games before ending the season on a three-game win streak.

Schrader made sure the Irish beat Cincinnati by scoring 19 points and grabbing 15 rebounds in a 66-50 win at the Joyce Center.

"We're just sick of losing, and we're sick of talking about losing," Schrader said after the game.

"We have to go out there and let our actions show."

Freshman forward Kellie Watson hit two back-to-back 3s near the end of the game.

No momentum for Notre Dame, however,

because Pittsburgh's Shavonte Zellous scored 29 points as the Panthers defeated the Irish 82-70 on the road. Freshman forward Erica Solomon scored 14 points in the game, as did Bruszewski. The Irish got within one in the second half, but Pittsburgh went on a 14-6 run to put them away.

Notre Dame spanked DePaul in the Blue Demons' house the first time around, and the Blue Demons came for revenge. DePaul had a long 3-point attempt to tie that came close, but clanged off the rim to give Notre Dame a 62-59 win during "The Pink Zone" promotion that raised money to fight cancer.

"I was holding my breath. That was a pretty open shot from quite a ways out," McGraw said. "I was saying some prayers there."

Bruszewski hit a baseline

jumper with 50 seconds left to give Notre Dame a two-point lead and the Irish made their free throws down the stretch. She finished with 14 points and 12 rebounds.

No. 10 Louisville came to town next, and Notre Dame gave the Cardinals a tough challenge, but lost 71-66. Notre Dame had a 6-0 run to pull within two in the final minutes, but Lechlitner fouled Cardinals senior Angel McCoughtry as she attempted a 3-pointer. McCoughtry made all three free throws and Louisville came out on top.

"When you look at us now, they're a top 10 team and we obviously are right there with them," McGraw told the Associated Press after the game. "So even though we lost I think we can draw some good things from that game."

After a win on the road at South Florida, Notre Dame traveled to Storrs to face the undefeated, No. 1 team in the nation, Connecticut. The Huskies had blown out opponents all season, but the Irish stayed within 10 points in a 76-66 loss. The margin of victory tied the lowest for Connecticut on the season.

Barlow led the Irish with 18 points and Schrader had 17, but four Huskies starters scored in double figures.

From there, Notre Dame won out against Syracuse, Providence and West Virginia and earned the No. 5 seed and a first-round bye in the Big East tournament in Hartford, Conn. In the second round, the Irish faced No. 13-seed St. John's and, after a dismal first half, outscored the Red Storm 42-23 in the second half to win

62-45.

Schrader had her seventh double-double of the season, which broke Notre Dame's single-season record for guards.

"I was getting on the block more," she said after the game. "I got a lot more opportunities and I was just making them."

This gave the Irish a second-round matchup against No. 4-seed Villanova, and the Wildcats used the same tools to beat the Irish as earlier in the season. They hit 10 3s on their way to a 58-47 win.

Kurz had 21 points and 11 rebounds and Wildcats forward Lisa Karcic had 11 points. Siobahn O'Connor hit three of her six 3-point attempts.

"We were trying to double-team Kurz because she was hurting us down low, we were sending the double team down and rotating back out defensively," McGraw said after the game. "For some reason we stopped short on her twice."

Notre Dame earned the No. 7 seed in the NCAA Tournament but lost to Minnesota. The prospects for next year, however, look positive. Schrader and Mallory will be healthy and Skylar Diggins, one of the nation's top high school guards and a senior at nearby Washington High School in South Bend, will play for the Irish.

"We had seen her play and I knew she was going to be a great player," McGraw told The Observer. "She was really special and I think we could tell that right away."

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*"Same old story,  
every game, we can't  
defend the 3-point  
line."*

**Muffet McGraw**  
Irish coach

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## HOCKEY

## Conference champs upended by Bemidji St.

By MATT GAMBER  
Sports Writer

Led by a group of seniors that Irish coach Jeff Jackson said helped changed the culture of the program, Notre Dame followed up last year's national runner-up finish with a dominating regular season and a CCHA title that won't soon be forgotten despite a disappointing loss in the NCAA tournament's first round.

"Probably 95 percent of the teams in the country would have loved to have our season," Jackson said. "It's a blemish, but it's the timing of [the NCAA loss] that hurt the most. I think winning the league and playoffs was another sign that we're making good progress."

Perhaps the biggest sign of the Notre Dame (31-6-3, 21-4-3 CCHA) program's development under Jackson was the Feb. 12 announcement that the University will begin construction on a new, freestanding ice arena next spring that will be ready for the 2011-12 season. First-year athletics director Jack Swarbrick was a major supporter of the project, which had significant funding secured more than a year ago, but only recently received approval and a definite timeline for completion.

"The fact that hockey has arrived on the campus is a huge thing, and we want to continue that in the next few years moving into a new building," Jackson said.

Jackson has emphasized all along that while the graduating seniors won't have the opportunity to play in the new rink, it was their contributions over the last four years — Jackson's first four at Notre Dame — that helped make the dream facility a reality.

Captain Erik Condra led the Irish in scoring in each of the last four years, and he was also a finalist this past season for the conference's top defensive forward honor.

Condra, along with goaltender Jordan Pearce, was also one of 10 finalists for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award.

Pearce manned the Notre Dame goal for each of the past two years after sitting behind All-American Dave Brown for his first two. But Pearce made his time count, leading the nation and setting single-season Irish records in wins and shutouts as a senior.

And Jackson said his other four seniors — current Toronto Maple Leafs center Christian Hanson, Luke Lucyk, Garrett Regan and Justin White — all stepped it up for their final season and provided valuable ice time in addition to quality leadership in the locker room.

"There's no question that they've put us in position to be where we are," Jackson said. "Erik Condra was consistent throughout his career, but [others] really took their game to another level."

The seniors' departures will surely hurt the Irish, but the proverbial cupboard is not bare by any means. Notre Dame will likely be one of the top teams in the country in preseason polls, as one of the nation's top recruiting classes will team with a solid returning core that includes eight of last season's top 10 scorers.

Among the returnees will be sophomore Calle Ridderwall, who built on a strong finish to his freshman campaign by leading the Irish with 17 goals, including 11 on the power play — one of the top totals in the country. Notre Dame will also return freshman Billy Maday, whose 16 goals put him among the nation's top newcomers.

The blue line will also be strong come October, with the return of juniors Kyle Lawson and Brett Blatchford and sophomores Ian Cole and Teddy Ruth to a defense that was underrated in the shadow of Pearce's dominance and the offense's ability to put up crooked goal tallies.

"There will be some adjust-



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Goaltender Jordan Pearce makes a save in the CCHA championship against Michigan on March 21. The Irish defeated the Wolverines 5-2 with four goals in the third period.

ment, but we've got potential for a good group of leaders next year," Jackson said. "We've got some big holes to fill, but I'm hoping that some guys continue to elevate their game similar to what Christian and Jordan did this year."

Notre Dame's tremendous regular season came as no surprise to most, as the Irish were a consensus No. 1 or No. 2 pick in the preseason polls. But they struggled a bit out of the gate, dropping three of their first five games — including the first two conference games at home to Miami (Ohio).

Perhaps those early defeats served as a wake-up call, though, as Notre Dame then rattled off a school-best 20-game unbeaten streak that spanned nearly three months — from an Oct. 31 loss to Miami to a Jan. 30 defeat at the hands of Michigan.

"We were getting production from a lot of people," Jackson said of the streak. "I think our consistency was much better than in previous years."

The streak helped the Irish distance themselves from the

rest of the CCHA pack and solidify one of the top two spots in the national polls, where Notre Dame was ranked for nearly the entire season.

After the Miami series, the Irish never again lost back-to-back games, running away with the league title and then taking the CCHA tournament championship with wins over Northern Michigan and Michigan.

The championship game victory over the Wolverines was particularly impressive, as Notre Dame overcame a two-goal deficit and a heavily pro-Michigan crowd to score five unanswered goals and win, 5-2, at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit.

"That's why you play 60 minutes," Jackson said after that victory. "It was just a matter of being patient enough to generate some scoring chances. Once we caught a break, it turned the tide for us."

Most viewed the Irish as being poised for a deep NCAA run, but Notre Dame went up against a feisty, quick Bemidji St. team in the first round at

the Grand Rapids, Mich., regional. The Beavers took control with a pair of fluky goals early in the game, and Notre Dame never recovered in a 5-1 loss that sent the heavy favorites home in shock.

"To be honest, it didn't sink in for me until I was sitting in the locker room, looking around, and realized I was never going to put on this jersey again and never play with these guys again," Hanson said after the game.

Though the end of Notre Dame's season came sooner than many would have liked, Jackson noted that those feelings are another indication of how far the program has come just a few years removed from a single-digit win total.

"Expectations have changed for our program and I think that we left with an empty feeling to an extent," Jackson said. "To become one of the top 10 teams in the country is one thing, but to try to sustain it is a lot more challenging."

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## MEN'S TENNIS

## Irish fall to Michigan; Helgeson advances to NCAA singles

By KATELYN GRABAREK  
Sports Writer

Early season victories and another trip to the NCAA Tournament highlighted another successful season for the Irish, who fell to Michigan 4-1 in the first round last weekend.

Notre Dame finished 13-13 against tough competition, and had defeated the Wolverines earlier in the season. When it counted, however, only senior Brett Helgeson won his point at the NCAA Tournament.

The Irish gained confidence

at the beginning of the season with big wins over No. 9 Illinois and No. 12 Texas A&M.

"Against A&M we rallied back from a 3-0 deficit to win 4-3," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "Seeing Stephen Havens serve it out at 5-3 in the third was particularly amazing since he defeated the former U. S. National Junior Champion, someone who played in the main draw of the U.S. Open last September. That is pretty rarified air in which to compete. Brett hit one of the biggest forehands I have ever seen at match point to down Connor Pollock."

The Irish were able to get

big wins from freshman Casey Watt this season as he finished the regular season with 15 victories while splitting time between No. 3 and No. 4 singles for the Irish.

"The most pleasant surprise has been Casey Watt's ability to compete as we keep moving him up the ladder," Bayliss said. "He simply plays at a much higher level in matches than we see daily in matches. The trick now is to find ways to force him to practice with the same intensity and focus because that is the best way to be able to add the weapons and improve the areas of concern that will lift him to

greater heights."

The Irish will be faced with yet another senior graduation, losing their No. 1 singles player, Helgeson.

Helgeson was recently named to the 64-player draw of the NCAA Singles bracket that will be held from May 20-25 in College Station, Texas. This will be his second straight appearance at the event. Helgeson has also been named as the fourth alternate with sophomore Tyler Davis to the 32-team field in doubles.

"You cannot really replace a Brett Helgeson," Bayliss said. "Our team went into every match knowing that we had a

chance to win at No. 1 and not many teams can say that. We need to try to find someone — Stephen [Havens] and Casey [Watt] come immediately to mind — who gives us the best chance to win at No. 1 next year. We have pretty good freshmen arriving in the fall, but it is certainly a stretch to feel that any of them is ready to play high in the lineup."

The Irish will have some of their players around South Bend this summer to hit and train and others will be working on their games at home.

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## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Shooting woes, tough schedule doom Irish

By CHRIS HINE  
Senior Staff Writer

They began with a top 10 preseason ranking and had four returning starters from a team that made the NCAA Tournament a year ago, including the reigning Big East player of the year in Luke Harangody. It was a recipe for success.

But there was one ingredient in Notre Dame's season that spoiled the finished product — a tough and grueling schedule.

Notre Dame faced the No. 1 seeds in the NCAA Tournament a total of six times, with five of those games coming in conference, and suffered through a seven-game losing streak that played a large part in Notre Dame's relegation to the NIT.

The Irish finished the year with a 21-15 record (8-10 Big East) and went 1-5 in this matchups against those No. 1 seeds.

The writing on the wall for this season may have come before Notre Dame began conference play, in a contest against Ohio State at Lucas Oil Stadium.

Harangody played despite fighting the effects of pneumonia he contracted during Notre Dame's time in Maui playing in the Maui Invitational.

He still scored 25 points and grabbed 16 rebounds. Harangody wasn't the problem.

The problem was that Notre Dame couldn't make up for the off night senior guard Kyle McAlarney had. Ohio State closely guarded McAlarney and held him to just six points on 3-for-11 shooting. Junior guard Tory Jackson was second in scoring for Notre Dame with 13 points as the Irish struggled and fell 67-62 to the Buckeyes. Ohio State had designed the blueprint on how to beat Notre Dame — let Harangody get his points, but contain McAlarney. The rest of the Irish weren't score-first players the way Harangody and McAlarney were, and Notre Dame's defense was inconsistent, and made it hard for the Irish to stay in close games.

Notre Dame's Big East opponents certainly took notes from Ohio State's victory.

Teams took away McAlarney at times during Notre Dame's seven-game losing streak, while his teammates struggled to pick up the slack.

The streak began with a Jan. 12 overtime loss to Louisville, then continued with a 93-74 loss to Syracuse on Jan. 17. Still, optimism abounded around the Irish squad. The following weekend ESPN's College Gameday came to campus, as did top-tier opponents in Marquette and Connecticut. The Huskies came to town on Saturday amidst all the hype. Notre Dame may have been struggling, but those struggles were away from the Joyce Center, where the Irish had

won 45 straight games.

However, that ended on Jan. 24, when Connecticut beat Notre Dame 69-61. McAlarney had some open looks, but scored just nine points on 3-of-15 shooting. Senior Ryan Ayers had his own troubles, shooting just 1-of-10 for the night.

Then Marquette defeated Notre Dame two days later, and again Notre Dame's shooters couldn't find their touch. The Golden Eagles hounded McAlarney and limited him to nine points. Ayers shot 0-for-7 for the night.

While offensive problems doomed the Irish in the losses to Marquette and Connecticut, defensive deficiencies contributed to Notre Dame's next two losses. The Irish gave up 93 points each to Pittsburgh and Cincinnati. Their seventh loss of the streak, however, was just an overall disaster on both ends of the floor. The Irish reached their low point in Los Angeles at the hands of UCLA. The Bruins delivered an 89-63 thumping of Notre Dame, aired nationwide on CBS.

"Time for us to go back to step one," Harangody said following the defeat. "There's not much you could say. This was embarrassing today, definitely a low point in my career at Notre Dame."

The streak ended in perhaps Notre Dame's weirdest game of the season. Against eventual Big East champion Louisville on Feb. 12 at the Joyce Center, Notre Dame played outside of itself and beat the Cardinals 90-57.

Everything went right for the Irish that night, but soon, Notre Dame came back down to earth, ending the Big East season with two straight losses to Connecticut and Villanova — playing two straight Final Four teams can do that to you.

West Virginia knocked the Irish out of the Big East tournament and days later, the Irish learned they would play in the NIT.

They advanced to the semi-finals before losing to Penn State.

Their final season may not have gone as they planned, but Notre Dame's four graduating seniors — McAlarney, Zach Hillesland, Ayers and Luke Zeller — certainly accomplished a lot during their four-year careers.

The four struggled through a tough freshman season that mirrored their final season in some ways. They suffered defeat after agonizing defeat and missed the NCAA Tournament. But those two years bookended two solid years where the Irish had one of the most potent offenses in the country.

And each had their own memorable moments.

McAlarney hit nine 3-pointers his junior year against Syracuse, then hit 10 in a loss this year to North Carolina.

Hillesland posterized DePaul's Mac Koshwal in a game in March of 2008.

Zeller's left-handed dunk

*"This was embarrassing today, definitely a low point in my career at Notre Dame."*

**Luke Harangody**  
Irish forward



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Point guard Kyle McAlarney takes a jump shot in the second round of the Big East Tournament against West Virginia in early March.

against Marquette, which his teammates named "The Baptism" sparked Notre Dame to a key win in 2008 against Marquette, while Ayers hit what Irish coach Mike Brey called one of the most important shots of the past four years when he was a sophomore against Villanova.

Ayers, a bench role player during his sophomore year, hit a key 3-pointer to tie the game late against the Wildcats, then hit two free throws to give Notre Dame the lead. The Irish won the game, advanced to 5-3 in the Big East on their way to advancing to the NCAA

Tournament.

The four seniors had some moments on the court they'd like to forget, but the good memories they created should be enough to drown out the bad.

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## SMC BASKETBALL

## Belles' season sets record heights

By MICHAEL BLASCO  
Sports Writer

The Belles enjoyed their greatest season in program history, coming up just short in their bid to capture the MIAA title in a tough loss in the conference finals.

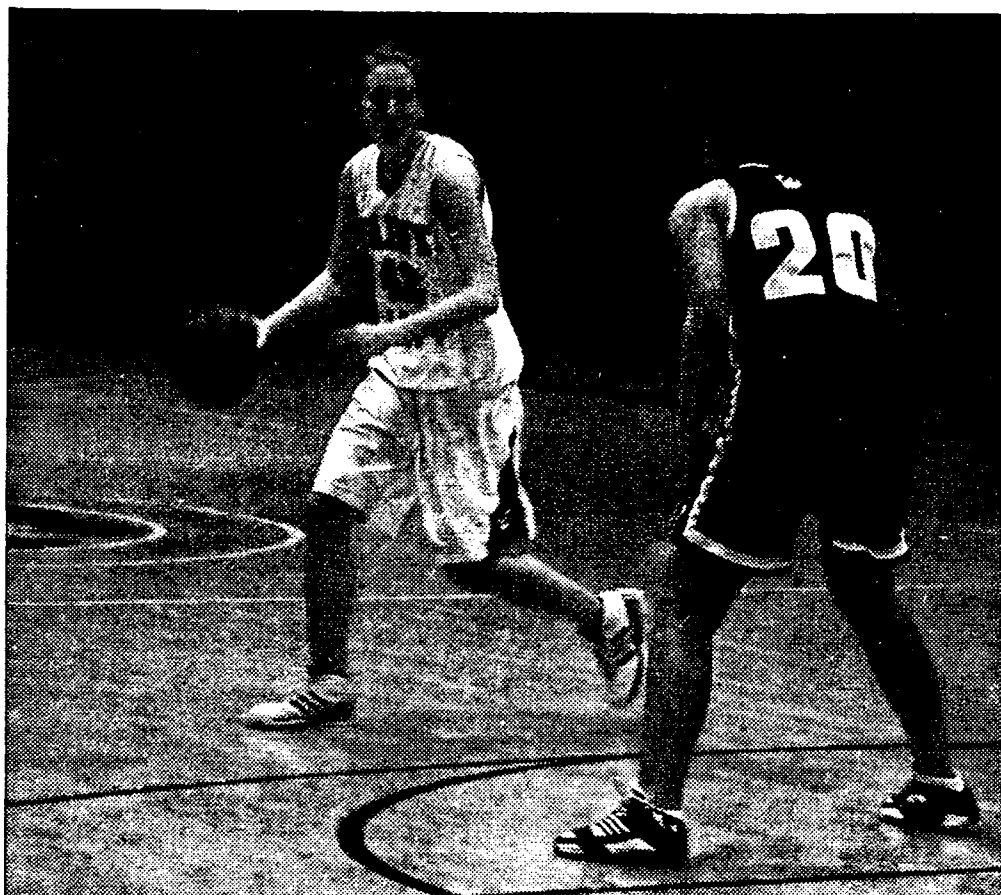
With a 17-10 record overall, 13-3 in conference, Saint Mary's eclipsed the school's previous record for wins in each category. The Belles also reached the championship game of the MIAA conference tournament for the first time in school history, but fell to conference powerhouse Hope 77-47 in the finals on February 28.

"It means a lot to reach the MIAA championship game," third-year head coach Jennifer Henley said. "Every team in this conference strives to get there."

After graduating one of the most distinguished senior classes in the program's history, Saint Mary's used a balance of veteran leadership and impact freshmen to finish with 13 wins in the MIAA, second only to Hope's 15-1 mark. The Dutchmen's lone loss came at the hands of the Belles at Saint Mary's Angela Athletic Facility in January.

Henley is confident that her squad will be able to build on this season's success, and the strong freshman and sophomore classes are a testament to the program's bright future.

"With each new season, we continue to try and get one step closer to the [NCAA Division III Championships]," Henley said. "Despite coming up short, making it to the



Erin Newsom sets up a play against Adrian last season. The Belles went 13-3 in MIAA play this season.

championship game validates that we are moving in the right direction."

The Belles will lose four seniors from this year's team: Meghan Conaty, Katie Rashid, Erin Newsom and Nicole Beier.

"I am very proud of our four seniors," Henley said. "They took ownership of this team early on and are a big reason for the success we had. One of the best parts of this season for me is to watch how this team has improved since [going 2-6 in non-conference play]."

Newsom earned an All-MIAA first team selection, while forward Beier received All-MIAA second team honors. Newsom finished third in the MIAA in both scoring (14.4 ppg) and

rebounds (7.8 ppg).

Sophomore guard Liz Wade also earned conference honors, being named the MIAA Defensive Player of the Year after leading the league in steals (3.56 spg) and finishing second in assists.

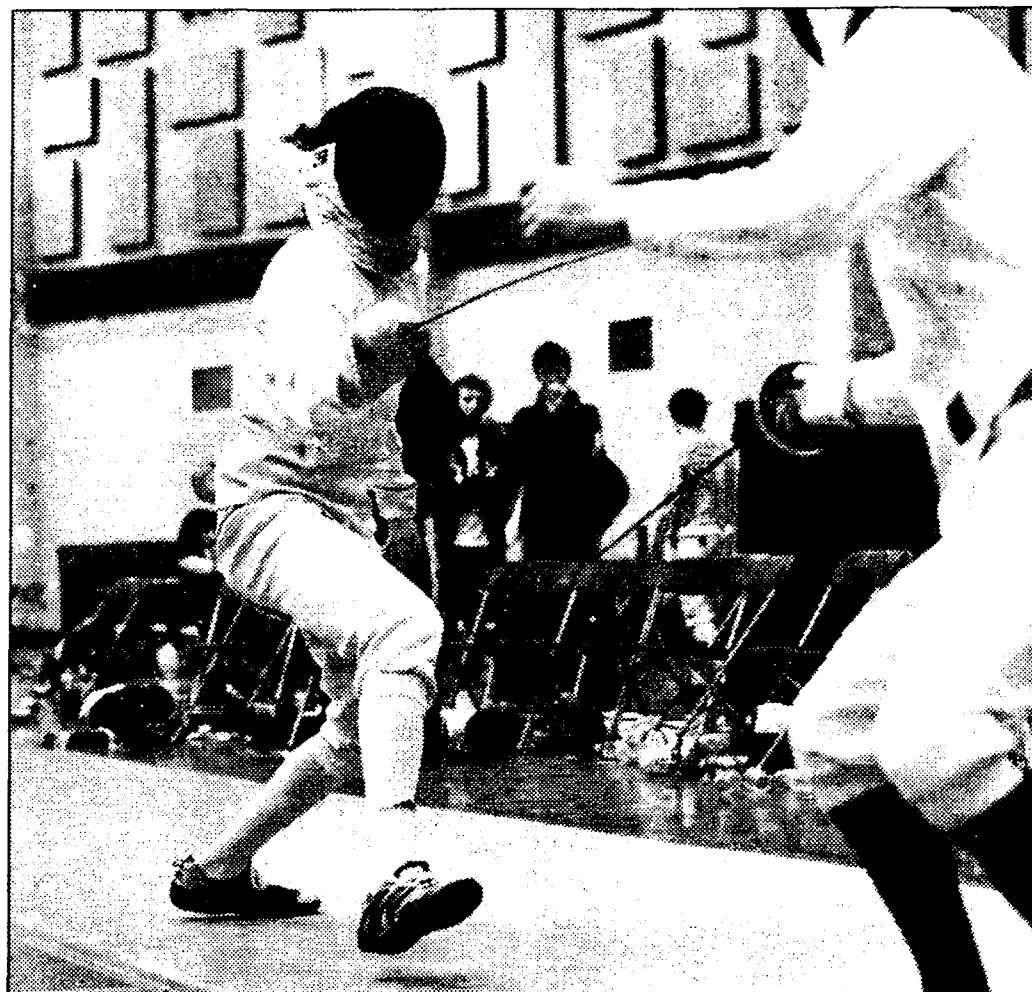
Losing four seniors, especially a senior class as strong as the Belles', will hit any program hard, Henley said.

"It's hard to say who will fill the roles that are seniors had this year," she said. "Each season brings a new identity. Our four outgoing seniors have set the bar high for those that follow. I am very proud of this team and all that they have accomplished this season."

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## FENCING

## Runner-up finish disappoints Irish



Sophomore Andrew Seroff competes in the epee at the Midwest Championships in February.

By CHRIS MASOUD  
Sports Writer

For the second consecutive year, the Irish finished second overall at the NCAA Fencing Championship and, for the second consecutive year, the Irish left the strip after having a national title snatched out of their hands.

Notre Dame fell to the heavily favored Nittany Lions of Penn State, but accumulated 182 wins over the course of the four-day tournament. Despite falling short of their ultimate goal, the Irish turned in impressive performances each day of the competition on both the men's and women's sides. By the end of the championship, the squad featured 10 All-Americans and two silver medalists.

"We just mobilized all the energy, everything to fight," Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said. "We had a very good season and in general, many teams wanted to be second. We are not happy anyway because we have a bigger appetite, but we have to wait until next year."

But by any objective measure the Irish turned in a truly impressive season, considering the team featured 14 freshmen and missed the support of a very strong senior cast from 2008.

After combining for a 14-0 record at the Notre Dame Duals in early February, the men's fencing team finished the regular season ranked No. 1 in the coaches' poll at a perfect 34-0. The undefeated 2009 season is the 20th in program history and the first since 2003, while the men's win total of 34 is the highest in Notre Dame history.

Not to be outdone by the men's team, the women also went undefeated at the Notre Dame Duals with a combined record of 12-0. The women's squad finished 32-2 in the regular season, tying the pro-

gram-best mark in win totals originally set in 1995.

Despite the lack of experience at the collegiate level, the Irish did boast some experience at the world level. Olympians Gerek Meinhardt and Kelley Hurley played an important role in developing the attitude and work ethic of the successful fencing squad.

Meinhardt, a freshman foil and the youngest male U.S. Olympian in Beijing in 2008, believes Olympic experience

has immense value when translated to collegiate fencing.

"Beijing will help in getting used to pressure situations," Meinhardt said in December.

"It's the highest level of competition, so I'll better be able to deal with nerves that come with playing in the NCAA."

In addition to the outstanding fencing of Meinhardt, who finished with a silver medal in the foil at the NCAA Championship, the core of young talent was greatly supported by first team All-American Courtney Hurley and second team All-American Avery Zuck. Hurley, a freshman and the younger sister of Kelley Hurley, finished tied for third in the epee at the championship, while sophomore Zuck finished in fifth in the sabre division.

Bednarski, the only coach in Notre Dame's history to win a national title in his first season and win multiple national titles in fewer than five seasons, believes his young team is well on its way to a national title in the near future.

"Each year is different because we don't know who will come to support them next year," Bednarski said. "We know that we have a core team that is very strong and very young. But anything can happen if we make it to the Bloody Four."

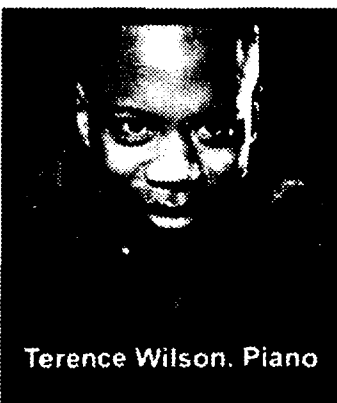
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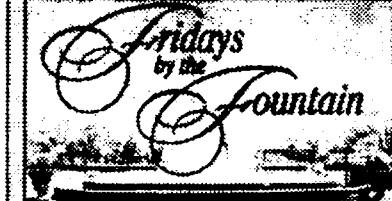
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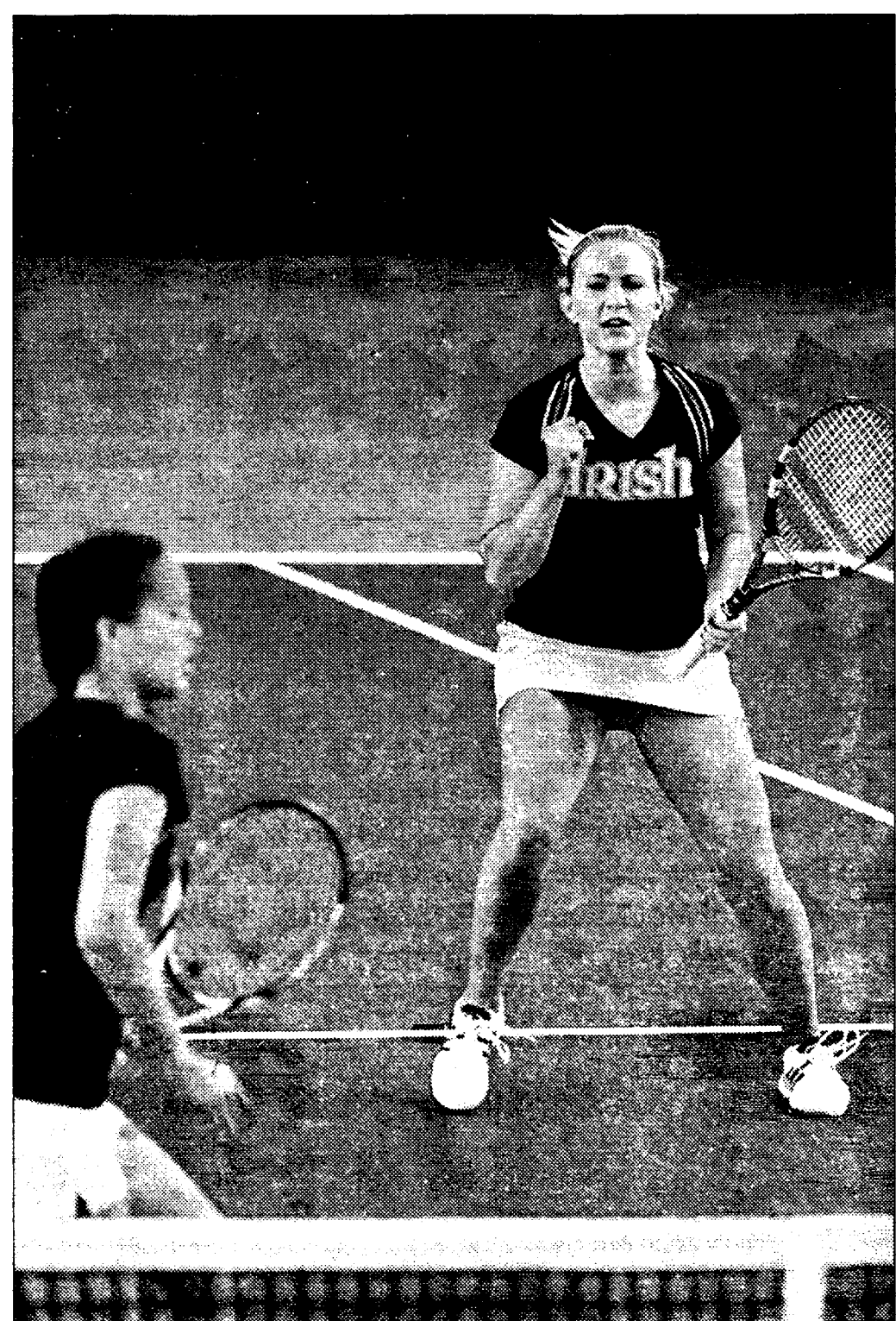
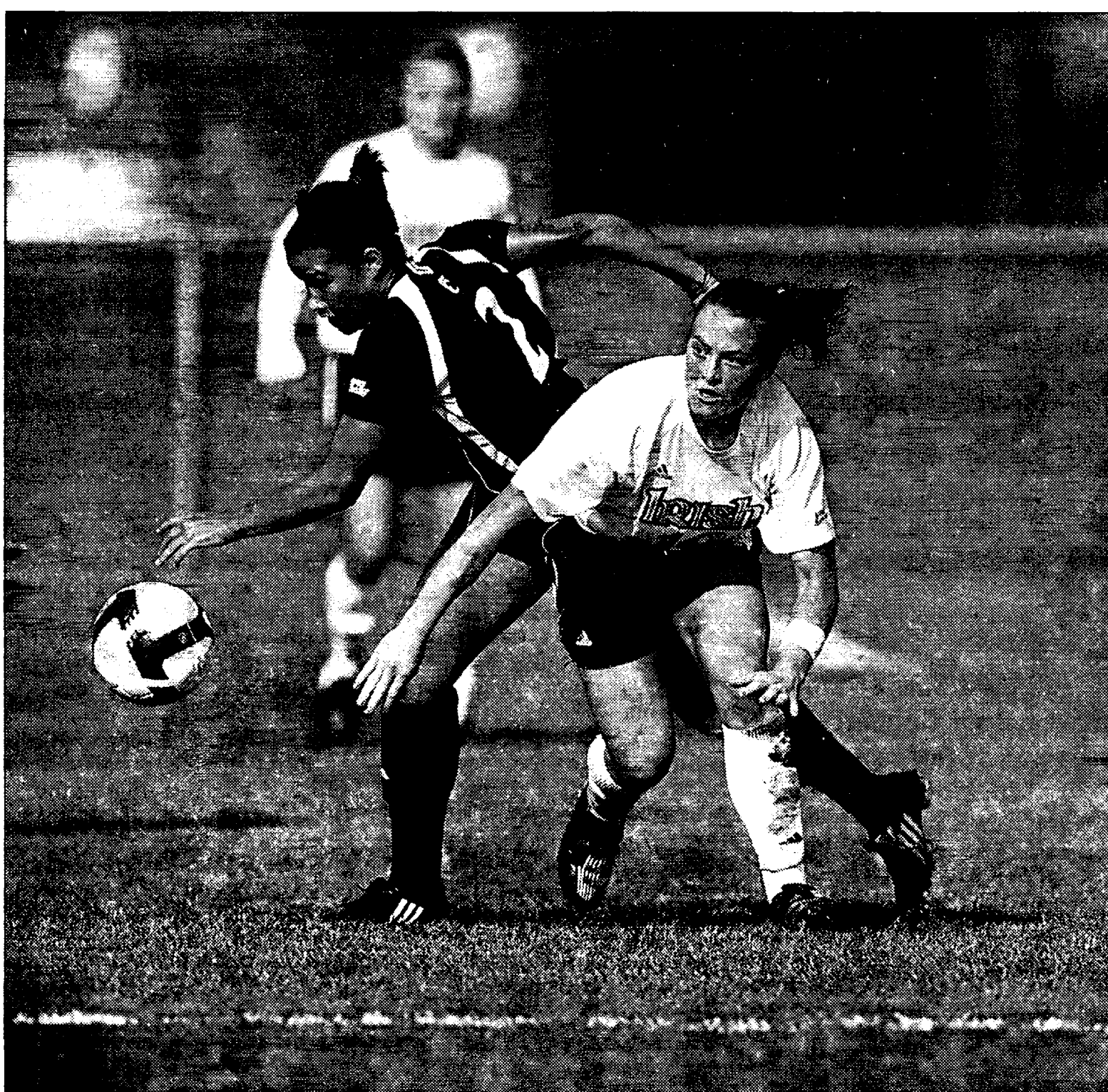
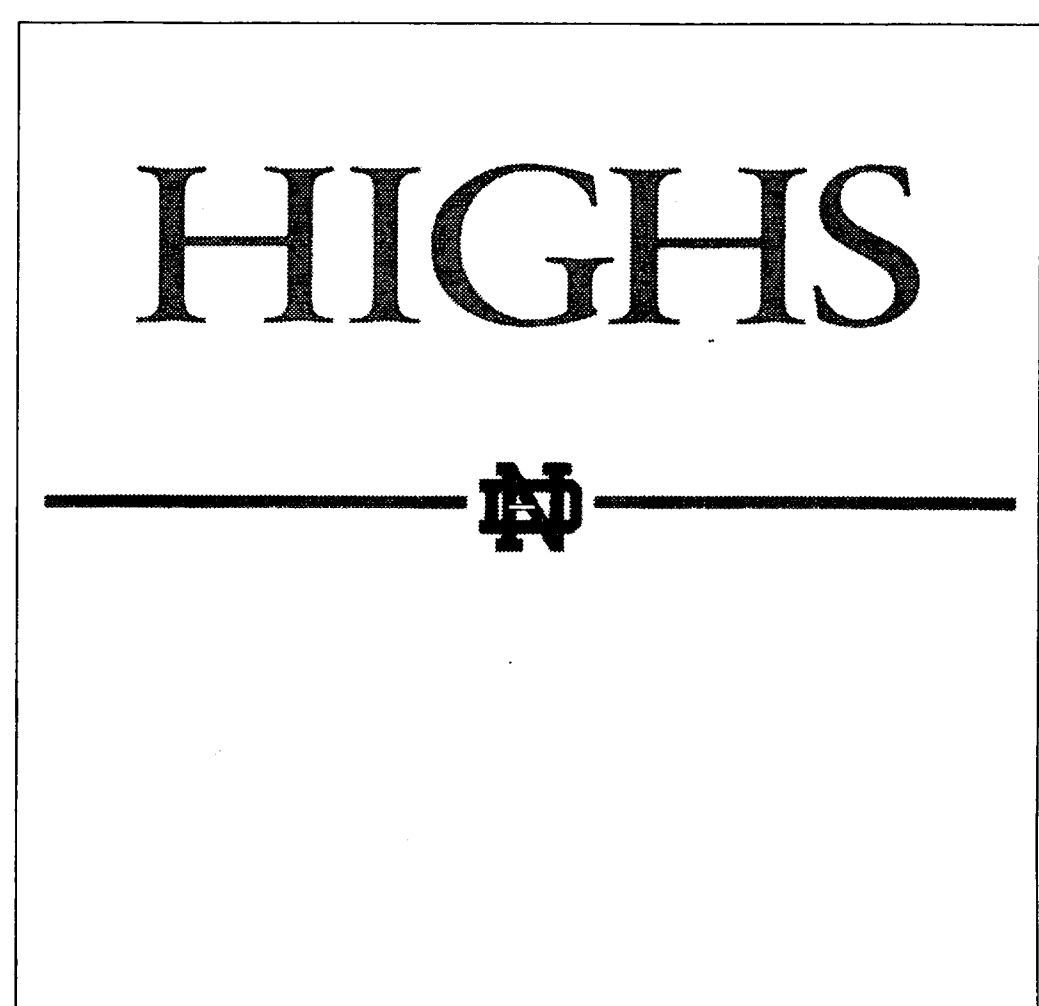
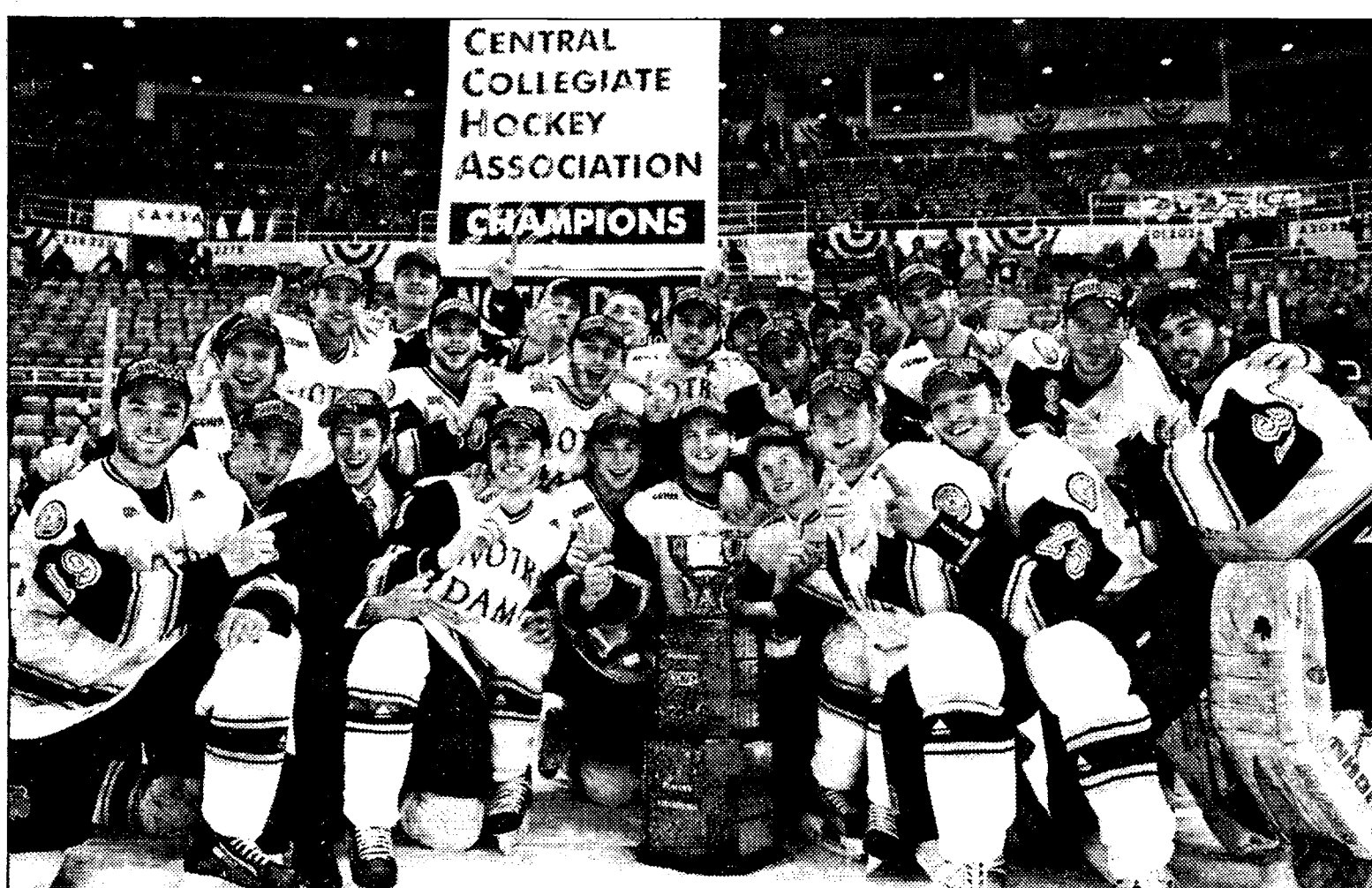
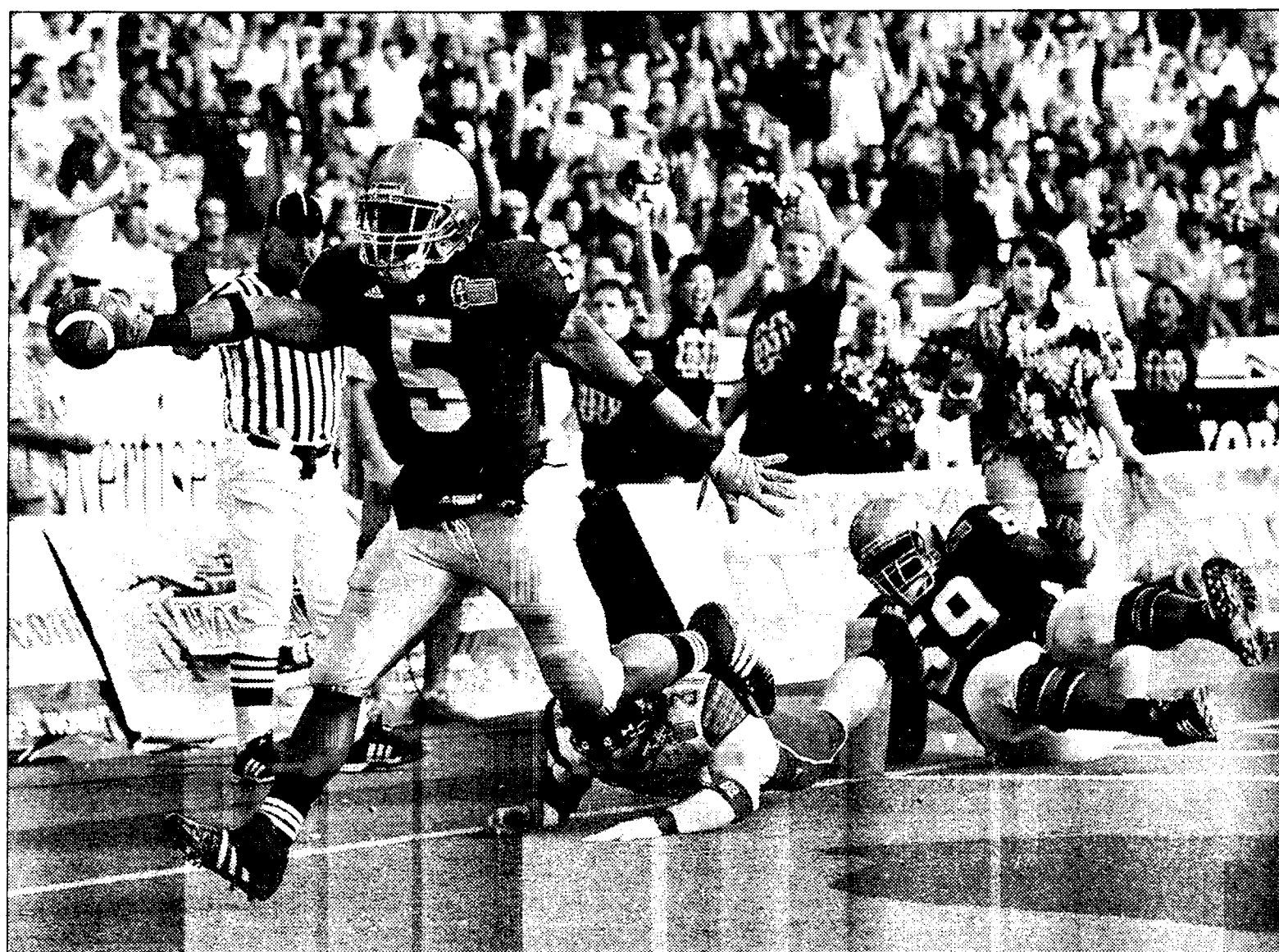
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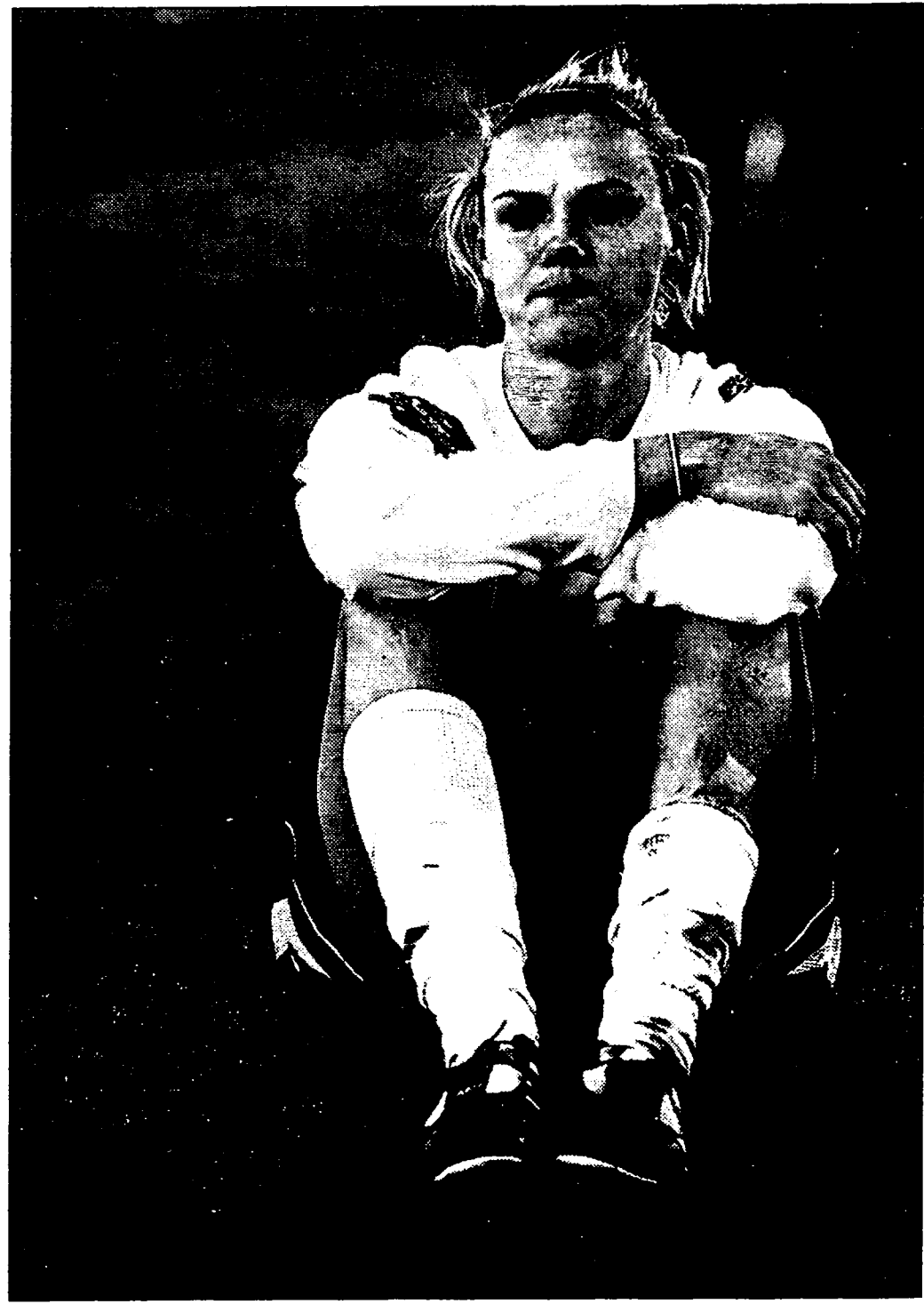
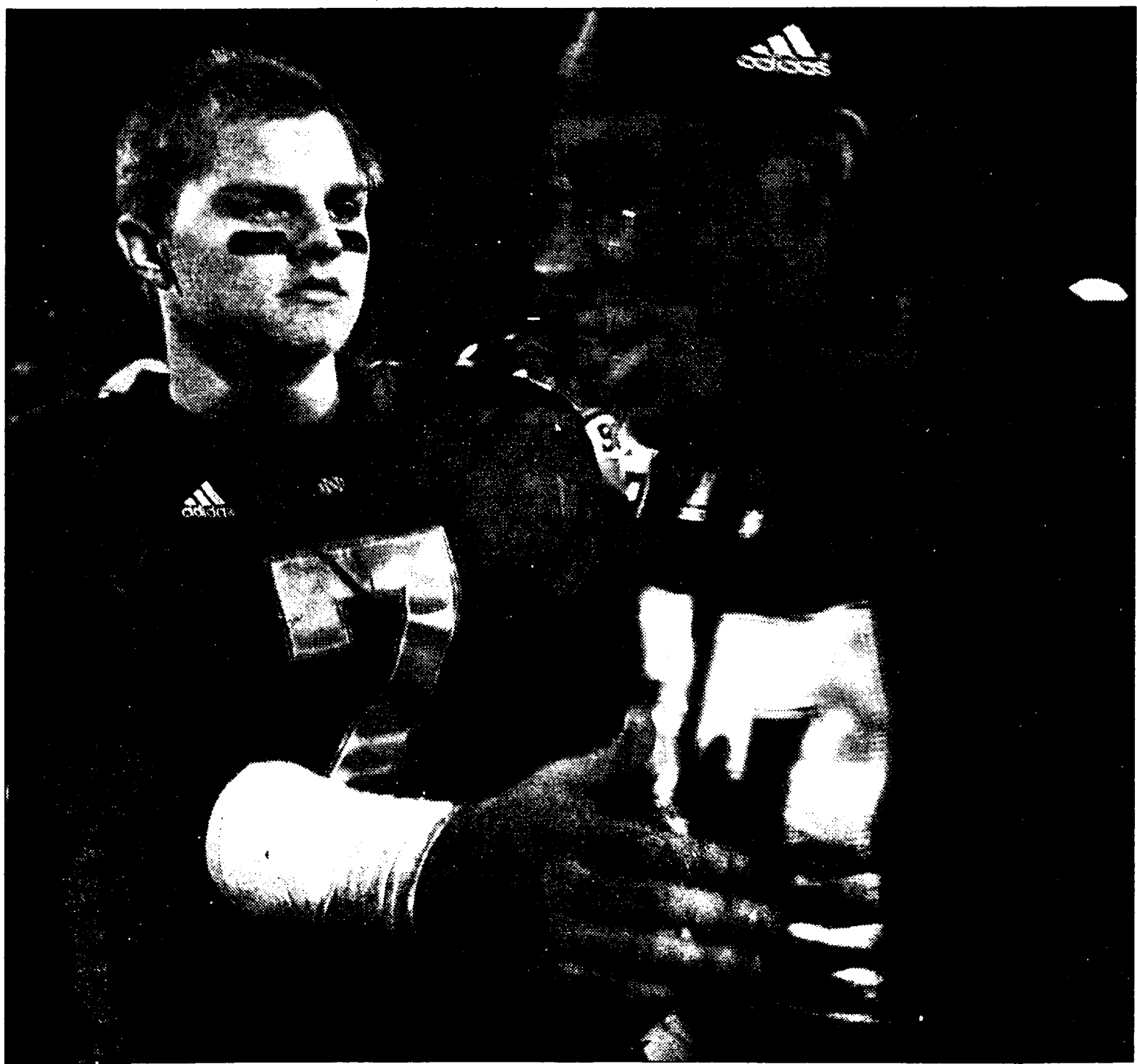
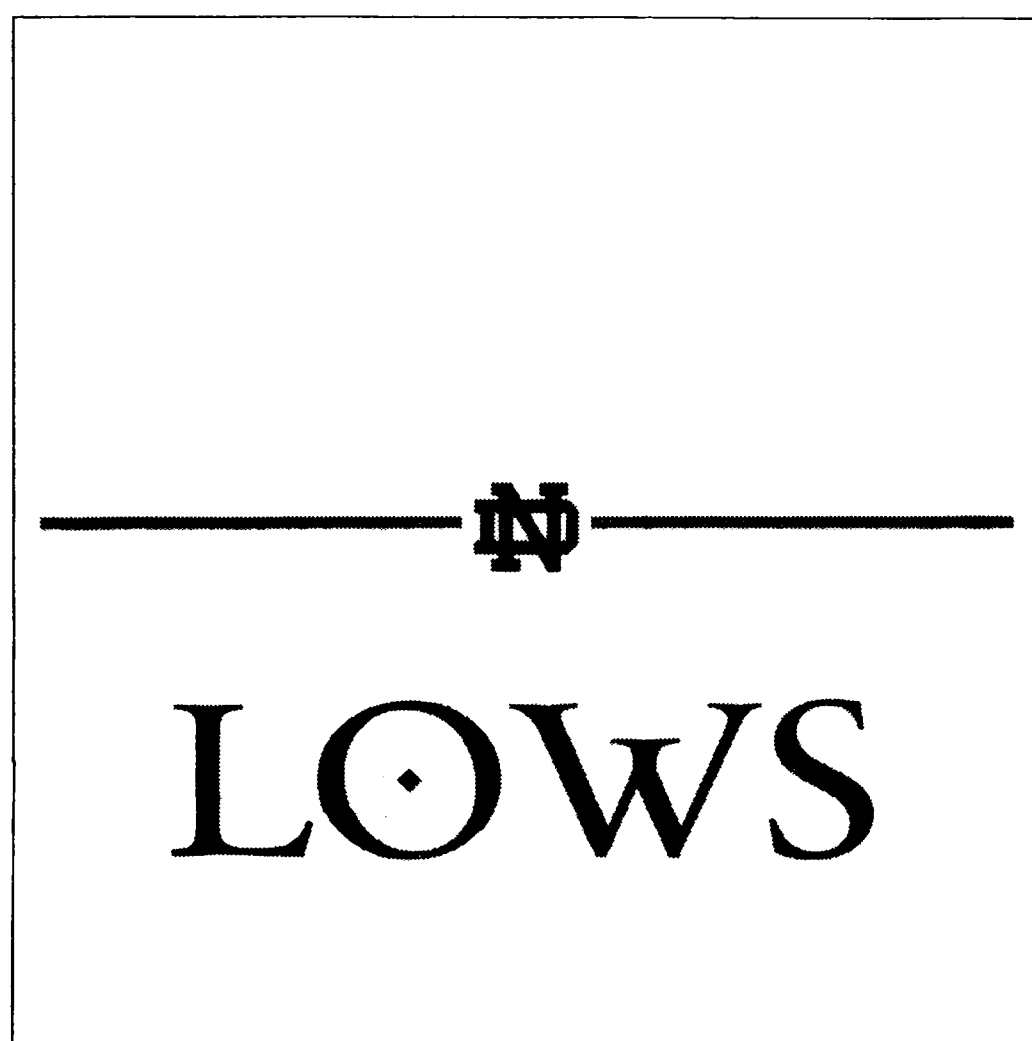
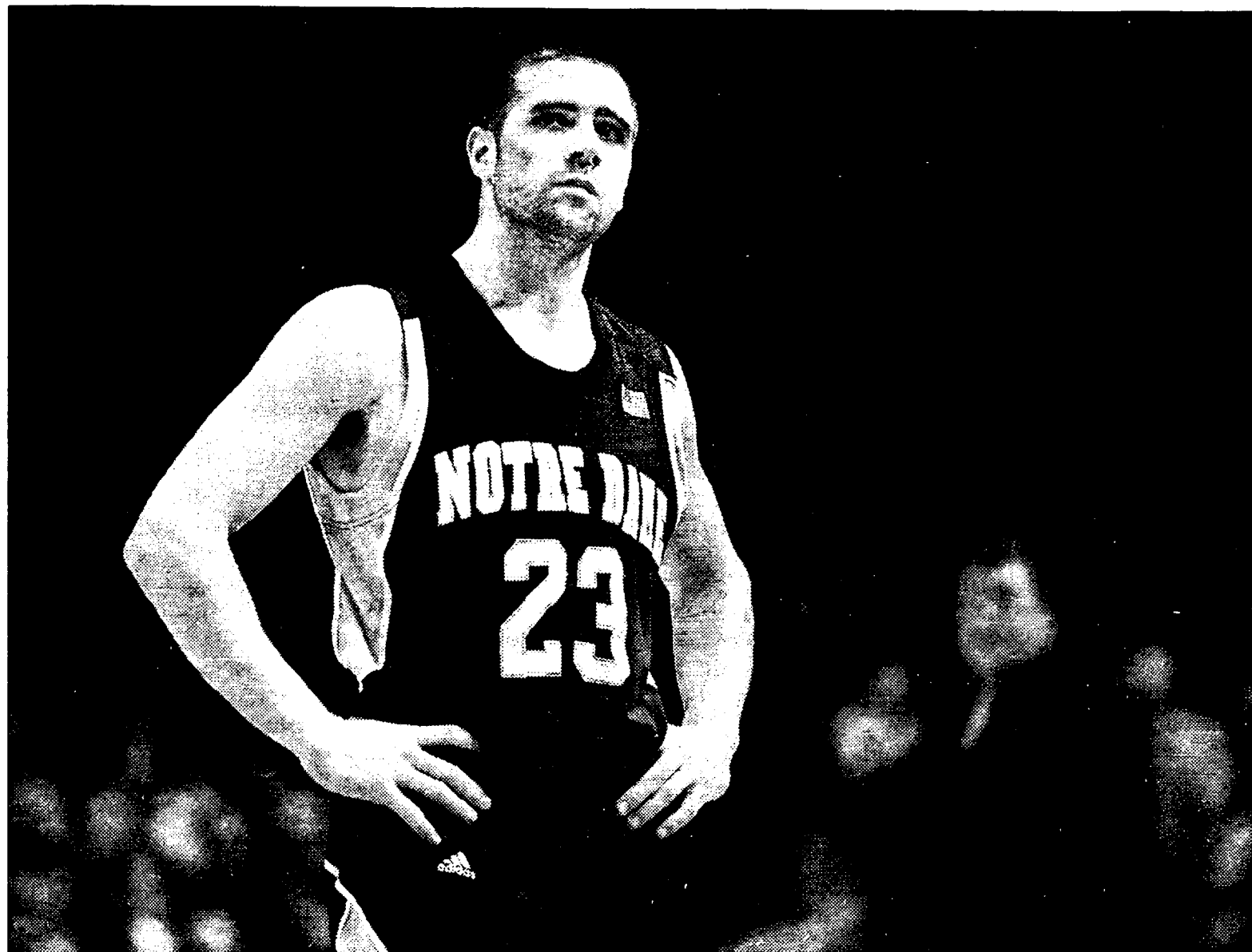
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Top left, Tory Jackson reacts after hitting the game-winning shot over New Mexico in the NIT. Top right, Armando Allen celebrates the end of a kickoff return for a touchdown in the Hawaii Bowl. Center, Notre Dame poses with the CCHA championship trophy in Detroit after defeating Michigan. Bottom left, Brittany Bock fights for the ball in a 5-0 win over Cincinnati. The Irish were undefeated until their final game. Bottom right, the doubles team of Kelcy Tefft and Kristy Frilling win a point against Michigan in the NCAA Tournament.

Observer File Photos



Observer File Photos  
 Top left, senior guard Kyle McAlamey reacts following Notre Dame's loss to West Virginia in the second round of the Big East Tournament. Top right, junior Neal Hicks leaves the field after the Irish's 7-3 loss to Maryland in the NCAA Tournament. Center, a Bemidji State player scores on Notre Dame goalie Jordan Pearce in the Beaver's first round upset. Bottom left, quarterback Jimmy Clausen consoles safety David Bruton after a 24-23 loss to Syracuse. Bottom right, senior Carrie Dew sits after losing in the NCAA final to UNC.

## Pearce

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he also tied Brown's career shutout tally with 12.

This season, he led the nation in wins (30), goals-against average (1.68) and shutouts (8).

"So much of it has to do with consistency," Jackson said. "He does it every night, and he doesn't have bad games. He'll occasionally give up a soft goal — very seldom though — and even if he does, he comes back and plays well. He doesn't get rattled by it."

In four years as his coach, Jackson hasn't found a way to break Pearce's focus — even when he deliberately tries to do so.

"I wish he had a little bit more flair to him because he'd get more recognition," Jackson said. "I try to pump his tires as much as I can because I think he deserves to be recognized as one of the top players in the country."

At the end of the season, Pearce's contributions within the team were acknowledged when he was named team M.V.P. for the second consecutive year.

As Lawson said, Pearce is Pearce. He'll almost admit that he enjoys the personal accolades — "It's always nice to get those," he said — but he quickly qualified that statement by saying that individual honors aren't his primary focus.

"To me, it's more important to be there playing [in the CCHA championship] than it is to receive your awards [the night before]," Pearce said.

As for the school records — well, he doesn't need those, either.

"Only having two years to play here, it's nice to be making all these records," Pearce said. "But with the coaching staff and the way this program is going, I'm sure that the next goalie in line will probably just keep on breaking all the records that I set."

### Learning from the best

Even if that's the case, though, it will be with Pearce's help.

"I didn't understand it my first couple years, but now I know exactly what he was going through being behind somebody who's that good," junior backup goaltender Tom O'Brien said. "Just watching him, you learn so much about how to handle every situation you can imagine. He learned from the best, and I have the opportunity to learn from the best."

With Pearce's departure at the end of this season, O'Brien will battle sophomore front-runner Brad Phillips, who missed the entire season after preseason knee surgery, to become heir to the Irish goaltending throne.

"He (Pearce) works hard in the weight room, works hard on the ice and is a good leader in the locker room," Phillips said. "He's a good goalie to follow after and look up to ... I just want to follow in his footsteps, and hopefully I can do the same thing."

And it's not only in games that Pearce makes some of the spectacular saves to which his teammates have become accustomed.

"Even in practice he's unconscious," O'Brien said. "I can't beat him in any [scrimmage] games, it's unbelievable."

It might not have always been that way for Pearce, who said it took him a year or so to deal with his role as a backup. Once he came to the realization that when Brown graduated, it would be his job to lose, his view on the situation changed.

"It was a long two years being behind David Brown, but I learned to adapt and I learned that by kind of pouting and moping around, you don't get anything accomplished and you're not making yourself better," Pearce said. "I tried to change my attitude, get better

every day and be a better teammate, and that helped me a lot in practice and I improved."

Though Pearce learned a lot from Brown about handling the pressure of being the go-to guy in net for the Irish, Jackson said there aren't many comparisons to be made between the two.

"Jordan's a bigger man, he's as athletic as David, and he's learned to be better in the situations that was he was weak at when he first started," Jackson said. "It's really his competitiveness that mirrors David Brown's competitiveness. And his demeanor is probably better than David Brown's, as far as his ability to react to adversity. He has the tendency to be able to respond better."

### What's next?

Even if the NHL doesn't come calling, Pearce's future is bright.

With a 3.816 grade point average and a spot in Notre Dame's Academic Honors Program, the anthropology and pre-med double major has already begun to interview for medical school.

"I wanted to pursue med school so that option would be there if I wanted to go that route," Pearce said. "We'll see if the hockey offers come my way. I'd love to go play hockey, and you only get one chance to go pursue a dream to play professional hockey. If the opportunity comes, I'd be excited to play."

It looks like Pearce may get that chance. On April 10, he signed a two-year contract with the NHL's Detroit Red Wings. Ironically enough, Pearce's professional career will begin where his collegiate one ended, as he was assigned to Detroit's AHL affiliate in Grand Rapids. Pearce played in one game for the Griffins, giving up five goals in a loss.

Growing up in Anchorage, Ala., Pearce's parents instilled in him a staunch commitment to academics, and that has stuck with him at Notre Dame, he said.

"You always have to have that safety net," Pearce said. "Academics was always the top priority in my life. I've learned over the years that you don't have to sacrifice your athletic performance or your attitude just to accomplish good things in the academic world. You can do both, you just have to be dedicated and know how to manage your time."

Easier said than done, but Pearce has got it under control. But that's no surprise to those who know him.

"The kid's probably smarter than all of us, and he's the No. 1 goalie here at Notre Dame," Lawson said. "The kid's got as full a plate as you can get here, and he just goes about his business quietly. I'm just glad I don't have his schedule."

As for that rock-solid demeanor — well, that might be an important quality to have as a doctor. And as it turns out, it works for a goaltender as well.

"From where I was with him as a freshman or sophomore, wondering how hard he was going to compete or how hard he would work, he's a kid who has probably made the biggest turnaround from my perspective of him," Jackson said. "I had him wrong. I didn't know how hard he really wanted it, and I watch him now and he competes as hard as any goalie I've ever coached."

"It's just his nature, and that demeanor is what makes him even better. That low-key [attitude] that I was looking at as a negative was actually a positive, because it's a great trait in a goalie to be emotionally under control."

*This story originally appeared in the March 20 edition of The Observer.*

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## Hanks

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the all-time assist list.

"I actually haven't thought about all of [the honors] yet," Hanks said. "The records have obviously been great and I'm speechless about it still ... It hasn't really set in yet."

Hanks is only the third player ever to notch 70 career goals and 70 assists.

On Jan. 9, Hanks became only the fourth women's player to win the Hermann Trophy twice, joining the ranks of Hamm, Cindy Parlow and Christine Sinclair. Hanks was the first player to win the award in non-consecutive seasons.

"I'm grateful to everyone at Notre Dame — my teammates, coaches, staff and our fans who are the greatest in the country — for all of their support, not only this year but throughout my career," Hanks said in a statement released by the athletic department. "I will always treasure the friendships I made at Notre Dame and will carry those memories with me forever."

Still, Hanks said she would rather have earned a national championship trophy than any individual honor. And she said she wants to leave a legacy as a good teammate rather than a top statistical performer.

"I would rather win than have the records," she said. "I just want the younger players to look up to me."

Besides, Hanks said, it would have been much more

difficult to put up such gaudy statistics if she did not play for a premier team like Notre Dame.

"It would be impossible without my teammates to finish off those assists and set up those free kicks for me to take," she said. "Without my teammates and [Waldrum] I wouldn't be able to get those records."

### The missing piece to the puzzle

Hanks and her classmates garnered almost every team and individual honor except the national championship. The team has made it to the College Cup in each of the past three seasons but has never earned the title, losing twice in the semifinals and once in the championship.

Despite the disappointing results, Waldrum said Hanks' competitiveness can frequently be seen in her emotional on-field nature.

"She's highly competitive," Waldrum said. "What [fans] see a little trace of on the field, we see every day in training."

Waldrum said Hanks is serious even during daily scrimmages.

"Kerri will always let me know what the score is in practice," Waldrum said. "If I have the wrong score, she'll let me know if I'm wrong."

Hanks said she knows she might rub some people the wrong way during games but said her attitude simply reflects her will to win.

"I'll be the first to tell you I'm not very nice out there," she said. "I tell everyone on the team, whether it's the

reserves or even [fellow senior Brittany Bock] if they're doing something wrong."

But Hanks said she is critical of herself, as well.

"I expect my teammates to do the same to me, if I'm not doing my best," she said. "... Once I step off the field it's completely different. But if I do anything wrong, I'd expect my teammates to step up and yell at me."

### Taking it to the next level

On Jan. 16, Hanks learned that she'd be playing soccer beyond her years at Notre Dame when she was picked with the sixth overall selection in the inaugural Women's Professional Soccer draft.

Hanks was selected by the St. Louis Athletica, just one pick after teammate Brittany Bock was snatched by the Los Angeles Sol.

The WPS is the second attempt at women's professional soccer in the U.S. The Women's United Soccer Association (WUSA) was founded in 2000 but only survived three seasons before folding. With fresh stars like those coming off the Irish graduating class, many hold hopes the WPS will survive longer than its predecessor.

Boasting internationally-famed players like Brazil's Marta (Los Angeles Sol) and America's own Abby Wambach (Washington Freedom), the WPS stands a fighting chance.

Hanks has played in five games so far for St. Louis, who sit in fifth place in the WPS standings.

*This story originally appeared in the Dec. 5, 2008 edition of The Observer.*

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# Saint Mary's: Year in Review

Soccer adjusts under new coach; McClowry leads young cross-country squad; Golf to compete for NCAA title

Observer Staff Report

Soccer

With a young team and a new coach, the Belles took their hits this season.

Saint Mary's (2-13-1, 1-7 MIAA), led by first-year head coach Ryan Crabbe, struggled to score goals, tallying an average of one per match while giving up just over two per contest.

"Our record does not reflect it, but we are a much better team than it shows," Crabbe said towards the end of the season in October. "I have full confidence that these players want to succeed and I know they can compete with any team that steps on the field against them."

After a slow start to the season, dropping their first three matches against tough non-conference opponents, the Belles rebounded by winning the North Central tournament for the second year in a row. The Belles took out Mount Mercy 2-0 in the first round before knocking off host North Central in a shootout to claim the championship.

The conference schedule, however, proved unkind to the Belles as they dropped their first four contests, including a double-overtime loss at Hope College. Saint Mary's picked up its only win in MIAA competition at home with a 4-0 result against Trine University.

"One thing I have been most proud of with this team this season is the fact that they continue to show up every day and work hard to get better," Crabbe said in October. "Even with the frustration of our lack of results on the field in terms of wins, these players continue to compete every time they are out on the field."

Senior Lauren Hinton led the team with five goals and two assists, earning a spot on the All-MIAA team. Junior Micki Hedinger was right behind her with three goals and two assists on the season.

Volleyball

After establishing a reputation as one of the most disciplined and consistent teams in the MIAA last year, the Belles welcome the arrival of Toni Kuschel as their new head coach. Kuschel will follow in the footsteps of coach Julie Schroeder-Biek, who guided Saint Mary's to an 18-11 (9-7 MIAA) season.

Schroeder-Biek was a member of the Belles' coaching staff since 1986 and served as head coach for 14 seasons before being named the athletic director of Saint Mary's College. Kuschel, a Minnesota native, has served in a variety of

coaching capacities at the high school, Junior Olympic and collegiate levels.

"We are very excited for [Kuschel] to come on board and become a part of our department," Schroeder-Biek said. "She has a true passion for coaching and will bring great energy to the program."

The Belles' record was an improvement over the previous season's 6-10 mark in league play (fifth place) and 12-17 overall, and the squad demonstrated giant leaps in consistency and team effort. Standout junior hitter Lorna Slupczynski paced the offense with a team-high 3.14 kills per game, while freshman setter Danielle Brink added a .323 attacking percentage and 8.25 assists per game, both team highs.

Both Slupczynski and senior hitter Cathy Kurczak earned All-MIAA honors for their efforts. Kurczak's 34 blocks lead the team. Kurczak departs alongside fellow senior Kaela Hellmann, who finished second on the team in both kills and service aces.

"I was really excited to see what [Hellmann and Kurczak] brought to the squad during their final season," Schroeder-Biek said. "They have both been key players since their first year and stepped up their play every year."

Cross Country

Led all season by junior Megan McClowry, the Belles finished fourth in the MIAA and 17th at NCAA Regionals with a young team this season.

"The difference for me this season is due to summer training," McClowry said. "I was able to come in with a good base and then my teammates have helped push the pace at workouts this season."

McClowry also earned second team All-MIAA honors for the Belles at the conference meet.

One of the highlights of the Belles season was hosting the MIAA Jamboree early in the season. This race was the Belles first home meet since 2002.

"I was so excited to finally have a home meet," senior captain Caitlin Brodmerkel said. "The Saint Mary's cross country team is such a great group of women and we have a difficult time getting people to see that since we always compete so far from campus."

Brodmerkel was able to set a personal record at the Calvin Invite for the Belles, and attributed much of her success to summer training.

"I actually spent my summer in a rural village in Uganda," Brodmerkel said. "Therefore, my

off-season training consisted of early morning runs on the dirt roads of Uganda as the sun rose."

Swimming

Saint Mary's was led by underclassmen throughout a season filled with ups and downs, finishing 4-7 in the regular season and fifth in the MIAA Swimming and Diving Championships.

"I think our season went great this year," freshman Eva Cavadini said. "Our team is a great team and we have a lot of fun together, which is one of the most important things when it comes to swimming."

Cavadini, along with sophomore Maggie Williams and freshman Audrey Dalrymple, led the Belles, both individually and on relay teams. Dalrymple recorded the best time for the Belles in four different events, and Williams and Cavadini each posted team-best times in three events.

All three swimmers were also members of the top 200- and 400-yard medley relay teams for the Belles. The 400-yard medley relay broke the school record during the MIAA Championships, a moment that Cavadini said was the best of the year.

"We had been trying all year to break that record, and we knew we could but I think we needed the extra energy that comes at a big meet like conference to help push us to get that record," Cavadini said. "It was one of the best feelings I have ever had at a swim meet."

Dalrymple achieved the best individual success, qualifying for the "B" cut at nationals for Division III in both the 100- and 200-yard breaststroke, becoming the first Belle to compete in the NCAA Championships. She finished 26th in the 100 breaststroke and 17th in the 200 breaststroke to finish the season.

"[Dalrymple] is a great worker," Belles coach Ryan Dombkowski said. "I look for big things from her."

Tennis

The Belles fell in the opening round of the MIAA Conference tournament last weekend to Albion, but bounced back to win their next two matches over Adrian and Olivet to finish in fifth place.

"A highlight for me was our conference match against Albion," head coach Dale Campbell said. "We had played them previously and lost, and our match in the tournament was much closer. It showed me that we had gotten better as a team, improved our doubles play, and could rise to the occasion in a

big moment."

Junior Camille Gebert was able to finish off her undefeated season at No. 2 singles, earning 18 wins on the season. This was the second consecutive season a Belle finished the season undefeated at No. 2 singles as sophomore Jillian Hurley also won every match last season.

Hurley was named to the first team All-MIAA, while Gebert earned second team honors. This was the second straight year for both to earn postseason honors.

"I don't believe it was a surprise, but [sophomore] Jessica Kosinski had a great season and improved her game and mental toughness throughout the year," Campbell said. "[Sophomore] Franca Peluso played better late in the year and broke into the singles lineup. Jillian Hurley was named first team All-Conference at No. 1 and Camille Gebert was second team All-Conference and went undefeated in our conference at No. 2."

Kosinski made the move from No. 4 singles last season to No. 3 this year for the Belles (11-10, 4-4).

"My goal when starting this season was to play No. 3 singles," Kosinski said. "I worked extremely hard in try-outs to prove I deserved the spot."

Softball

Although a season that started out with great promise ended without a playoff berth for the talented Belles, they finished the 2009 season knowing they left it all on the line every time they took the field.

Saint Mary's (22-10, 6-6 MIAA) began the season on a tear, sweeping its first two opponents in back-to-back doubleheaders and winning six of its first eight games. But after dropping eight consecutive games — including six conference contests — the Belles were virtually eliminated from postseason play.

The Belles were led all season by the outstanding pitching of freshman standouts Monica Palicki and Angela Gillis. Palicki finished the year with 10 wins, an ERA of 3.15 and an opponent's batting average of .269. Gillis completed her sensational collegiate debut with 12 wins, 2.19 ERA, and 49 strikeouts.

"[Gillis] is just one of the most composed pitchers I think I've ever seen," head coach Erin Sullivan said. "If someone gets a hit off her, you can see it in her face that she wants to get the next out. She never overreacts, she's never overemotional."

Perhaps the greatest accomplishment of the year came midway through the season when the Belles swept nonconference opponent

Robert Morris in a day-night doubleheader. The victory in the night-cap marked the fourth-straight season that the Belles won at least 20 games, a feat that can be attributed to the leadership of Sullivan in her fourth year in the position of head coach.

"My seniors, from the day they got here as freshmen, have just changed the program and set a new tone for us," Sullivan said.

Seniors Ashley Fusaro and Katie Rashid finished their remarkable careers with a total of 100 victories in four seasons, a Saint Mary's softball record.

Golf

For the fourth time in program history, Saint Mary's will be competing at the NCAA Division III Championships. In the third and final qualifying round of the MIAA Championship, the No. 22 Belles held off a surge from Olivet to clinch an automatic bid to the national tournament.

"Climbing the national championship bid was one of our main goals this season, like every season," head coach Mark Hamilton said. "We really worked hard this season to get a cohesive group that shared the same mindset and goals."

"[Sophomore] Emily Gore finally recovered from what seemed like eight months of injury and illness to play her best golf when we needed it," Hamilton said. "The effort of the entire team cannot be stressed enough, but we did have some strong individual leaders."

At the fall MIAA Championships sophomore Rosie O'Connor became the fifth Belle in the past six years — and the youngest Saint Mary's golfer — to earn MIAA Season Medalist honors, edging out Lindsay Pipkin of Olivet by one stroke. Senior Perri Hamma finished with a 174 on the weekend to tie for seventh place. Freshman Natalie Matuszak and Gore both finished with two-day totals of 175 to tie for ninth place.

"This young team is in the beginning stages of creating it's own legacy, they have only scratched the surface of what they are capable of," Hamilton said.

In the second round of MIAA National Championship qualifying this spring, the team stayed on track for a bid to represent the MIAA, taking a one-stroke lead over Olivet with a 332. Sophomore Mary Kate Boyce shared medalist honors on the day with an 80 while Gore shot an 82 for fifth.

The Belles will compete this week for the Division III national championship in Port St. Lucie, Fla.

SMC	<b>September 23</b> Volleyball wins its tenth match of the season by beating Kalamazoo 3-1.	<b>November 1</b> Soccer's season comes to a disappointing close in a 6-0 shutout against Calvin in the first round of the MIAA Tournament.	<b>December 6</b> Swimming and diving placed fourth at the TYR Invitational as freshman Audrey Dalrymple placed second in the 200-yard breaststroke finals.	<b>January 3</b> Basketball tops No. 1 Hope for the first time in MIAA play 91-84.	<b>February 7</b> Swimming and diving loses its third dual match in a row, this time to Olivet College 161-139.	<b>March 8-15</b> Tennis takes a spring trip to Orlando and goes 4-4 in its eight matches.	<b>March 30</b> After volleyball coach Julie Schroeder-Biek accepted the position of Athletic Director, Toni Kuschel of Minnesota will take over the position.	<b>April 24-25</b> Golf qualifies for the NCAA Championships by winning the three-round MIAA Qualifier.
	<b>September 6</b> Cross Country opens the season with a fourth place finish at the Hokum Kareem Relays.	<b>October 11</b> Soccer suffers its sixth defeat in a row as it is shutout by Calvin 4-0. Sophomore Rosie O'Connor represents the golf team well by earning MIAA Season Medalist honors at the MIAA Championships.	<b>December 29-30</b> Basketball loses both of its games at the Franklin College Tournament to drop its record to 5-6.	<b>January 10</b> Basketball wins its sixth straight MIAA game to start the season as it defeats Alma 69-47.	<b>February 28</b> Making its first ever appearance in the MIAA Championship Game, basketball's season ends in a 77-47 defeat to Hope.	<b>March 17</b> Freshman pitcher Angela Gillis throws a no-hitter as the Belles top Goshen College 11-0.	<b>April 20</b> Tennis dominates Trine with a 9-0 victory after the match was postponed for three weeks.	<b>May 1</b> Tennis ends its season by winning the MIAA fifth-place match against Olivet 8-1.

# Notre Dame:

*Volleyball falls just short in Big East championship; Men's swimming earns conference crown in last race;*

## Observer Staff Report

### Volleyball

Despite finishing fifth in the Big East regular season standings, the Irish came within two games of claiming the conference crown, falling in a close match to Louisville in the Big East championship game.

"We continued to improve as a team as the year went on," Irish coach Debbie Brown said. "And that allowed us to have a really strong finish."

Notre Dame's Big East tournament run included a victory over Big East regular-season champion St. John's, 3-1 (23-25, 25-20, 25-21, 27-25).

"I feel like we had a really strong finish and were playing really good volleyball at the end of the year," Brown said.

The Irish started the season in four nonconference tournaments, going 5-7 in early play. One of those defeats, though, was a tight loss to then-No. 4 California. Notre Dame fell to the Golden Bears 3-2 (25-17, 21-25, 20-25, 25-23, 16-14).

After the nonconference tournaments, Notre Dame got down to business in Big East play. The Irish won their first three conference matches before falling to Cincinnati on Oct. 5. Notre Dame went 6-4 the rest of the way in conference play, and dropped a 3-1 decision to Long Beach State in a nonconference match.

Once the conference tournament started, though, the Irish turned up their level of play. The Irish beat Connecticut 3-0 (25-19, 25-22), before downing the Red Storm and ultimately falling to the Cardinals, 3-1 (25-23, 28-26, 15-25, 25-22).

Brown said the late-season success was mainly a result of her team finally getting healthy.

"We were just able to kind of tweak the lineup a little bit and get more comfortable," she said. "We lost a couple of matches early on because we didn't have the depth at that point."

Junior outside hitter Christina Kaelin led the Irish on offense, averaging 3.25 kills per set, with a .258 hitting percentage. Kaelin returned to the Irish lineup in 2008 after sitting out 2007 due to injury.

"As the season went on, she just became more and more confident in what she could do," Brown said of Kaelin.

Also making an impact for the Irish on offense was freshman outside hitter Kristen Dealy. Dealy was second on the team with 2.79 kills per set, with a .177 hitting percentage.

"I think Kristen's greatest asset is that she's a really strong all-around player," Brown said. "In particular, her passing was so important for us."

Notre Dame should be poised for improvement in 2009, losing only two seniors to graduation. Senior middle blocker Justine Stremick spent the early part of the season recovering from an ACL injury, but came on at the end to lead the team with 1.11 blocks per set.

"She was just getting in the groove of things," Brown said. "As the season went on she got more and more comfortable so that by the end of the season she was playing the way we knew she could."

The Irish will also lose senior outside hitter Mallorie Croal, who played in only 11 matches this season due to injury. Brown, though, said that Croal still found a way to help the Irish win.

"There's no question that Mallorie is one of the best leaders we've ever had," Brown said. "And the way that she could continue lead the team even when she wasn't on the court was just amazing."

Overall, Brown said the early outlook for next season was positive.

"Obviously we're very optimistic," she said. "I think that everything is in place for us to have a very strong season."

### Cross Country

The Irish had a successful 2008 campaign that ended with both teams competing in the NCAA championships.

The men and women both finished fourth at the Great Lakes Regional, good enough for at-large team bids for nationals. The men finished 19th overall at the NCAAs and the women finished 29th.

"The highlight for our team was our performance at the regional meet to qualify for the NCAA championships," Irish women's coach Tim Connelly said. "Our goal each year is to qualify for the NCAA Championships and run well there, so we accomplished part of what we had hoped to."

Notre Dame hosted two meets

in 2008, the Nov. 19 National Catholic Championships and the Oct. 3 Notre Dame Invitational. Junior Lindsey Ferguson and sophomore Paul Springer each finished first in the Catholic Championships while senior Patrick Smyth led the men's team with a fifth place finish in his first race of the year in the Notre Dame Invitational.

Smyth paced the Irish men for the rest of the season, finishing second at the Big East championships and first at the Great Lakes Regional. He placed 10th at the NCAAs to earn his third cross-country All-American selection.

For the women, Ferguson made a name for herself early in the season and continued to lead the Irish at each race.

"Lindsey had a very consistent, solid season," Connelly said. "Hopefully next year she will be able to continue to perform at a high level throughout the season and finish with a great race at the NCAA Championships."

Ferguson finished 13th at the Big East championships to earn her second all-conference honor and led the Irish at the NCAAs with a 99th place finish.

Both teams were young in 2008; the men will lose only three runners to graduation and the women just two. Both will still have stars in 2009, including Ferguson and sophomore Marisa Treece for the women and all-Big East junior Jake Walker and freshman Joe Miller on the men's side.

"With the bulk of our team back next year, some of our younger runners continuing to develop and the addition of several freshmen contributors, we would expect to be back at the NCAA and improve on this year's performance next fall," Connelly said.

### Men's Swimming

It took a dramatic last-second finish, but the Irish walked away the 2009 season with their second consecutive Big East title.

The 400-yard freestyle relay team of juniors John Lytle and Andrew Hoffman, senior Danny Lutkus and sophomore Joshua Nosal defeated top-seeded Louisville to clinch the crown for Notre Dame.

"We managed to fight back and win in the most dramatic fashion," senior breaststroker Daniel Rave said. "I think Louisville was

not expecting us to swim as well as we did, and they were expecting a rather easy win."

After being predicted to finish almost seven seconds behind the Cardinals and suffering a regular season loss a few weeks before, the Irish were able to pull off the upset.

During the regular season, the Irish went 4-5, earning crucial victories over Pittsburgh, Miami (Ohio), and Cleveland State.

"The last four years showed me that teamwork exists, and even though I am alone during my race, I am supported by a team," Rave said. "Whether it is through racing someone during practice or by seeing others having great races during meets, your teammates influence you."

The Irish will return several key swimmers from this year's squad, and should be in good position to compete for the third consecutive conference championship. Last season's most valuable players MacKenzie LeBlanc and John Lytle will be back, and hope to lead Notre Dame to another championship.

"It's a long season and there are a lot of ups and downs," senior diver Michael Bulfin said. "In the end we needed to make sure that we had put ourselves in the right position to win the Big East and have a good shot at sending people to the National Championships."

After a season with big wins and upsetting losses both, the Irish men's swimming and diving team walked away conference champions and with high hopes for next season.

### Women's Swimming

Notre Dame capped off its record-extending 13th consecutive Big East title this season with NCAA championship berths from three athletes.

Though sophomore swimmers Amyvren Miller and Samantha Maxwell and junior diver Natalie Stitt boasted tremendous individual efforts, first-year Irish coach Brian Barnes said it was the teamwork that was emphasized from the start that had the biggest impact on his team.

"It wasn't easy coming into this team in August with no familiarity with the program, but the team really embraced me," Barnes said. "I am so lucky that I have a motivated group who believes in what I believe in, and we are

going to continue to learn and grow."

A clean sweep of the Dennis Stark Relays' 12 events at the Rolfs Aquatic Center gave the team its first win the season. The Irish won each of the 10 races and both diving competitions to post a record-setting 280 points.

"I knew we had several potential All-Americans swimming in the pool over at Rolfs," Barnes said. "While the long-term goal is setting times that will be competitive at the national championships, we are always competing to win."

After posting a 3-3 record in dual meets and finishing third in the Ohio State Invitational in early December, Notre Dame posted a Big East meet performance in mid-February that can only be described as dominant.

The Irish set 11 school records and beat runner-up Louisville — which had edged Notre Dame in dual meet competition in January — by nearly 150 points, all while extending the longest championship winning streak in Big East competition for any sport.

Maxwell set school and Big East records in the 200-yard breaststroke. Miller's 22.37-second time in the 50 free made her the fastest female Notre Dame swimmer ever. Junior Megan Farrell set the school's 200 IM mark. Sophomore Katie Casey made her own mark in the 200 butterfly record books and Stitt won both diving events.

"All season we have talked about swimming well and being confident and working like a team," Barnes said. "It takes more than one or two stars to win a title, and at the Big East championships we performed like a team and won like a team."

### Rowing

The Notre Dame women's rowing team was a force to be reckoned with in the Big East again this year.

The biggest meet of the year up to this point, the Big East championship, was a success for Notre Dame. The Irish placed first out of eight teams overall, and placed either first or second in all races that weekend. They finished with 112 points, which was far above second-place Syracuse at 97 points.

The Irish also fared well in several big regattas, including the San Diego Crew Classic, where

## NOTRE DAME

### September 15

Women's soccer rises to the top spot in the polls after starting the season with six wins.

### September 21

Volleyball falls to Western Michigan 3-2 in the final of the Golden Dome Invitational.

### October 25

Football opens the season 6-2 with a 33-7 victory at Washington.

### November 1

Pittsburgh upsets football at home in quadruple overtime 36-33.

### November 26

Men's basketball starts the season 6-0 before losing to top-ranked North Carolina 102-87 in the Maui Invitational Final.

### December 1

Hockey rises to No. 1 in the rankings after opening the season 10-3-2.

## September

## October

## November

## December

### September 13

Football ends two-year drought against Michigan with a 35-17 victory over the Wolverines.

### September 19

Third-ranked men's soccer plays to a double overtime, scoreless tie against No. 5 St. John's.

### October 14

After beating No. 18 Rutgers 3-1, women's soccer's 17-0 record is the best start in program history.

### October 26

With a 6-0 victory over Seton Hall on senior day, women's soccer finishes the regular season unbeaten and untied for the first time in program history.

### November 24

Senior Patrick Smyth finishes in 10th place at the NCAA Championships.

### November 29

USC emphasizes its dominance over Notre Dame with a 38-3 victory at the Coliseum.

### December 7

Women's soccer suffers its first loss of the season in the NCAA Championship to North Carolina 2-1.

# Year in Review

*Sandman, Fortner help young men's golf team mature; Men's track wins second consecutive league crown*

the second varsity eight finished fifth overall in the JV Grand Final. In a three-team competition between in-state rivals Indiana and Purdue earlier in the year, Notre Dame was able to capture victories in four out of the five races.

The Irish have found success this season, and head coach Martin Stone has had a simpler formula all year: "To go faster than the year before and be fast enough to win the Big East."

The team is repeatedly working on conditioning and strength, always searching for that physical edge on the competitor. The next step is to be fast enough to compete in the NCAA Championships, which is the ultimate goal for the crew.

As is the case for any successful team, the Irish have had excellent leadership, especially from the seniors. "I think all the seniors have shown themselves to be leaders at one point or another," Stone said. "They are all very passionate about the sport and work to see the program succeed."

Some of these seniors were recognized for their performance both on the water and in the classroom. Erica Copeland, a member of the second varsity eight crew, was given The Top Gun Award as well as the Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley Rockne Student-Athlete Award. Sophomore Emily Crosby and junior Braegan Padley were named to the Rosenthal Leadership Academy.

The Irish are still in-season, with the South/Central Sprints in Oakridge, Tenn. coming up on graduation weekend and possibly the NCAA Championships in Cherry Hill, N.J. to follow.

### Men's Golf

As Notre Dame looks back on a season marked by both success and failure from its young team, it welcomes with open arms senior Josh Sandman, who will return to the team for a fifth year after missing the 2008-2009 season due to injury. Sandman is the team's only senior and holds the program record for scoring average.

"I've been fortunate enough to watch him in so many stages of development," Irish coach Jim Kubinski said. "He's my first player to have gone through a full

four years, as I arrived in the spring of 2005. It's been such a thrill for me to watch him grow, not only becoming a top player and leader on our team but also how he has grown as a student and as a person."

Sandman, who missed the fall and spring seasons due to back surgery, watched as a young Irish squad endured a tumultuous season. Junior Doug Fortner, the only upperclassman who started consistently, was the rock for a team experiencing growing pains with his team-leading 74.24 stroke average. Freshman Max Scodro emerged as a solid collegiate golfer, picking up medalist honors at the UNCG Bridgestone Intercollegiate and four top-10 finishes. Both Scodro and Fortner earned All-Big East honors for their efforts.

Notre Dame shared defeat along with its successes. Youth and inexperience hurt the Irish this season, but the veteran presences of Sandman and Fortner allowed the younger golfers to mature quickly.

"[Sandman] has meant exponentially more to our program than his scores," Kubinski said. "I'm not even sure how to measure his contributions. He has not only related to each and every one of our younger players but has been able to contribute to their growth. He has never given any attitude toward younger players, as if to say, 'I'm important,' or 'I'm older.' Quite the contrary."

With Scodro, Fortner and Sandman returning alongside a very strong sophomore class highlighted by Jeff Chen, the future is bright for Notre Dame.

### Women's Golf

Coming into this season, the Irish women's golf team had a tough act to follow from their 2007-2008 campaign. The defending Big East Tournament champions took to the links in September to try and replicate their success with some new faces on the roster, and Irish coach Susan Holt was happy with the way the team came together in the fall.

"In the fall, we got acclimated to a new team," Holt said. "Everyone was getting used to the new line up."

It wasn't long before Notre Dame experienced some success with the new team. On Sept. 29 at

the University of Colorado Tournament, the Irish set a program record for scoring on their way to winning the tournament.

"The win in Colorado was huge for us," Holt said. "[The tournament win] was significant for the team because it gave them confidence."

The spring season brought a new challenge for the Irish. Before the season started, Holt set some lofty goals for the team, including finishing nationally-ranked in the top 15 and winning the Big East Tournament again. The Irish came up short on both of those goals, but still came away with a successful regular season.

"We played tougher competition on some difficult courses," Holt said. "Plus it rained in just about every tournament, but I still feel good about where we're at right now."

On April 21, the Irish finished second at the Big East Tournament and qualified for a spot in the NCAA Tournament. Notre Dame competed at the NCAA Central Regional at Ohio State this past weekend, ending its season with a 16th place finish.

Leading the Irish this season was senior captain Lisa Maunu. Maunu was one of four Irish golfers named to the All-Big East team after the Big East Tournament, and finished first individually in the conference tournament.

Junior Annie Brophy, sophomore So-Hyun Park and freshman Becca Huffer were also named to the All-Big East team for the Irish. In addition to taking home All-Big East honors, Huffer was voted as the Big East Freshman of the Year.

With the success of the last few seasons, the Irish women's golf program appears to be on the upswing.

"We've got a lot of talent right now and some good players coming in the new few years," Holt said. "I think it's a sign of things to come."

The Irish will be returning four of the five major contributors on next year's team, led by Huffer and 2008 All-American So-Hyun Park.

### Men's Track

When the athletes of the men's track and field team look back at the 2009 season, they will most

likely remember their comeback victory over Louisville to win the Big East Championship.

The Irish repeated as the Big East Champions at the outdoor championships in Philadelphia, Pa. on May 3 when they squeaked past Louisville by just half a point.

Irish coach Joseph Piane thinks that the 2009 season will be well-remembered by the team.

"Winning the Big East [Championship] was special," Piane said. "Coming from behind to win on the last event, that was something even more special."

The Irish met Piane's pre-Big East Championship challenge of scoring in every event on their way to claiming the championship.

After finishing second at the indoor Big East Championships in New York City on Feb. 22, the Irish started a tough outdoor schedule that often put them against some of the nation's top competition. Throughout the season, Notre Dame butted heads against ranked opponents like Arizona State, Stanford and top-ranked Texas A&M.

The Irish currently have qualified 20 athletes on both the men's and women's teams to send to the NCAA Regional. Of those 20 athletes, Piane was especially proud of the efforts of senior hammer thrower Jeff Mensch. Mensch won the individual title for hammer throw at the Big East Championship improving on his personal best by five meters in the process.

"[Mensch's improved] astrophysically," Piane said. "To improve by about 16 feet like that is really a special effort."

Fellow senior Daniel Clark claimed All-Big East Honors with a third place finish in the 1500-meter. Senior Patrick Smyth added another impressive finish in the 5000-meter to finish third and take home All-Big East Honors.

The Irish will return the majority of their team for next year in the hopes of a third straight Big East Championship.

"We're graduating 31.5 points out of the 130.5 we scored [in the Big East Championship]," Piane commented. "That means we have quite a few points coming back next year which is good."

The Irish will have one more event beginning today, the Georgia Tech Invitational, before

the NCAA Regionals in Louisville, Ky. on May 29.

### Women's Track

The Irish women's track and field team capped off a successful year with a fourth place finish at the Big East Championship in early May. The 2009 season was highlighted by the efforts of seniors Mary Saxer and Joanna Schultz.

Schultz was ranked in the top 10 nationally in the women's 400-meter, an event she won at the Big East Championships. In addition to taking the top spot in the 400-meter, Schultz also placed sixth in the 400-meter hurdles on her way to earning first team all-conference honors.

Saxer won the pole vault at the Big East Championship on her way to All-Big East honors for the fifth time in her career. Irish track coach Joseph Piane praised Saxer's performance while at Notre Dame.

"This year she was ranked No. 1 in her event," Piane said. "But now I think she's down to second."

Saxer set the Notre Dame women's pole vault mark last season with a vault of 4.06 meters. She is also one of the Notre Dame's three indoor All-Americans with a good chance of being named an outdoor All-American with a strong showing at the NCAA Regional on May 29.

The Irish have already had 20 members of the men's and women's track and field teams qualify for the NCAA Regional. They still have one more chance to add more qualifiers to that list today at the Georgia Tech Invitational.

All year Notre Dame has been competing against some of the toughest talent in the country. The Irish traveled to events in Tempe, Ariz. and Palo Alto, Calif. to take on some of the nation's elite. Piane said the team should be even more competitive next year.

"[The team] is pretty young," Piane said. "We're bringing back a lot of talent to improve."

Some of the young talent includes sophomores Kelly Langhans in the 800-meter, Marissa Treece in the 1500-meter and Kali Watkins in the 100-meter hurdles, all of whom finished in the top 10 in their events at the Big East Championship.

<b>January 10</b> Men's basketball beats Seton Hall 88-79 to run the team's home court winning streak to 45 games.	<b>January 17</b> Women's basketball rises to No. 10 in the polls by winning 15 of its first 17 games.	<b>February 8</b> Junior Becca Bruszewski hits key buckets in the final minute of women's basketball's 62-59 victory over No. 25 DePaul.	<b>February 12</b> Men's basketball ends a seven-game losing streak by upsetting No. 5 Louisville 90-57.	<b>February 19</b> Both the men's and women's fencing teams rise to No. 1 in the USFCA Coach's Poll.	<b>March 22</b> Fencing finishes second at the NCAA Championships behind Penn State. Minnesota ends the women's basketball season in the first round of the NCAA Tournament, 79-71.	<b>April 3-4</b> Baseball sweeps three games in two days from Villanova.	<b>April 18</b> After playing in the first half of the Blue-Gold spring football game, sophomore Golden Tate goes 3-for-3 against West Virginia as the baseball team wins 8-6.	<b>April 25</b> Men's lacrosse ends the regular season 13-0 by beating Ohio State 14-8 in front of over 30,000 fans.	<b>May 8-9</b> No. 5 women's tennis advances to the third round of the NCAA Tournament after defeating UIC and Michigan at home.
<b>January</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>March</b>	<b>April</b>	<b>May</b>					
<b>January 30-31</b> Hockey splits a home-and-home against Michigan.	<b>February 15</b> Women's tennis suffers its first loss of the season in the semifinals of the Indoor Championships to No. 1 Northwestern.	<b>March 8</b> The seventh-ranked men's lacrosse team tops No. 3 North Carolina 9-7 at home.	<b>March 21</b> Hockey wins the CCHA Championships by defeating Michigan 5-2.	<b>March 28</b> Given a No. 1 seed, hockey loses to No. 4 Bemidji St. 5-1 in the NCAA Tournament.	<b>March 31</b> The men's basketball season ends at Madison Square Garden as Penn State tops Notre Dame in the NIT Semifinals 67-59.	<b>April 21</b> Junior Doug Fortner leads the men's golf team as he shoots a final round 66 to finish tied for second at the Big East Championships.	<b>May 3</b> Men's track and field wins the Big East Outdoor Championships by half a point over Louisville. Senior Ryan Hoff scores six goals to lead the No. 2 men's lacrosse team to a GWLL Championship.	<b>May 10</b> No. 13 Maryland upsets men's lacrosse in the first round of the NCAA Tournament 7-3.	

# FOUR YEARS IN REVIEW

Friday, May 15, 2009

The top 10 Observer sports stories from the 2005-2009 academic years

page 38

## 1 2005 Notre Dame-USC lives up to hype

October 15, 2005



ESPN's College Gameday came to campus and more than 40,000 people packed Notre Dame Stadium for Friday night's pep rally. The No. 1 Trojans entered the game with 27-game winning streak, and three consecutive wins over the Irish, who took the field wearing green jerseys.

The Irish took a 21-14 halftime lead on a Tom Zbikowski punt return, but a 45-yard run by future Heisman winner Reggie Bush knotted the game at 21.

Notre Dame quarterback Brady

Quinn scored on a five-yard run with 2:04 left to give the Irish a 31-28 lead, and Notre Dame was a defensive stop away from one of the biggest wins in school history.

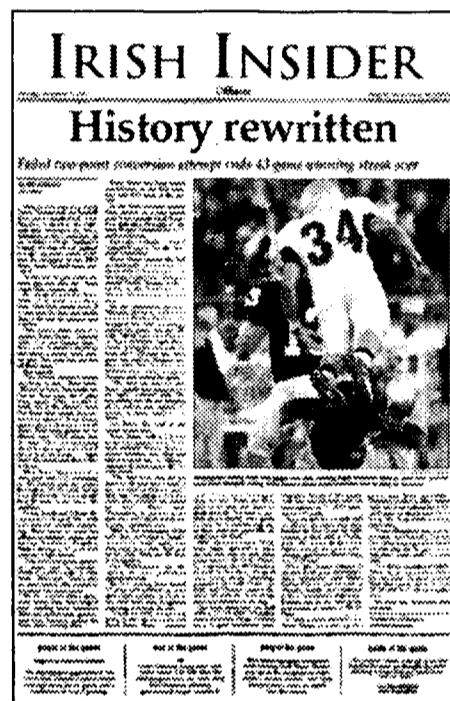
Facing fourth-and-nine from his own 26, though, USC quarterback Matt Leinart connected with receiver Dwayne Jarrett for a 61-yard pass that just got past the outstretched hand of Irish cornerback Ambrose Wooden, Jr.

Three plays later, Leinart scrambled and was knocked out of bounds as the clock ticked down to zero. Notre Dame

coach Charlie Weis raised his arms in victory on the sidelines, and students began streaming onto the field to celebrate the supposed victory.

The officials, though, intervened, putting seven seconds back on the clock and spotting the ball at the Notre Dame one-yard line. They said the ball should have stopped when Leinart fumbled out of bounds. The Trojans took advantage of the opportunity as Leinart snuck into the endzone with three seconds left to walk away with the 34-31 win.

## 2 Football endures disastrous season



In the worst start to a season in Notre Dame history, the Irish limped to an 0-5 record. It all started with a 33-3 home loss to Georgia Tech.

The debacle continued with identical 38-0 losses to rivals Michigan and USC. The Irish won their last two contests to finish 3-9 but did not come close to earning a trip to a bowl game.

Fall 2007

## 3 Icers to go NCAA title game



After winning its first CCHA title a year ago, the hockey program continued its resurgence under coach Jeff Jackson.

The Irish just sneaked into the NCAA Tournament but capitalized by qualifying for the first Frozen Four in school history. They then topped Michigan to advance to the title game, where they fell to Boston College.

April 10, 2008

## 4 Swarbrick takes over AD position

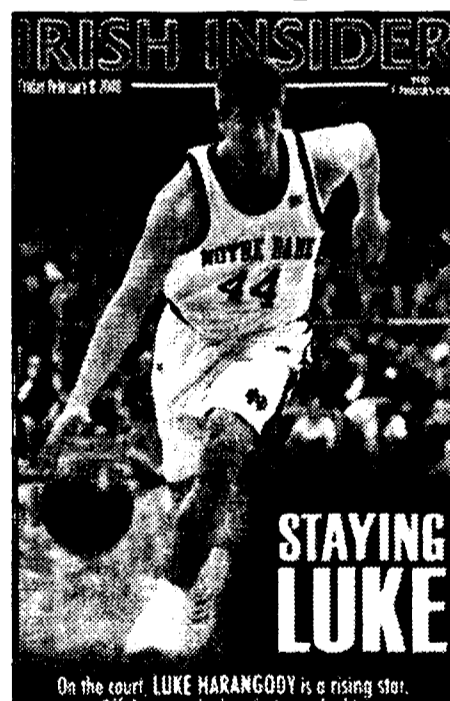


On June 1, then-Athletic Director Kevin White announced that he would be leaving Notre Dame to assume the same position at Duke.

Six weeks later, Swarbrick was hired as the 12th athletic director in the school's history. He was previously a lawyer instrumental in the Indianapolis sports scene.

July 16, 2008

## 5 'Gody, Brey earn Big East honors



By leading the conference in scoring with 23.3 points per game and pulling down 11.3 rebounds in Big East play, Harangody earned the conference player of the year award.

Brey earned the coach of the year trophy after leading the Irish — picked to finish ninth in the preseason poll — to a second place Big East regular season finish.

March 11, 2008

## 6 Hanks wins two Hermanns

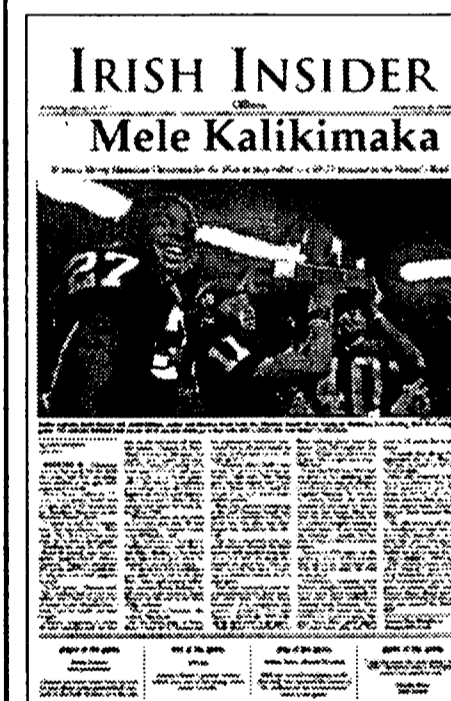


Winning the award — given annually to the top men's and women's soccer players — in 2006 and 2008, Hanks cemented her status as one of the game's greats.

She is only the fourth player to win the award twice, and is the only Division I women's player to finish her career with more than 73 goals and 73 assists, posting 84 and 73, respectively.

January 9, 2009

## 7 Football snaps bowl losing skid



Notre Dame earned its first bowl victory in 15 years on Christmas Eve against Hawaii.

Quarterback Jimmy Clausen completed 22-of-26 passes for 406 yards and five touchdowns, both Irish bowl records. Receiver Golden Tate had six catches for 177 yards and three score as the duo shared MVP honors.

December 24, 2008

## 8 Basketball ranked in top 10



The Irish were ranked No. 9 in both preseason polls and rose as high as No. 7 early in a season that had Final Four aspirations.

Things started to unravel, though, as a seven-game losing skid sent Notre Dame plummeting down the rankings. The Irish ended the season ninth in the Big East, and were not selected to the NCAA Tournament.

Winter 2009

## 9 New facilities planned



After hosting Irish athletic events for over 40 years, the south dome of the Joyce Center will receive a renovation this summer and reopen in October as the "Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center."

New facilities for lacrosse, soccer, track and hockey are either under construction or in the works. A new softball stadium was also completed last spring.

October 6, 2006

## 10 Fencing finishes second twice



After two fourth place finishes in 2006 and 2007, the Irish finished just short in the NCAA championships in 2008 and 2009, falling to Ohio State and Penn State, respectively.

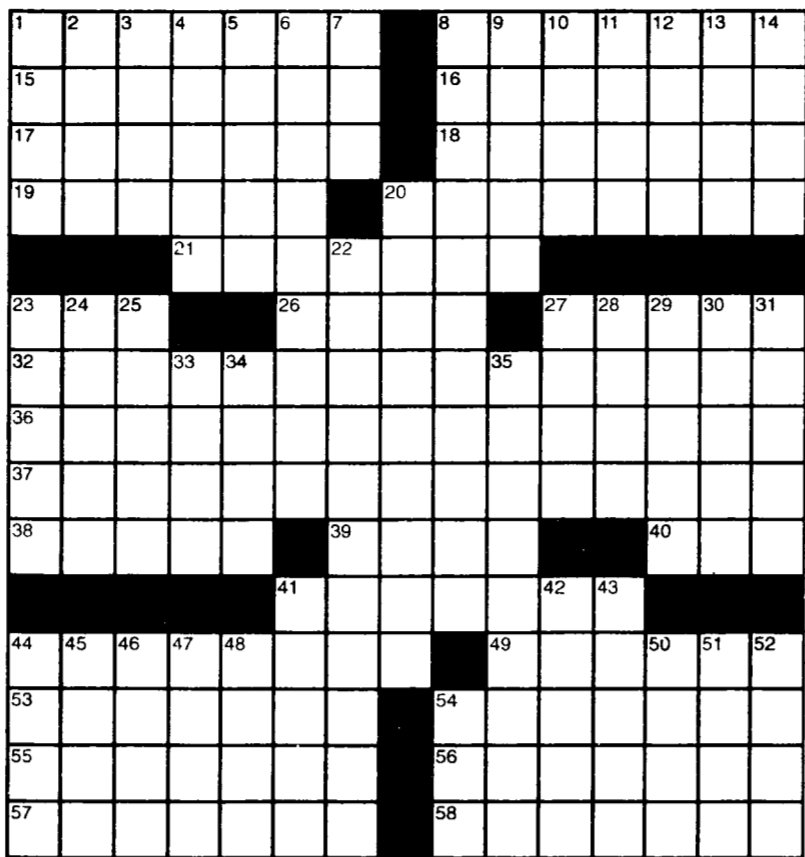
Notre Dame has finished in the top four nationally every year since 1994, with national championships in 1994 and 2003.

March 17, 2008

CROSSWORD

WILL SHORTZ

- Across**
- 1 Laugh-a-minute  
8 So-so poker holding  
15 In an unoriginal way  
16 Circus performer, e.g.  
17 Kind of strength  
18 Toy trains  
19 Swallow  
20 Food label for the health-conscious  
21 Electric device with terminals  
23 News on the bus. page  
26 Ingredient in many toothpastes  
27 Spit for a kebab  
32 Be doomed  
36 Obtain service from  
37 Felt bitter anguish
- 38 Maestro Koussevitzky  
39 Grows pale  
40 Twisted  
41 Court figures  
44 Like rivals, often  
49 Not much, with "a"  
53 Tourist guide  
54 Vitamin C source  
55 Make like new, as a bathtub  
56 Nicely tan  
57 Kitchen device first patented in 1921  
58 Court figures
- Down**
- 1 Wife in "Simple Rules for Dating My Teenage Daughter"  
2 Ready to do business  
3 Chinese dynasty during which trade with Portugal began  
4 Give out  
5 Flu symptom  
6 Like the pop group the Pussycat Dolls  
7 Burning substance  
8 Representative of Hollywood  
9 Where to wear an armilla  
10 Platte River tribe  
11 Immobilizes  
12 Where gobs go  
13 "One day \_\_\_ all make sense"  
14 Doctor's prescription  
20 Be of assistance  
22 Popular computer logic/guessing game  
23 "Young Frankenstein" woman and others  
24 French versifier  
25 Burrow : rabbit :: holt : \_\_\_  
27 Subject of "Toots" by Bob Considine, 1969  
28 High in the French Alps

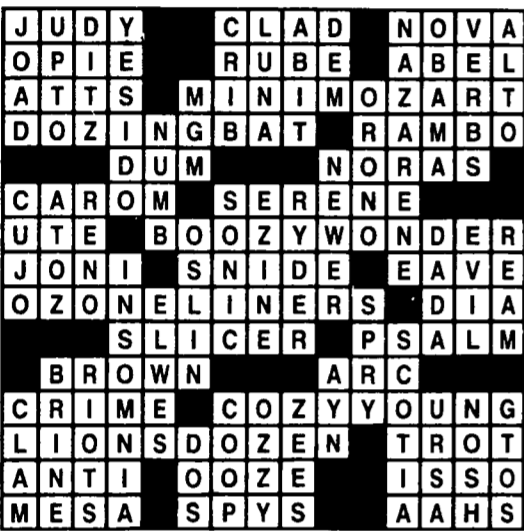


Puzzle by Manny Nosowsky

- 29 Following obediently  
30 Scrub  
31 Substantial  
33 Gray blanket  
34 Pitchfork part  
35 Occasion to drop one's arms  
41 Slinkys or Magic 8 Balls, once  
42 \_\_\_ gin fizz  
43 Surgical tube  
44 Trolley  
45 Round sandwich  
46 Prefix with dose  
47 Buds  
48 Part of a Latin 101 conjugation  
50 Not do one darn thing  
51 \_\_\_-Neisse Line  
52 Dries, as hay  
54 \_\_\_ Ranch (former Western White House)

For answers, call 1-900-285-5656, \$1.49 a minute; or, with a credit card, 1-800-814-5554.  
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ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE



HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Cate Blanchett, 40; Tim Roth, 48; Robert Zemeckis, 57; George Lucas, 65

Happy Birthday: Venture out of your own world and discover new places, people and interests. This is a learning year, one to experience all you can and apply it to what you have been working so hard to accomplish. The changes and reforms you incorporate will make a difference. Your numbers are 14, 16, 23, 29, 33, 45, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't mix up your plans because someone is causing you grief. A problem will result if you let your personal life have an effect on your professional or vice versa. Putting pressure on someone you love will backfire. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Stop being passive when you need to be aggressive. Waiting for someone else to make a decision will not result in what's best for you. If you aren't willing to compromise or take on something new, you will be passed by. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Show your worth by expressing your ideas and, before you know it, you will be calling the shots. Someone you have wanted to work with will notice what you are doing and will make a beneficial suggestion. A business trip or networking will pay off. ★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You may feel like hiding out but that won't resolve any of the issues you've been facing. Take a hands-on approach. Now is not the time to put up with people or situations that are not working for you. ★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't give in or let others take the lead on a pending project or concern. You may be too busy having fun to notice that someone is taking advantage of you. Don't spend cash unnecessarily. ★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take action before it's too late. Fight for your rights and for what you want. You can come out on top but only if you have the gumption to place your name in the hat. Participation will allow you to reach heights that otherwise would elude you. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Honesty with regard to your abilities will help you find your niche. Trying to buy your way into something won't work. You have to have what it takes to get there with talent, skill and knowledge. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A creative or unusual project that you have been developing needs changes in order to make it mainstream and user friendly. Talks will go well and contracts can be negotiated and signed. Keep personal and professional matters separate. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You must spend more time building your equity. Letting things ride or stay the same will not bring the profits you need to sustain your lifestyle. If you have described what you have to offer inaccurately, expect a deal to be rebuked. ★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Focus on loved ones, hobbies or socializing. Change your location or visit a place you've never been before. The learning experience will be worth it in terms of the people you meet. ★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Rethink past relationships and weed out the people who aren't giving back. Consider who best fits your lifestyle. Don't lose sight of your goals because someone discourages you. A new friendship will give you hope for things to come. ★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Lend a helping hand to a group you believe in. It's a new beginning, so don't waste time on what's behind. Focus on the future. You can turn something you volunteer for into a paying contract. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are capable of bringing about changes that will have an impact on those around you. You are sensitive, caring and in tune with what's required to maintain order.

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MICHAEL MIKUSKA



JUMBLE

JEFF KNUREK  
MIKE ARGIRION

**JUMBLE**  
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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RYFIA  
RICKYT  
GLUFEN

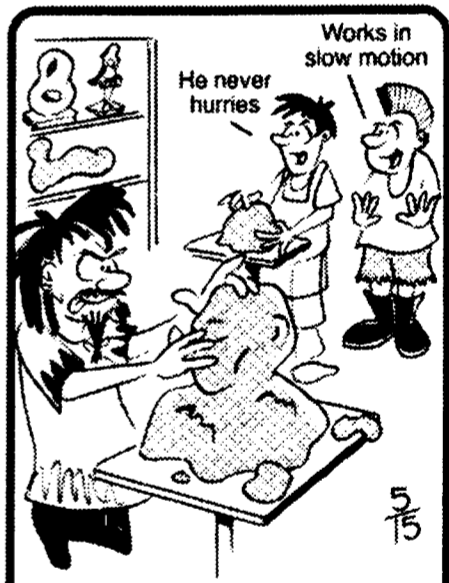
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NEW JUMBLE NINTENDO www.jumble.com/ds

Answer: HIS OF (Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: FLOUT OFTEN DEAFEN THRIVE  
Answer: Mom didn't answer the phone because she was — ON THE "LINE"

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



WHAT THE SCULPTOR WAS KNOWN FOR.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

THE OBSERVER

Published Monday through Friday, The Observer is a vital source of information on people and events in the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's Community.

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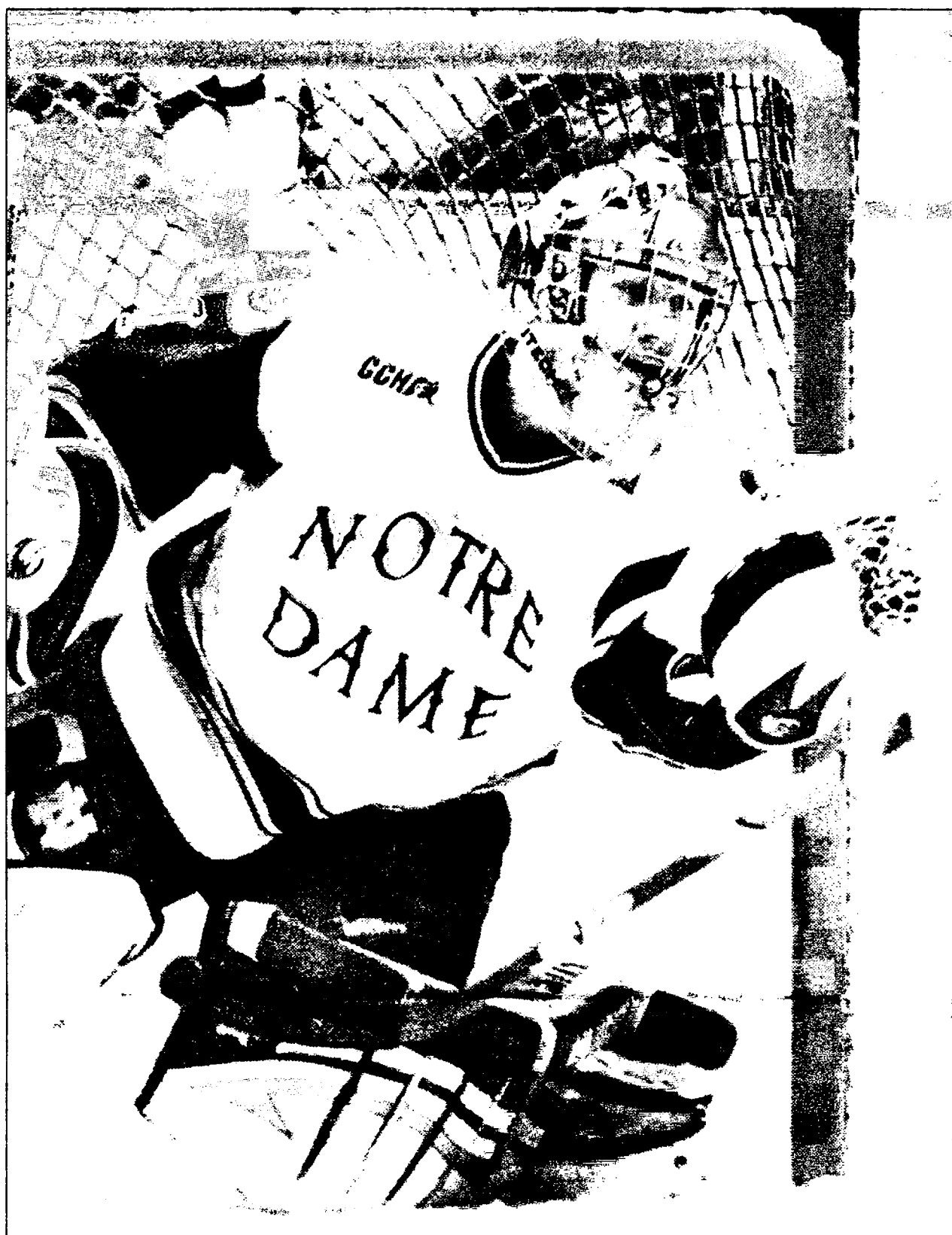
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OUTSTANDING SENIOR ATHLETES

# Leaving their mark



WU YUE/The Observer

Irish netminder Jordan Pearce led the nation in wins, goals against average and shutouts in 2008 as Notre Dame won its second CCHA Championship.

## Pearce becomes winningest goalie in Notre Dame history

By MATT GAMBER  
Sports Editor

Ask Jordan Pearce about rewriting the Irish hockey record books, and he'll smile, brush it off, and say the next goaltender in line will top his eye-popping career numbers.

Ask him about his astronomical grade-point average and otherwise impressive accomplishments off the ice, and he'll sound the same, saying academics have always been a top priority.

Even ask him about his obvious snubbing by the CCHA's coaches, who only chose him as an honorable mention to the all-conference team. He'll laugh again, sing the praises of the first- and second-team choices, and tell you he's just happy to be playing in the CCHA championship.

"He always stays at an even keel, and it really helps him," Irish coach Jeff Jackson said. "Humble and quiet — great goalies are generally that way. They're unassuming."

From backing up All-American David Brown for two years to leading the Irish to another CCHA semifinal appearance, Pearce has done it all with the same level-headed demeanor that has helped him enjoy so much success.

"He doesn't have to talk or have people talk about him, he just does it with his numbers and the wins," junior defenseman Kyle Lawson said. "He lets his play speak for itself, and I think there's a lot to be said about that. He's somebody who doesn't need to go out and boast about himself or have that cockiness about him."

"You can say what you want, but Jordan

Pearce is going to be Jordan Pearce, no matter what happens."

And what exactly does that mean?

"He comes to work every day with the same attitude, the same demeanor," Jackson said. "He works hard and competes hard every day, and he doesn't complain. He just shows that level of humility and yet strength in character and mental toughness that you hope every goaltender can develop."

### Man on fire

Nothing is more important in tournament hockey than hot goaltending, or so the old saying goes.

So with four shutouts in his last five games leading up to the CCHA championship — including two in Notre Dame's CCHA quarterfinal sweep of Nebraska-Omaha — was there any playoff goalie hotter than Pearce?

"No," senior captain Erik Condra said before the CCHA Championship. "He doesn't get enough credit. When playoffs hit, your goaltender needs to be your best player, and he definitely was over the weekend. He stepped it up, and he was unbelievable."

That's been a familiar story over the past two years for Pearce, who, after riding the pine for two seasons, earned the starting gig as a junior. To say he ran with it would be an understatement.

Pearce's career goals-against average (1.97), save percentage (.919) and winning percentage (.680) are all tops in the program's history, and he set the career wins record (57) in Saturday's 1-0 victory, when

see PEARCE/page 34



IAN GAVLICK/The Observer

Irish forward Kerri Hanks is the only player in women's Division I history to end her career with more than 73 goals and 73 assists.

## Hanks wins two Hermanns during time with Irish

By FRAN TOLAN  
Senior Staff Writer

Irish coach Randy Waldrum first saw senior forward Kerri Hanks play when she was just 10 years old. Apparently, Hanks — who has 83 goals and 73 assists in her Notre Dame career — was a natural.

"She was just a shorter version of what you see now," Waldrum said. "She was always very competitive and from a very young age, you could see she had some special ability."

Waldrum, who like Hanks hails from Texas, said the state's soccer community is very tight-knit and he met Hanks through her family.

"Our friends were friends with her parents and I coached in camps with her brother," Waldrum said. "It's just a small world out there but that's how we got our eyes on her."

Hanks said she was not even completely sure how she came to know her future coach.

"It was just a family connection, one family to another to another," she said. "It's kind of hard to explain."

Regardless of how the two met, though, they teamed up at Notre Dame to put together four of the best seasons in Irish history.

### Just missed

Hanks played just two years of soccer at Allen High School before deciding to compete exclusively on

United States national teams. She was recruited to come to Notre Dame as a freshman in 2004, the year the Irish last won their most recent national championship. But Hanks said she elected not to join the team that fall because she was busy "traveling."

"Kerri's actually very modest," Waldrum said. "What she was actually doing after high school was playing with the U.S. [Under-19] national team when they won it all."

Hanks arrived at Notre Dame in the spring of 2005 but only after the Irish put the finishing touches on a 24-1-1 championship season. Hanks did not win a national title during her time on campus.

### Individual accolades

Since joining the Irish, Hanks has had an almost unparalleled career.

She was a second-team All-America selection as a freshman before becoming the youngest-ever Hermann Trophy winner as the top player in the country as a sophomore. That season, she joined former North Carolina great Mia Hamm as the only other player to lead the nation in both goals and assists.

This season, Hanks has reached a new milestone virtually every week. When she recorded two assists in an NCAA quarterfinal win over Florida State last Friday, Hanks moved past Hamm into a tie for second place on

see HANKS/page 34