

Finding your place
Keep tabs on Commencement activities at Saint Mary's and Notre Dame with *The Observer's* schedule of events.

News ♦ page 2

Sacrificing more than time
One MBA degree candidate juggled a two-hour commute and a family of six to earn his diploma from Notre Dame.

Scene ♦ page 22

Friday

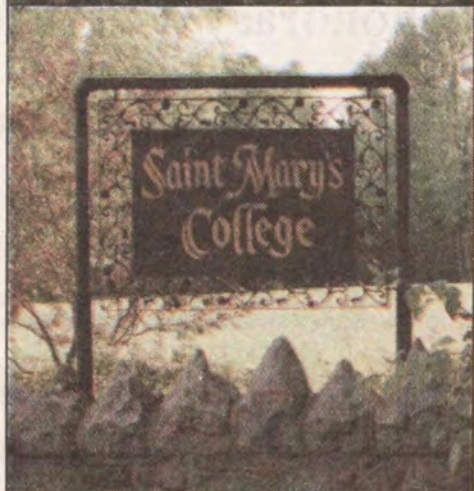
MAY 18, 2001

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MAY THE ROAD RISE TO
MEET YOU.
MAY THE WIND BE ALWAYS
AT YOUR BACK.
MAY THE SUN SHINE WARM
UPON YOUR FACE,
THE RAINS FALL SOFT UPON
YOUR FIELDS
AND, UNTIL WE MEET AGAIN
MAY GOD HOLD YOU IN THE
PALM OF HIS HAND.



INSIDE COLUMN

The ride of a lifetime

I'm going to die. I'm going to die. We're all going to die. These are the thoughts that raced through my head atop a 200-ft. roller coaster a few days ago. I gripped the handlebars and braced myself for the 70 mile/hour plunge. Hair in my sweat-soaked face, my heart leapt into my throat. Finally, the big drop was behind me. Or so I thought. Just as my heart rate calmed, there came another loop, and another, and another. As soon as I realized that there were more I lessened my grip and let myself go. I swallowed hard and let my screams turn to laughter. I looked ahead to the drops and corkscrews in front of me, and smiled.



Christine Kraly

Senior Staff Writer

Ironically, these are my feelings as I face the most dreaded two words any unemployed, loan-paying graduate encounters: real world. My outlook on the future changes from one minute to the next: it dips, turns, rises and plummets in a heartbeat. When friends and classmates are going off to grad school or having families, I find it difficult to see myself in the world (the greater world, of course, that exists outside South Bend). Mostly, it's difficult to imagine stepping off this four-year tilt-a-whirl we call Notre Dame. Am I ready for real responsibility, for these funny, real-world things called "benefits?" Yes, I am. Because I knew the ride had to end. I knew that one day the classes would finish, The Observer presses would stop and I would need to face the next daunting drop called adulthood. Throughout the years, the drops have become less scary. I have terrific friends taking the same freaky ride who have eased my stomach and calmed my nerves at every new twist. My friendship with them has taught me that no drop is so steep that I can't handle. Nothing in life seems so big when a fly girl, a hypochondriac, a rock star and a comedian face it together. I also know that though one ride is ending, there are hundreds of new rides ahead of me, urging me to get in and buckle up. And I won't die — not from a new ride, a new step in my life. I've learned to deal with my anxiety and anticipation. All those crazy thoughts of "Chapter 11 in six months," or "What curtains would look nice in my cardboard box?" are normal and will fade away. This is, of course, what I tell myself and my family as I sit here jobless and waiting for every loan student's favorite department to hunt me down. I know that at the peak of each new plunge, I will look to my family and friends for inspiration. I'll look to my father for the shoulder to cry on, my mother to tell me to dry my eyes and find a job. And to my sister, of course, to make fun of the both of them. I'm sure I'll look to them this weekend, to pinch my arm and remind me of the amazing ride I've just taken, and the ones that lie ahead. I'll grip my cap and smile in the face of the corkscrews. I'll embrace the twists and turns. Come on life, bring on the big drops.

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

TODAY'S STAFF

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Kiflin Turner	Graphics
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Katie McVoy	Lisa Velte
Andrew Soukup	

Events of the Weekend

FRIDAY, MAY 18		5 - 6:30 p.m. COMMENCEMENT MASS Joyce Center — South Dome	
2 - 4 p.m. COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS HONORS CONVOCATION Washington Hall	4 p.m. BACCALAUREATE MASS Angela Athletic Facility	6:45 - 8 p.m. GRADUATION DINNER Joyce Center and North Dining Hall	
9 p.m. - 1 a.m. GRADUATION DANCE Joyce Center — North Dome	7:30 - 10:30 p.m. SENIOR RECEPTION Century Center	SUNDAY, MAY 20	
SATURDAY, MAY 19		9:45 and 11:45 a.m. COMMENCEMENT LITURGY Church of Loretto	
9 a.m. ROTC COMMISSIONING Joyce Center — South Dome	10 a.m. SERVICE SEND-OFF CEREMONY Washington Hall	12:15 p.m. DISTRIBUTION OF BACHELOR AND MASTER DIPLOMAS Joyce Center — North Dome. Guests may begin entering Gate 10.	
	12:00 noon COMMENCEMENT Court of LeMans Hall	2 - 4 p.m. COMMENCEMENT AND CONFERRING OF DEGREES Joyce Center — South Dome	
		4:30 p.m. LAW SCHOOL DIPLOMA CEREMONY Hesburgh Library Reflecting Pool	

Higgins wins Laetare Medal

By ALYSON TOMME
News Writer

Monsignor George Higgins can now include himself in the company of former President John F. Kennedy, social activist Sister Helen Prejean and Catholic Worker founder Dorothy Day. As the recipient of the University's Laetare Medal for the year 2001, Higgins has distinguished himself as a prominent and honorable American Catholic. "I look at the list of who's received it before — some I've known personally or by reputation — and they are very distinguished," he said. "It feels very humbling to be in the same category." The Laetare Medal, the oldest and most prestigious mark of distinction among Catholics, was awarded to Higgins for his work as a scholar, activist and labor priest within the Catholic Church of America. He will receive the medal on May 20th during the University's 156th Commencement proceedings. "The long career of George Higgins



Higgins

shows how an ardent embrace of Catholic doctrine intensifies the hunger and thirst for justice," said University President Father Edward Malloy. "We want to honor him for following Jesus, a carpenter's son, and heeding a vocation to serve his Lord in the workers of the world." Higgins' career began by serving the social action staff of the National Catholic Welfare Conference (now the United States Catholic Conference), where he was appointed director in 1954. In 1979, the National Conference of Catholic Bishops selected Higgins as the secretary for special concerns. He subsequently retired to teach theology at Catholic University. Organized labor has always been Higgins' passion. Whether participating in rallies or speaking at international meetings, he became a leading advocate of organized labor. His list of honors has been merely lengthened as the recent recipient of the Laetare Medal. He was awarded an honorary degree from Notre Dame, which was followed by a labor studies center named in his honor in 1993. He published a book entitled "Organized Labor and the Church: Reflections of a Labor Priest" and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

ND, SMC award honorary degrees

Notre Dame and Saint Mary's will award honorary degrees to distinguished figures in a variety of fields this weekend. Notre Dame recipients include: President Bush; John Bahcall, distinguished astrophysicist; Father Cyprian Davis, professor of church history at Saint Meinrad School of Theology; Marilou Eldred, president of Saint Mary's; Louis Gerstner, Jr., chairman of the board and chief executive officer of IBM; John Jordan II, founder of The Jordan Company and a Notre Dame trustee; William Kennedy, Pulitzer Prize-winning author; Archbishop Giuseppe Pittau, secretary of the Congregation for Catholic Education; Sara Martinez Tucker, president and chief executive officer of the National Hispanic Scholarship Fund; and Andrew Viterbi, cofounder of Qualcomm and now president of Viterbi Group, LLC. Saint Mary's recipients include: Brother Richard Gilman, president of Holy Cross College; Margaret McCarthy, an accomplished writer and lecturer for the college; and Ernestine Raclin, a leader in business, education and voluntary community and social service activities at the local, state and national levels.

LOCAL WEATHER

5 Day South Bend Forecast
AccuWeather® forecast for daytime conditions and high temperatures

	H	L
Saturday	74	50
Sunday	72	52
Monday	71	49
Tuesday	70	51
Wednesday	75	55

NATIONAL WEATHER

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Friday, May 18.
Lines separate high temperature zones for the day.

FRONTS: COLD, WARM, STATIONARY

© 2001 AccuWeather, Inc.

Atlanta	86	64	Las Vegas	93	70	Portland	61	44
Baltimore	71	54	Memphis	84	59	Sacramento	86	53
Boston	68	53	Milwaukee	68	48	St. Louis	80	62
Chicago	71	50	New York	65	52	Tampa	87	69
Houston	86	68	Philadelphia	72	55	Washington, DC	87	69

Farewell to graduating seniors

By KIFLIN TURNER
Assistant News Editor

In a few days, nearly 3,000 students will receive their diplomas and become alumni, no longer students of their respective schools. There will be more football games, basketball championships and sub-zero temperatures for future classes, but for 2001 graduates this weekend's commencement marks the last and most monumental milestone of their time spent at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's.

"I think most importantly, I've grown up a lot over the last four years. I have a much stronger sense of myself, what's important to me, and what I want to do with my life," said Notre Dame senior Joe Napolitano.

"I don't think I could say enough good things, actually. I loved it here, I've had a great time. I know that I've changed over the past four years — I have gained self confidence like no other — I feel like a totally different person than when I came here," said Saint Mary's senior Kelly Sterritt.

For Notre Dame senior Katie Fitzpatrick, the beauty of the campus will be missed.

"I think the coolest thing is running around campus and how beautiful it is," said Fitzpatrick. "I just think it's such a beautiful campus and I appreciate the time that they take to make it such a beautiful place."

Just as the landscape continues to change throughout a student's four years at Notre Dame or Saint Mary's, so do the lives of each of those students with each passing day and year. Yet one thing continues to remain the same — the realization that the four years spent in college will be one of the most influential and momentous experiences of a lifetime.

"My experience at Notre Dame has been a very good one, I wouldn't change it for the world. I've been through a lot of trying times and good times too — and that comes with life," said Notre Dame senior Antione Tobias. The academic experience has also been important in forming and completing the entire college experience for Saint Mary's former student body president, Crissie Renner.

"The knowledge that I've gained from both my peers and the faculty here at Saint Mary's is something that I will carry with me for a long time because I have kind of grown in an environment that inspires me to grow in my knowledge each and every day," said Renner.

The friends met in class, at a party, an SYR, or maybe just by walking around campus are all a part of what makes the experience a rich and unfadable one.

"The most important thing I've learned here are how important friendships are, especially considering the fact that we're not all from the same place — people are from all over the country and we really have to make huge efforts to show each other how much we care," said Notre Dame senior Meagan Burton.

Blizzards, SYR gag gifts, parietals and complaints about gender-relations may find their way in each new class, but the unique place created by each student will have impressed itself on the school in a way that no other possibly could.

"I've definitely enjoyed my experience here, despite any complaints I might have about it, I wouldn't want to change it at all," said John Dickas.

Likewise, the University and the College will notably touch the lives of its students that will surpass both time and distance. "To me Notre Dame means family," said Notre Dame senior Kevin



PETER RICHARDSON/The Observer

Two girls walk away from the sidewalks of God Quad on a path toward Bond Hall — a common path for students of ND and SMC that seniors will miss.

Cherry. "When else in your life are you going to make as many friends with closely knit relationships as you have here at Notre Dame?"

Change is inevitable throughout the passage of time, and for students, four short years have brought with it evolution, and discovery through exploration. To some, moving in as a freshman might have seemed as close as yesterday, but the person they once were then is a long cry from who they are today.

"My Notre Dame experience has been a complete transition, it has been a catalyst. I came in one way, and left another way," said Notre Dame senior Patience McHenry.

"I think for a lot of people, Notre

Dame can force you to grow up rather quickly, and maybe for other people it might be really easy to not grow much at all over the four years," said Napolitano.

And now, regardless of how much one has grown or changed, the 2001 graduates are off to travel down their respective paths in life, to embark on what it takes to survive in the real world. But wherever these paths lead, they have at one time or another converged at one common point. The place that was called home for four years served as more than just an academic experience in life. It teaches life-long educational lessons in friendships, responsibility and independence.



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Madison, Bush to deliver Commencement speeches

♦ LA TV president speaks at SMC

Observer Staff Report

Paula Madison, president and general manager of KNBC-TV in Los Angeles, will deliver the Commencement address at Saint Mary's graduation ceremony.

In addition to her duties at KNBC-TV, Madison also serves as the vice president of diversity for NBC, making her the first African-American woman to become a general manager at a network-owned station in a top-five market.

"She is one of the few women in the position she has," College President Marilou Eldred said. "And as far as we can tell, she holds the highest rank of any minority person in her field."

An active volunteer in the national community, Eldred hopes Madison will be able to deliver a relevant address.

"Each year we try to pick someone who is known to be a good speaker who will deliver a message that is relevant to the seniors," said Eldred. "We try to pick someone who will really provide a challenge to the class."



Madison

♦ Bush is fifth president to speak to ND graduates

By SAM DERHEIMER
News Writer

President George W. Bush

will join the ranks of Dwight Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan and his father, George Bush Sr., as he becomes the fifth American president to speak at a Notre Dame Commencement ceremony.

Several Notre Dame alumni in Congress, including Tim Roemer who district includes

Notre Dame, and National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, a former member of the Board of Trustees, recruited Bush as this year's primary Commencement speaker.

The topics Bush will discuss in his speech have not yet been released, but Dennis Brown, associate director of Notre

Dame Public Relations, said he is sure the speech will focus on the seniors.

"For most seniors, this is the high point in their lives," Brown said. "We are extremely proud of them and their achievements, and the University does its best to keep them at the forefront."

Protesters object to decision to honor Bush

By KERRY SMITH
News Writer

The administration's decision to invite President Bush to give the Commencement address and award him an honorary doctor of laws at Commencement has sparked controversy from within the University community.

Many groups and individuals affiliated with Notre Dame have expressed concern that the invitation neglects the Catholic values and traditions on which the University is founded. Led by government professor Peter Walshe, a group of faculty, students and alumni created a petition and will hold a demonstration outside the Joyce Center Sunday to protest the decision.

"Does [University President

Father Edward] Malloy really believe George W. Bush is a role model for the graduating class — someone worthy of an honorary degree?" Walshe said. "Commencement is a time to celebrate the values of the University and President Bush is incapable of doing this."

With 667 signatures, the petition has been signed by 115 faculty, 98 graduate students, 173 undergraduate students, 208 alumni, 22 staff members and 51 others.

Walshe, who wrote the petition, pinpointed the opposition to Bush, writing, "The policies of the Bush administration which will, *inter alia*, give a huge tax refund to the rich, cut by 86 percent programs that provide health care access for the uninsured, abandon the environment — both nationally and globally — to the predatory drive for corporate profits, and promote another arms race with its Strategic Defense Initiative, contradict Notre Dame's mission as a Catholic university."

Walshe thinks other issues

need be addressed as well.

"Our petition objects to a range of policies being pursued by President Bush. But it lets the president off too lightly," Walshe said. "As an adamant supporter of capital punishment, he stands in fundamental opposition to the U.S. Catholic Bishops and Pope John Paul II ... The petition could also have drawn attention to President Bush's derisory contribution of \$200 million for the international fund to counter the AIDS pandemic in Africa."

Petition supporters will protest Sunday in two ways. Some will gather at Leeper Park in the morning and march to the Joyce Center, where they will hold a rally and hand out leaflets to those entering the graduation.

The rally will include speeches on what protesters think are four contradictions between Catholic values and Bush's policies: labor, the environment, capital punishment and the military.

Protestors attending graduation will wear white armbands and/or white tape on their mortarboards signifying opposition

to the administration's choice of a commencement speaker.

According to Walshe, Malloy defended his administration's decision to honor Bush in a letter to a concerned alumnus.

"Malloy has written a perfunctory, less than thoughtful, four-sentence response to a long and carefully argued letter from an alumnus explaining why he considered the invitation to President Bush to be totally inappropriate," Walshe said. "Malloy wrote 'In inviting President Bush, we honor the office he holds, rather than any particular policy choices he makes as our national leader.' Had Bush been pro-choice he would not have been invited. That he seriously disregards Catholic social teaching in a host of other policies has been ignored."

Opposition to Bush does not stop at members of the Notre Dame community. Other protesters are expected, including members of the Indiana chapter of the American Atheist Organization.

♦ CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 2001 OBSERVER SENIOR CLASS ♦

THE OBSERVER

MOLLY MCVOY
KRIS DIANA
CHRISTINE KRALY
TIM LOGAN
ANNE MARIE MATTINGLY
COLLEEN MCCARTHY
ERIN PIROUTEK
FINN PRESSLY
KATE STEER
LIZ LANG
BRIAN KESSLER
TIM CASEY
KATHLEEN O'BRIEN
JOSE CUELLAR

LILA HAUGHEY
TIM LANE
MIKE GUNVILLE
MICHAEL MARCHAND
BRITTANY MOREHOUSE
SCOTT BLASZAK
ERIN CONDON
CHRIS AVILA
CHAD MAESTAS
TYLER WHATLEY
COLLEEN BARRETT
NIKKI RESTAINO
ERICA THESING

Thank you for your years of dedication, friendship, and commitment to quality journalism. You will be missed. Best wishes for the future from the 2001-2002 staff.

FOUR YEARS IN REVIEW

Friday, May 18, 2001

The top 10 Observer news stories from the 1997-2001 academic years

page 5

1



Trustees reject Big Ten membership

February 8, 1999

Fearing the loss of a unique identity as a university, the Notre Dame Board of Trustees voted against joining the Big Ten conference.

"The Board of Trustees affirmed the recommendation of the Officers that Notre Dame should retain its institutional independence," said University president Father Edward Malloy. "The decision was complex. [It] transcends many individual factors, academic and athletic. The ultimate [rationale behind the decision] lies in a loss of institutional identity."

If Notre Dame had joined the Big

Ten it would have been one of only two private universities and the only member with a religious affiliation.

"Notre Dame as a core identity: Catholic, private and independent. An association with the Big Ten would only involve one element of that identity, independence," said Malloy. "In our deliberations about joining the Big Ten, there was never the concern for our Catholic character being diminished."

"Fiscal factors were not a decisive determinant in the decision," Malloy added.

Provost Nathan Hatch pointed out that Notre Dame is in a position that other universities struggle to achieve.

"Officers of other universities toss and turn at night, trying to figure out how to make their institution unique," said Hatch.

The Board of Fellows, the highest decision-making body at the University who are also responsible for appointing the Board of Trustees, decided against membership in the Big Ten Dec. 1, 1998. Their decision, however, was kept secret pending approval by the Board of Trustees.

2

Bridget's closes after police raid



More than 165 patrons received citations for underage drinking at Bridget McGuire's Filling Station when local and state excise police raided the bar.

Police cited Bridget's for violations of state liquor laws and management voluntarily closed the establishment.

Feb. 2, 1998

3

SMC cancels 'Monologues'



College President Marilou Eldred informed the student organizers of "The Vagina Monologues" that the play would not make a reappearance on campus and subsequently spurred weeks of controversy.

Students held a speak-out, staged a sit-in, and finally performed the play in the lobby of Regina Hall.

Jan. 22, 2001

4

Kinder becomes first female Guard



Molly Kinder, a 6-foot-3 senior, became the first female to join the prestigious group of 10 students since the beginning of the Irish Guard 51-years ago.

Although she auditioned for the Guard and did not make the cut during the fall of her junior year, Kinder made the squad on her second try this fall.

Sept. 2, 2001

5

NCAA sanctions ND for violations



The NCAA handed Notre Dame its first ever major violation in connection with Kimberley Dunbar's gifts to a number of Irish football players. Dunbar's membership in the Quarterback Club made her official University representative, said the NCAA.

The University lost two scholarships and received a two-year probation.

Jan. 19, 2000

6

Eldred denies The Alliance



President Marilou Eldred denied official club status to The Alliance of Lesbian, Bisexual, Straight and Questioning Women of Saint Mary's College after six months of deliberation.

Eldred claimed that other campus organizations were already meeting the proposed goals of The Alliance.

Feb. 27, 1998

7

Garrick resigns to protest gay policy



Father David Garrick, assistant professor of communications and theatre, resigned in protest of the University's approach to gay and lesbian students and faculty.

Garrick said that, after coming out as a celibate homosexual in an April 1996 letter to The Observer, he was suspended from Basilica ministry.

March 19, 1998

8

Hesburgh receives medal



University officials, Congressmen and former President Bill Clinton gathered in the U.S. capitol rotunda July 13 to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore Hesburgh, president emeritus of Notre Dame, for a lifetime of public service.

Aug. 23, 2000

9

Norton elected first female pres.



This spring Brooke Norton accepted a position no female before her had held — student body president. Norton and her vice president Brian Moscona won 56 percent of the votes.

Norton is also the first incumbent vice president to win the role of president since 1973.

Feb. 15, 2001

10

Master Plan building begins



Saint Mary's officials broke ground on the new Dalloway's Coffeehouse and Welcome Center, marking the beginning of a 10-year plan to develop and renovate the Saint Mary's campus.

March 30, 2000

Irish lose to 'Huskers. SMC "Girl of Choice." Assault policy changes. Lieberman visits. Bar busts.

The Year

2000 ♦



JOSE CUELLAR/The Observer

Women's basketball head coach Muffet McGraw and the players gather around the NCAA championship trophy after their 68-66 victory over Purdue in St. Louis April 1. When team returned to campus that night they were welcomed by more than 1,500 cheering fans.

By KATE NAGENGAST
Associate News Editor

Sea of Red

The joys and frustrations of this Notre Dame football season began long before the team's crushing defeat at the Fiesta Bowl. The season's most anticipated game, when the Fighting Irish took on No. 1-ranked Nebraska Sept. 9, was played before a sea of red T-shirts and screaming 'Huskers' — though the game actually happened in the House that Rockne Built.

Pre-game hype included ESPN's GameDay coverage from in front of Touchdown Jesus and a pep rally in the Stadium rather than the Joyce Center to accommodate fireworks and Dick Vitale's ener-

gy. But because of thousands of tickets usually reserved for Notre Dame fans were sold to Nebraska fans, season ending injuries for defensive end Grant Irons and quarterback Arnaz Battle and an overtime, three-point loss to Nebraska, Irish fans returned home torn between feelings of pride in the team's talent and shame about the greed of Irish ticket-holders.

SMC shirt cases controversy

Saint Mary's junior class stirred controversy on both the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's campuses this fall when its class T-shirt was printed with an imitation of the painting "Il Bacio" on it. The painting on the shirt was altered to depict a young boy wearing a Notre Dame shirt

kissing a girl in a shirt with the Saint Mary's French Cross while a girl in a Notre Dame shirt looks on. The text around the altered painting read, "SMC 2002 ... Girl of Choice."

Saint Mary's Board of Governance prevented the sale of the T-shirt, citing potential repercussions it could have on gender relations between the College and the University. Although the junior class board held a forum to protest the decision, claiming it was censorship for BOG to stop their sales, BOG absorbed the \$1,300 cost for the shirts' printing and the shirts were never distributed.

Sex assault policy changed

Prompted by years of concern about rape on campus, Notre Dame changed its sexu-

al assault policy and appointed Ava Preacher, assistant dean of the College of Arts and Letters, official resource person for victims of campus rape. The policy changes included a du Lac revision that states, "student victims will not be subject to disciplinary action" in connection with alcohol or parietals violations related to sexual assault and the publication of two brochures. The University also established a committee to advise the University on issues and procedures pertaining to sexual assault.








Busted Bars

Going down in history with Bridget McGuire's and ICONN as busted student bars, Finnigan's and Benchwarmer's both experienced

late night raids this year — the Finnigan's superstitious Oct. 13 bust resulted in 147 citations, while the Benchwarmer's Jan. 25 raid cited 18 students.

Although neither Finnigan's nor Benchwarmer's lost their liquor licenses, the Notre Dame students present at Finnigan's paid \$100 fines to the University in addition to the \$220 court fee and 40 hours of community service most of the students received as "minor in a tavern." A minor in a tavern charge is a Class C misdemeanor under Indiana State Law that can carry repercussions including fines up to \$500, six months in jail or loss of a driver's license.

Although Jeff Shoup, director of Residence Life, could not

<p>Friday, Sept. 1 - Molly Kinder becomes first female Irish Guard</p> 	<p>Tuesday, Oct. 24 - Lieberman visits campus</p> 	
<p>Friday, Sept. 28 - Saint Mary's T-shirt causes controversy</p> 	<p>Thursday, Nov. 16 - Appointment of Ava Preacher</p> 	
<p>September</p>	<p>October</p>	<p>November</p>
<p>Saturday, Sept. 9 - Notre Dame football loses to Nebraska before a sea of red</p> 	<p>Thursday, Oct. 12 - Finnigan's busted, Change to sexual assault policy</p> 	<p>Wednesday, Sept. 20 - Brionne Clary dies of leukemia</p> 

'Monologues' cancelled. ND loses Clary, Murphy. ND joins WRC. Women, champs change history.

in Review

♦ 2001

comment specifically on the punishments for underage students at Benchwarmer's he said the office typically considers previous cases of a similar nature when determining punishments.

Saint Mary's students were only punished by state law, not the College.

Lieberman visits campus

During his travels as the Democratic vice-presidential candidate, Senator Joseph Lieberman spoke at Washington Hall before a somewhat hostile audience of Notre Dame community members.

His speech about America's moral uncertainty and the country's definitive need to return to faith and values in a public dialogue was interrupted by screams of "What about abortion?" from seminary candidate Steve Sanchez. Sanchez and members of organizations like Notre Dame/Saint Mary's Right to Life, the Progressive Student Alliance and the United Muslim Associated also protested with signs, banners, pins and flyers outside the auditorium before and during his speech.

Eldred bans "Monologues"

College President Marilou Eldred informed the student organizers of "The Vagina Monologues" that the play would not make a reappearance on campus last January and subsequently spurred weeks of controversy.

As part of a nationwide movement to increase discussion about female sexuality on college campuses, the "Monologues" were performed on Saint Mary's campus during February 2000 sponsored by the Campus Alliance for Rape Elimination (CARE). In 2001, however, administration declared there was no need to perform the play again.

Upset by the sudden ban and the administration's unwillingness to explain their reasoning for the ban, students held a speak-out at Dalloway's on Jan. 24 and representatives from CARE met with Eldred on Jan. 31. When the administration had not changed its position, nearly 40 students staged a sit-in outside the Office of the President in LeMans Hall and presented a petition with nearly 300 signatures supporting the performance on Feb. 9. By the end of February the

play was still forbidden as an organized event. Left without an alternative and unwilling to abandon the "Monologues" entirely, 20 women from the Saint Mary's academic community performed the play for more than 150 students, faculty and community members in the lobby of Regina Hall Feb. 19.

This performance prompted Eldred to request a letter of apology to the Board of Trustees from individual members of CARE who were involved, though those participants who were not members of CARE never received such letters. CARE's four officers did send Eldred a letter, however, they interpreted apology not to mean a statement of regret, but instead as a defense of a position as the classical Greek definition suggests.

"The Vagina Monologues," written by Eve Ensler, are regularly performed off-Broadway by a cast of prominent actresses in New York City.

Leukemia claims two students

The Notre Dame Family lost two members of this year's junior class to leukemia — Brionne Clary Sept. 20 and Conor Murphy Jan. 31.

Clary, an "enthusiastic" mechanical engineering student from Tyler, Texas and an active participant in interhall basketball, was re-diagnosed with the disease approximately one week before the beginning of the fall semester after going into remission during high school. A memorial mass was held Nov. 21.

After his condition inspired 610 people to join the National Marrow Donor Program in an on-campus drive during March 2000, Murphy developed pneumonia that compromised his immune system. Although the prayers of students who gathered in Zahm's chapel were not answered, Murphy is remembered by many students as a "fun-loving guy with a strong faith."

An active participant in Campus Ministry and vice president of the College Democrats, Murphy's strength even inspired seven of his friends to shave their heads as a show of support during his chemotherapy treatment. Murphy's memory was honored with a mass and a tree-planting ceremony March 22,

the week of what would have been his 21st birthday.

Women break barriers at ND

Women made noticeable strides on Notre Dame's campus this year, both on to the football field in an Irish Guard's uniform and into the Office of the Student Body President.

Molly Kinder, a 6-foot-3 senior, became the first female to join the prestigious group of 10 students since the beginning of the Irish Guard 51-years ago. Although she auditioned for the Guard and did not make the cut during the fall of her junior year, Kinder made the squad on her second try this fall.

Likewise, Brooke Norton accepted a position no female before her had held — that of student body president. After finishing in the top two in the primary, Norton and her vice president Brian Moscona won 56 percent of the votes to defeat Ryan Becker and Nikki McCord in the run-off election. Norton is also the first incumbent vice president to win the role of president since 1973.

Although there were few negative public remarks about the success of these women, student responses were overwhelmingly supportive.

ND joins the WRC

After the largest campus demonstration Notre Dame had seen in more than two years occurred Feb. 22, University President Father Edward Malloy announced his decision to become the 74th school in the Workers Rights Consortium (WRC) March 7.

Malloy's decision came after a year of anti-sweatshop campaigns by student activists. The University opted not to join the WRC last spring, but instead formed a task force that offered Malloy a confidential recommendation March 2.

Notre Dame has previously turned down an invitation to join the WRC in April 2000. Saint Mary's had already joined the WRC last April.

National Champions

The Irish women's basketball team and coach Muffet McGraw brought a national title to Notre Dame and received a greeting worthy of champions.

More than 1,500 students waited on Notre Dame Avenue April 1 for the team bus to arrive from South Bend Airport after the team defeated Purdue

68-66 at the NCAA finals in St. Louis, Mo.

This wasn't the only congratulations the team received, however, as signs decorated residence halls, lights flashed at the Joyce Center and area businesses expressed their gratitude for the thrilling 34-2 season.

Student Activities also sponsored a pep rally March 8 after

the team's banquet. Even the White House showed their pride in the team when President Bush honored the champions at an April 23 ceremony in Washington, D.C.

Graduating seniors Niele Ivey and Ruth Riley will play in the WNBA — Ivey for Indianapolis and Riley for Miami. Kelley Siemon hopes to play basketball in Europe after graduation.



PETER RICHARDSON/The Observer

Molly Kinder became the first female member in the Irish Guard this year. Above, she marches in the first home football game of the season versus Texas A&M Sept. 2.

Tuesday, Jan. 22 - Saint Mary's cancels "Vagina Monologues"		Wednesday, March 7 - ND joins the WRC	
January		March	
Thursday, Jan. 25 - Benchwarmer's busted	Monday, Feb. 19 - Saint Mary's students perform "Vagina Monologues"	Thursday, Feb. 15 - Brooke Norton elected first female student body president	April
January	February	March	April
Wednesday, Jan. 31 - Conor Murphy dies of leukemia			Sunday, April 1 - Women's Basketball National Championship

Weir, Scheib to be honored as valedictorians

◆ Weir credits faith, curiosity for success at ND

By KATE NAGENGAST
Associate News Editor

Carolyn Weir said she doesn't pay much attention to grades — but her curiosity, faith and fascination with her majors helped her to achieve a 3.95 grade point average and the position as Notre Dame's 2001 valedictorian.



Weir

Graduating with a double major in the Program of Liberal Studies (PLS) and theology, Weir will deliver the valedictory address on "faith, hope and love" at Commencement May 20, where she will also serve as a flag bearer.

"I would attribute a lot [of my success] to my faith. I don't think I could have done a lot of it without the grace and wisdom of God," said Weir. "[So the theme of my speech] is faith, hope and love and its coupling with the knowledge and skills that Notre Dame has given us to be actualized in leadership, and the responsibility we have to bring these gifts ... into the world."

After graduation, Weir will work as an education research associate in the Department of Education in Washington, D.C. — a position she believes Notre Dame has prepared her for well.

"I thought [my academic experience] was very unique as a PLS and theology major [because of] the way I learned and the way it fostered an outlook on education that I felt was different than anywhere else, and really any other major," said Weir. "But the spirituality at Notre Dame has been

such an influence on my life as well, in particular my participation in the Notre Dame Folk Choir."

She participated in the Notre Dame Folk Choir for three years and acted as co-president of the choir this year — an experience she called "life changing." She also served as a resident assistant in Breen-Phillips during her senior year and worked on community service initiatives at the Center for the Homeless, Logan Center, Martin Luther King Center and Little Flower Parish.

Notre Dame, however, was not Weir's first college choice. She had planned to study music at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa., but changed her mind during April of her senior year in high school. Having missed the application deadline for most colleges and universities, Weir spent her freshman year studying in theology at Saint Vincent College in Latrobe, Pa. She transferred to Notre Dame during her sophomore year because she desired a larger school with a more reputable program. When she arrived at Notre Dame, however, Weir was attracted to PLS in addition to theology.

"I was intrigued by PLS for the broad range of readings ... the way the classes were conducted in small setting where you really get to know your students and professors through discussion and you [as a student] have the education in your hands," said Weir. Weir grew up in Greensburg, Pa., a town she describes as similar to South Bend. The oldest of three children, her parents, John and Nancy Weir, own and operate Scholastica Travel, Inc., a company focused on educational tours for students.

She was also co-valedictorian at Greensburg Catholic High School — an honor she shared with Brian O'Donoghue, her classmate in a class of 130 students and this year's student body president of Notre Dame.

◆ Scheib has no regrets about SMC career

By NOREEN GILLESPIE
News Writer

As a high school senior, Julia Scheib thought her college path would lead her straight down Notre Dame Avenue to the Golden Dome.

With a rich family legacy tied to the University, she filled out an application to the college she had always wanted to attend. But when a rejection letter arrived in the straight-A student's mailbox, Scheib suddenly found herself Scheib had less traveled.

Scheib had also sent in an application to the college across the street, where she had fallen in love with what she saw.

Four years later, the Saint Mary's valedictorian for the class of 2001 believes that things happen for a reason — and has the evidence of a successful college career to back it up.

"From the day I got to Saint Mary's, it's been no looking back," Scheib said. "God does things for reasons."

But for Scheib, who will graduate Saturday at the top of her class with a 3.98 GPA, the valedictory distinction shouldn't separate her from her classmates. She didn't even know she was in the running for the honor until she investigated her class rank for her résumé in October.

However, hard work — and

hard play — have always been priorities for the self-proclaimed perfectionist, who balanced the past four years as a secondary education and psychology double major. While managing teaching assignments at Penn High School and Clay Middle School, Scheib also composed her senior psychology comprehensive, a comparison of Sigmund Freud and William James' theories of religion. Still sneaking in time to contribute to Residence Hall Association, class boards, hall councils and Campus Ministry during her tenure at Saint Mary's, Scheib has learned the delicate art of time management.

Scheib is awaiting word on a high school teaching position for the fall. While teaching may not be what she wants to pursue as a permanent career, she is considering the possibility of eventually returning to school to work on a master's or Ph.D.

"I've always been a person who loves school," she said. "As a teacher you still get to study, because you have to learn the material to teach it. I don't want to teach kids just the basics."

As far as providing guidance for her fellow classmates during her valedictory address Saturday, Scheib will stay away from giving advice, she said. The speech will be something that will reach out to each graduate in the class of 2001.

As she walks down the final stretch of the path she never thought she'd take, she knows she made the right choice.

"I applied to Notre Dame my junior year, just to see if I could get in," Scheib said. "I just wanted to do that for myself. I got in, but I had no intentions of going there. I know I wasn't meant to go there ... I'm just very happy it happened that way."



Scheib

ND Valedictorian selection process:

1. The registrar's office provides a list of the students with the highest grade point averages in each college — approximately three students from each college.

2. These candidates submit recommendations from the dean of their college, a peer and a draft of a 3-minute speech.

3. The valedictory selection committee — which consists of four faculty members — discusses the drafts, anonymously ranks the candidates and invites two or three finalists before the committee for a final interview.

4. From these finalists the committee selects the valedictorian, and the second place candidate is asked to give the invocation.

The committee looks for evidence of the candidates' academic skills, their ability to write and present an engaging speech and the impact they have had on the student or University community, said assistant provost Joy Vann-Hamilton.

SMC Valedictorian selection process:

Candidates are selected based solely upon the highest grade point average in the graduating senior class, said Theresa Marcy, vice president of academic affairs.

Congratulations Antonio and Kathleen!!



Love, the Faltos



Hell of an end. Love, E

Congratulations Class of 2001!

Graduates: Are you moving to Cincinnati?

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- * Pre-Season Pep Rally
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For more information, contact Melinda Sinclair at 513-861-3171

or check out our website: www.alumni.nd.edu/~ndc_cinc

Construction winds down on Hayes-Healy-Hurley, Malloy Hall

By SCOTT BRODFUEHRER
News Writer

When this year's graduating seniors first stepped on campus, they bought their books in a small cramped bookstore at the site of the Coleman-Morse center, were the first freshmen to live in McGlenn and Welsh Family Halls and the first male freshmen to live in Knott and Siegfried Halls. The class was here through the renovation of the Main Building and South Dining Hall, the building of the Rolfs Sports Recreation Center and the opening of the newly renovated Notre Dame Stadium.

When these new alumni return to the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's campuses in a few years, even more transformations will have taken place.

Notre Dame's math department and international studies department completed their move this week into the Hayes-Healy Center and Hurley Hall. The international studies department was housed in the Main Building until its renovation four years ago, and then moved to Hurley Hall.

While Hurley was being renovated for the past two years, the department was housed in the Security Building, but is now in a more central location on campus. The London Program, formerly housed in O'Shaughnessy Hall, also moved to Hurley Hall.

"It will be very helpful to students to have all the international study programs in one location on the center of campus," said Claudia Kselman, associate director of the international studies department.

The math department was

housed in the Computing Center and Math Building (CCMB) since it was built in 1962 before being moved to the Hayes-Healy Center this week. The new facility provides more space and better facilities for the department.

"All of us are very happy with the move. You name it, we have it: better offices, better secretaries' offices, better seminar rooms and it's better lit. It's much nicer looking," said Juan Migliore, director of undergraduate studies for the math department.

In addition to better office facilities, there are classrooms in the building and more professors will be able to teach in the same building as their office.

"First year classes are more likely to be here ... more professors will be teaching in this building than in the CCMB," said Migliore.

Work will continue this summer on the new Malloy Hall, which will house the Philosophy and Theology buildings, with a scheduled completion date of Aug. 1.

"We are finishing up the interior, the carpet and the ceilings and finishing up the electrical outlets. Sitework, like sidewalks around the building and landscaping also must be completed. Hopefully the departments will be able to move in right after August 1," said Dianna Creech, the coordinator of the Malloy Hall construction.

This summer, work will begin on an extension of Stepan Chemistry Hall. According to Joseph Schellinger, director of academic space management, the expansion will be on the north end of the building and will be a square addition,

stretching from the end of the wing of the building to the access road heading to LaFortune Student Center. The addition is scheduled to include five research laboratories and nine faculty offices and will not disrupt the current road structure.

An addition to the Hesburgh Center for International Studies will also be constructed, beginning this summer.

"It's predominantly office space at the southeast corner of the building. We plan to have 19 private offices and three administrative offices," said Schellinger.

Work on the housing complex for visiting professors is currently behind schedule due to bad weather. The building, which was scheduled to open this fall, should be ready for occupancy by the beginning of the spring semester. It is located across from the Fischer Graduate Residences Community Center and will contain 24 apartments.

Construction will also take place this summer at Saint Mary's, with minor renovations to McCandless Hall.

"Beginning this week, we will be installing sprinklers throughout the building and renovating the hall directors room, the chapel and the entry area," said Keith Dennis, Vice President for Finance and Administration.

Dennis said construction at Dalloway's Coffeehouse is "substantially complete" and will be completed by commencement.

"They have laid almost all of the bricks, and it will be ready for the receptions this weekend because some receptions in the clubhouse may spill out onto the patio," said Dennis.

Malloy dedicates Coleman-Morse center



KYLIE CARTER/The Observer

University President Father Edward Malloy blesses the new Coleman-Morse center in a ceremony May 4.

By SCOTT BRODFUEHRER
News Writer

In a spirit of thanksgiving for the generosity of donors and celebration for the diverse activities of Notre Dame students, University officials dedicated the Coleman-Morse center May 5.

The day's activities began with a dedication mass at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. The celebration was presided over by University President Father Edward Malloy and was concelebrated by almost every Holy Cross priest at Notre Dame. Bishop John D'Arcy, Auxiliary Bishop Daniel Jenky and Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus Joseph Crowley, all from the diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, also attended the mass.

Members of the Liturgical Choir, Folk Choir, Handbell Choir and Women's Liturgical Choir provided music for the celebration. In attendance at the mass were family and friends of donors Tom Coleman and James and Leah Rae

Morse, members of the Board of Trustees, University Officers and staff members from Academic Services for Student Athletes, Campus Ministry, the Center for Social Concerns and the First Year of Studies.

Father Richard Warner, Director of Campus Ministry and one of the main forces behind the creation of the center, gave the homily, explaining how the center is "perhaps the most significant building on campus." Warner emphasized how students have made the building their own in the past weeks.

"This beautiful building is so much more than bricks and concrete. It is a tribute to who we are and wish to be as a University community," said Warner.

Immediately following the mass, Malloy dedicated the building itself, and then the two centers. He blessed the building and engaged the crowd in prayer, thanking the generous benefactors and the workers who gave great care in constructing the building.

THE NOTRE DAME CLUBS OF BOSTON AND WORCESTER CONGRATULATE THE CLASS OF 2001.

If you're coming to the Boston area, send an e-mail to ndboston@yahoo.com to find out about upcoming events and plan on joining us for our annual "Schmooze Cruise" on Boston Harbor on June 21st.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU.

Welcome to Massachusetts



Visit the Notre Dame Club of Worcester at http://alumni.nd.edu/~ndc_worc/

Visit the Notre Dame Club of Boston at http://alumni.nd.edu/~ndc_bost/



Happy Belated 21st Birthday, Megan McKeon!

We had a great time celebrating in Vegas! Congratulations on Graduation, Bank One, and John Marshall!
Love, The Moms and Daughters Club



Doobs-

Congrats on your graduation. I'm so proud of you.

All my love -

Hummingbird

Commencement Weekend 2001

Dear Graduates:

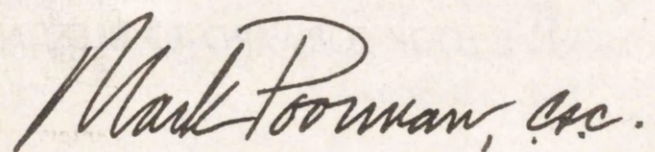
I would like to take this opportunity to extend my prayers and best wishes to the members of the Class of 2001. I also want to express my gratitude for the rich contributions you have made to the University during your time here.

For those of you who are graduating seniors, I hope that we have achieved our goal of providing you with an education that integrates the life of the mind with the life of the heart. May your commitment to your faith in God and to the service of God's people match your dedication to your chosen vocation and profession. We have high expectations of our graduates. The tremendous contribution that our alumni make to society and to the Church is a testament to the importance of these high expectations.

For those of you leaving with graduate and professional degrees, I hope that you will carry with you the best of our traditions as they relate to your discipline. If you bring to your chosen field a strong set of ethical convictions and a commitment to justice, you will represent the very best of Notre Dame.

May Our Lady, Notre Dame, continue to watch over you in the years ahead. We are blessed to have you as members of the Notre Dame family.

Sincerely yours,



(Rev.) Mark L. Poorman, C.S.C.
Vice President for Student Affairs



Notre Dame alumnus still missing in La Paz, Bolivia

By JASON McFARLEY
News Editor

An FBI team has left Bolivia

after investigating the disappearance of a 1999 Notre Dame graduate and Peace Corps volunteer who has been missing for seven weeks.

Peace Corps officials remain concerned about the disappearance of University alumnus Walter Poirier and pledge to continue the investigation,

according to a May 11 statement released by the organization.

"After two months of intensive investigation, and despite the best efforts of the U.S. embassy [in La Paz, Bolivia], the Bolivian police, Peace Corps search specialists and the FBI, we still do not know what has happened to Walter," officials said in the statement.

Poirier disappeared on Feb. 22 in Bolivia's Zongo Valley, where he worked on ecotourism development projects. Poirier regularly traveled between La Paz and several villages in the valley.

"The FBI team reviewed all the investigative notes and evidence and conducted numerous interviews with residents of the Zongo Valley," the release said. "To date, the FBI has uncovered no credible evidence of foul play in his disappearance."

Posters offering a reward for information leading to Poirier's whereabouts are being distributed throughout Bolivia, and the U.S. embassy will continue to work with the Bolivian media to publicize the disappearance and reward, according to the release.

The FBI's regional representative will make monthly trips to

Bolivia to review the case and an FBI emergency response team will be on standby to return to Bolivia should any new leads develop, the release said.

About a month ago, two Notre Dame residence halls teamed to organize a fundraiser to benefit a South Bend agency and raise awareness about Poirier's case.

The Dismas House fundraiser began in mid-April to collect proceeds for Dismas of Michiana, a local organization that reintroduces former offenders into society, and serve as a living prayer for Poirier.

Keenan and Zahm hall residents organized the campus-wide project, asking students to donate at least two dollars. Poirier is a former Zahm Hall president and Dismas staff member.

Organizers hoped to raise \$15,000 through the effort, said Father Gary Chamberland, Keenan Hall rector. By Wednesday, he had collected about \$6,000, they said.

"We originally hoped to raise \$15,000, but maybe that wasn't realistic to expect," Chamberland said. "We also hoped that this project would raise awareness about Wally's situation, and I hope we did that."

Observer Class of 2001



Thanks for a great four years!

Congratulations Farley's Finest Graduates!

We will miss you dearly:

- Stephanie Andre
- Rachel Bundick
- Erin Burke
- Angela Chaput
- Rebecca Glatz
- Shannon Grady
- Adrienne Haynes
- Kimberly Spayd
- Erin Weidner
- Kelley Siemon
- Kimberly Jackson
- Eileen Huie
- Danielle Klayman
- Heather Masino
- Latasha Marshall
- Kelly McCluskey
- Claire Bula
- Andrea Bondy
- Farley Hall
University of Notre Dame
- Kristin Waller
- Meaghan McCarthy
- Bridget Monahan
- Mary McLaughlin
- Donna Mowchan
- Elizabeth Petruska
- Molly Moran
- Sarah Panter
- Tiana Checchia
- Adrienne Shimmel
- Katherine Rakowski
- Aubree Dill
- Catherine Cook
- Lucia Gemma
- Erica Freeburg
- Jennifer Geraci
- Janine Janesheski
- Elizabeth Lemire
- Veronica Malanga

Don't cry because it's over,
Smile because it happened.

NEWS BRIEFS

Senior to make presentation at Cambridge: Saint Mary's senior Alyson Leatherman will spend her summer not only preparing for the work world, but also preparing a presentation for the Popular Culture Association International Conference at Cambridge in England. Leatherman will present her paper on the role of Osborne Liquor Company's advertising in southern Spain. The company's giant bulls have become more than just an effective ad campaign, according to Leatherman's paper, they are part of the cultural identity of many people in southern Spain.

Provost Nathan Hatch gets reappointment: Notre Dame's Board of Trustees has elected University Provost Nathan Hatch to a second five-year term in his current post. Hatch, provost since 1996, serves as the University's second-ranking administrator and chief academic officer. His reappointment follows the Trustees' review of recommendations from University President Father Edward Malloy and an elected faculty committee charged with conducting a formal review of Hatch's performance.

For more information on these stories surf to The Observer online at Observer.nd.edu

The Minority Engineering Program Congratulates Our Seniors:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Erwin Cena | Matthew Colon |
| Nicolas Creten | Abraham Cruz |
| Pedro Cuadra | Kevin Dowdell |
| Nicolas Fehring | Carlos Garcia |
| David Go | Lokalia Hill |
| Jabari Holloway | Monica Sara Mata |
| Alexander O'Bannon | Nelson Rivera |
| Camilo Rueda | Christopher Sanabria |
| Esteban Sanchez | Michael ShoShone |
| Justin Smith | Mario Suarez |
| George Viamontes | Matthew Yung |

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all the lesbian, gay, bi and transgender graduates of 2001, and their graduating friends and supporters...

& Welcomes

you, your family and friends into our strong and growing alumni organization.

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Our user-friendly organization has no official affiliation with—and receives no financial support from—the University of Notre Dame or Saint Mary's College. Our strength and support comes from our membership and our numbers.

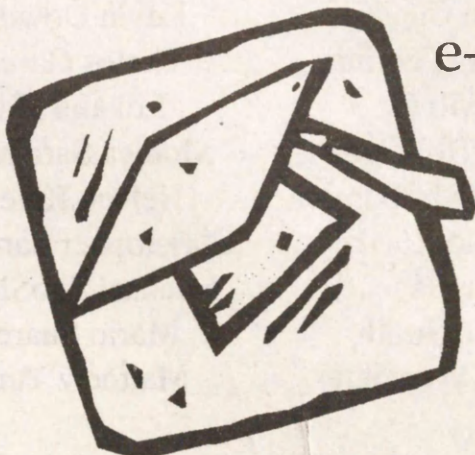
To receive your welcoming first-year membership packet and for more information about our organization visit our web site at: **<http://galandsmc.org/>**

e-mail us at: **galandsmc@aol.com**

or write us at: **GALA-ND/SMC**

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Chicago IL 60625



Graduating seniors leave behind lasting contributions

◆ NDToday.com offers students valuable services

By SAM DERHEIMER
News Writer

What began humbly as www.nd.edu/~fhelgese has become one of the most vital resources Notre Dame students have to keep up to date on campus events. Originally created by graduating seniors Frank Helgesen and Andy Warzon, who were later joined by Nick Fellers, NDToday.com may be the most prominent contribution the Class of '01 has left to the Notre Dame community.

NDToday claims over 4,500 registered students from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, and logs hundreds of hits a day. The site currently offers students features such as student polls, teacher evaluations, a reverse student directory, local weather, a book exchange, reviews, links to other Notre Dame sites and many other applications. In addition to this, NDToday sponsors a Bookstore Basketball team, promotes campus events and even provided in-depth coverage on this year's student body presidential election.



Of course, the site was not always quite so sophisticated. "Andy and I were stuck in these boring summer computer jobs, and we kind of just came up with the idea for a place that [students] could check what was going on around campus. There was nothing like it at the time. And it just kind of grew from that," said Helgesen. "It was a web page I wished existed."

With the primary features of a reverse student directory and student polls; NDToday was launched in the fall of 1999.

Word spread quickly of the page and the features it offered students, and Helgesen said that before he knew it, the page had become a legitimate campus rage. Since then, the page has grown significantly, so much so that the three seniors found that they could no longer run the page on their own. Currently, the page employs a general manager, two sales representatives, a food critic and a photographer — all Notre Dame students.

"We're extremely proud of what the page has become," said Helgesen. "Especially the teacher evaluations. That is just something Notre Dame students deserve."

Helgesen said he is also very proud of the message boards

on the page. "They give a voice to parts of Notre Dame that don't always have a voice," he said. "I'm really excited about the open dialogue that has been created by the page."

As the three seniors graduate, the exact future of NDToday remains unknown. But Helgesen said he wants the page to remain in the hands of the students. "Our current plan is to have Scott Palko, the general manager, continue to run the site. We would maintain ownership, but the actual control of the page would remain with current students," Helgesen said.

Other significant contributions by the graduating class:

- ◆ The Rector's Fund provides money to help disadvantaged students remain involved.
- ◆ The Greatness Grant provides money to assist individuals in Catholic social missions.
- ◆ Founder's Day is to become the new Irish Homecoming.

The Class of '01 also saw a number of firsts and lasts:

- ◆ Senior Mike Brown became the first ever African-American Leprechaun.
- ◆ Senior Molly Kinder became the first female Irish Guard.
- ◆ The class witnessed the election of the first female student body president, Brooke Norton.
- ◆ The class was the last to experience camping-out for football tickets.

◆ Koelsch instills pride at SMC

By MYRA McGRIFF
News Writer

Students see her painted face at almost all of Saint Mary's home athletic games. Behind the face paint and large bell adorning her head, though, lays a much larger message, the message of Belles Pride.

Her name is Emily Koelsch and as early as her freshman year, Koelsch saw an opportunity to unite the campus with a sense of pride. When Saint Mary's identity as a college was questioned in a 1997 letter to the editor of The Observer that called the Saint Mary's student body parasites, Koelsch felt it was time to evaluate how much students had invested into their school. To improve the college's image, Koelsch tried to get students to focus on the great features of Saint Mary's.

During her sophomore year, Koelsch worked to establish Saint Mary's Pride Day. With the help of SGA, the one-day event was able to encompass the entire student body. The student body met on the library green in the shape of a French Cross on Oct. 16, 1998 and an aerial photo was taken. The event solidified the fact that Saint Mary's students were proud to attend Saint Mary's and had a vested interest in their college.

Continuing to test the limits of Saint Mary's pride, Koelsch

worked with BOG and SGA to create Pride Week, which she said is a time to get "excited" about Saint Mary's. With a host of academic, sport and spiritual events, Pride Week incorporated every aspect of campus. At the end of the week, Saint Mary's hosted a Notre Dame football pep rally. During that pep rally on Oct. 6, 1999, the new Saint Mary's mascot was unveiled.

"I told [Notre Dame] we had a mascot, and we didn't, so I had to come up with one," said Koelsch.

With help from graduating senior Cindy Traub, Koelsch came up with the icon that would be the Belle's mascot. An icon that she hopes will bring excitement to Saint Mary's student body for years to come. Accompanying the Belles' new mascot came a previously unmatched intensity of shouts of "Go Belles!" Combining pride week, the mascot and the new cheer, Koelsch feels that the student body has achieved a new level of pride for Saint Mary's.

"It gives Saint Mary's women a way to celebrate, it gives us an identity. It also brings the spirit of campus to the front."

This spirit that has trickled down to the rising classes. With Koelsch graduating, her term as the Belles mascot is over, but three new women have already filled the position. Junior Annie Knish and freshmen Linda Janie and Desiree Paulin will be the new painted faces at all of Saint Mary's home games, continuing the celebration of a Saint Mary's community.

Deloitte & Touche and Deloitte Consulting congratulates the graduates of the class of 2001 and welcomes the following students to the firm:



- | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Joseph Applewhite | George Fackler | Keith McLemore | Michelle Putney |
| Kelly J. Balok | Nick Gibbons | Amy Milcetic | Melissa Reilly |
| Kevin Campbell | Michael Gunville | Molly Niquette | Jeff Riviera |
| Brittany Crawford | Chris Hamilton | Kelly O'Connell | Edward Ryan |
| Sharon Desautels | Pamela Hillock | Brian M. O'Connor | Margaret Sample |
| Paul Diamontopolis | Jean (J.P.) LaBrucherie | Katie O'Neill | Philip Stetz |
| Monica Diaz | Michele Lagueux | Thomas M. Owens | Benjamin R. Stiller |
| Jeffrey Dobosh | Lisa Lam | Autumn Palacz | Joshua Thompson |
| James Drake | Carrie Lenz | Daniel Pellegrino | Leanna M. Thomas |
| Carol D'Souza | Loulan (Violet) Liu | Maria L. Petrillo | Christine Veliky |
| Erin Ennis | Amy C. Mathews | Lindsey Power | Bridgette Wolf |
| | | | Frank Yan |
| | | | Irina Zavliova |

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AUTHOR EVENTS

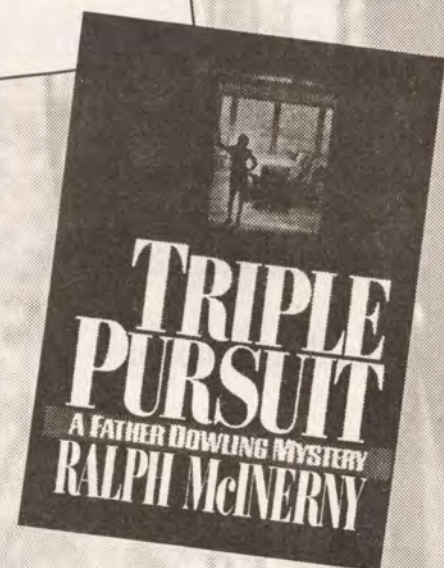
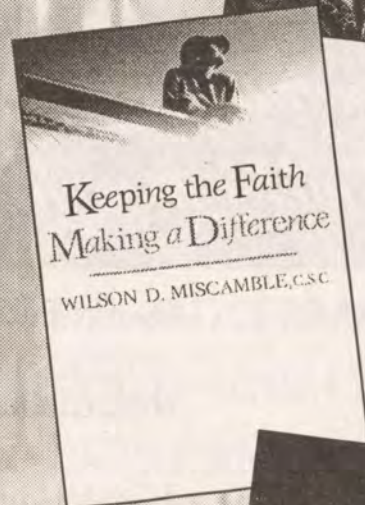
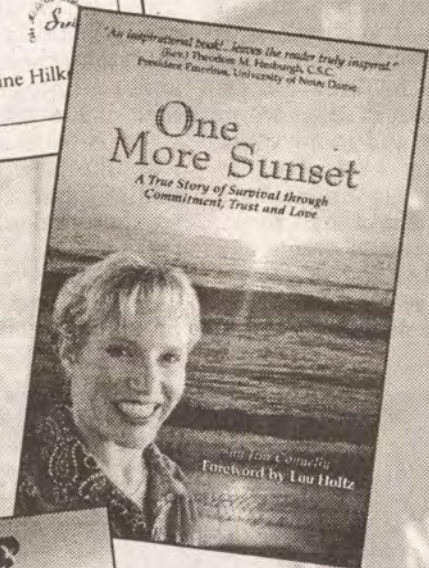
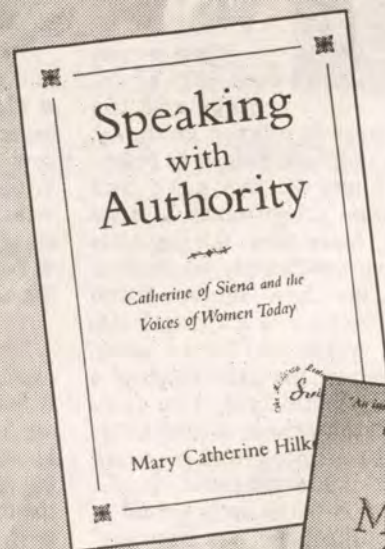
THE FOLLOWING EVENTS ARE HAPPENING AT THE HAMMES NOTRE DAME BOOKSTORE:

Friday, May 18, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.,
Mary Catherine Hilkert, University of Notre Dame
Professor, will be signing *Speaking with Authority*.

Friday, May 18, at 7:00 p.m., Jim Connelly and
Donna Jones join us for a discussion and book
signing. They will be discussing *One More Sunset*, a
poignant and inspirational affirmation of the human
spirit.

Saturday, May 19, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.,
Father Bill Miscamble, C.S.C. will be signing his
latest book, *Keeping the Faith Making a Difference*. It
is a book that is a challenging but affirming message
to young people, encouraging their positive
contribution to society.

Saturday, May 19, from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.,
Ralph McNerny, University of Notre Dame
Professor for over 40 years and author of a multitude
of books, will be signing *Triple Pursuit*, a Father
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Hall director, 4 rectors to leave Saint Mary's, Notre Dame

By SCOTT BRODFUEHRER
News Writer

Joseph and I haven't been close to home since then. It's not the place that I would want to live, but there is a family need for me to be close to home," said Beatty.

During her 10-year term as rectress of Lyons, Beatty also served as the advisor to Amnesty International and taught three semesters of a University seminar. In her new role as pastoral associate, she will work in a parish that serves 3,000 families.

"It is an open-ended position, but some of the things that I will be doing are visiting people who are shut-ins and conducting an



Beatty



Dougherty



Doyle



Seymore



Scalzo

adult bible study," said Beatty. Beatty says her departure from Notre Dame will be bittersweet. "It's going to be difficult. I have been connected with this University since 1979, but I have to help my family. I will miss the

students," said Beatty. Sean Seymore has served the men of Sorin Hall for the last four years — three as an assistant rector and this year as a rector. He is graduating Sunday with a PhD in chemistry and will be a professor of chemistry next year at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology in Terre Haute, Ind.

In addition to serving on the residence hall staff, Seymore has worked as a teaching assistant in the chemistry department and in course development.

"It kept me busy, but it gives me a unique perspective on the University to work in both a residence hall and in the classroom," said Seymore.

Seymore lived in Sorin for four of his five years as a graduate student, but at Rose-Hulman he will not work in a residence hall.

"I have lived in Sorin for four years, and have become somewhat attached to the dorm, but life moves on," said Seymore.

After serving as a hall director at LeMans Hall for two years, Sara Scalzo will be leaving Saint Mary's to become an assistant director of Student Life at Loyola University in Baltimore. Her new position will be similar to the one she fulfills here, but she will have more responsibilities, including supervising graduate students.

"I have mixed emotions. I am excited for myself professionally, but I will miss the students and the relationships I've developed here over the last two years," said Scalzo.

Father Tom Doyle has spent a

total of 13 years at Notre Dame — five as Keough Hall rector. He will leave pursue an MBA at Harvard Business School. While studying at Harvard, he will serve in a Boston area parish.

"I will primarily be pursuing my MBA and just assisting in a parish in the Boston area. Probably just by nature, I'll be involved in the business school community, but not in an official capacity," said Doyle.

Although Doyle may eventually return to Notre Dame, that decision must be made by the Congregation of the Holy Cross.

"It was difficult but also beautiful. It was hard especially this year because usually you say 'I'll see you after the summer,' but this year it wasn't so certain. I am excited for them, and I am not worried about the future of the hall, but it is hard to leave," said Doyle.

Howard Hall Rectress Sister Anne Dougherty, a Franciscan sister, is transferring to St. Bonaventure University after being appointed vice president for university ministries, which entails overseeing the campus ministry department and social concerns center.

The offer took her by surprise, because this was her first year at Howard; her contract here was supposed to last three years.

Although Dougherty loves Notre Dame, she said she is looking forward to the more intimate nature of St. Bonaventure.

Andrew Thagard contributed to this report.

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Group files complaint against College

♦ Saint Mary's accused of failing to report rapes

By MYRA McGRUFF
Saint Mary's Editor

Security on Campus, Inc. (SOC), a non-profit watchdog organization, filed a complaint of with the U.S. Department of Education (DOE), accusing the College of violating federal laws pertaining to the reporting and disclosure of sexual assaults on campus.

In the complaint filed May 8, SOC alleges that Saint Mary's violated the 1990 Clery Act which requires schools to provide campus crime statistics and warnings of on-going threats to students.

The complaint alleges Saint Mary's failed to record at least two sexual offenses in security reports, failed to categorize crimes accurately, failed to correctly identify crime locations and has both non-existent and incomplete policy statements.

According to the act, colleges must include: the geographical locations of crimes, all required crime categories, as well as adopt the Campus Sexual Assault Victims Bill of Rights.

SOC claims the alleged January 1999 rape of Saint Mary's student Sarah Alter by a Notre Dame student was not "disclosed to students through Saint Mary's official published security report, or to the U.S. Department of Education."

In its complaint, SOC also states that an alleged April 1996 rape of another Saint Mary's student also went unreported.

The complaint states, "During the course of our investigation we were contacted by a former stu-

dent of the college who related that she had reported a rape to the institution, which they indicated, would never be counted in the statistics since it was merely an alleged incident." This April 1996 rape was allegedly committed by a male musician from a foreign country visiting the campus as part of a cultural program. It was reported to both campus and local police (St. Joseph County). The college's 1999 security report (exhibit A attached) reports "0" forcible rapes for 1996.

With the help of both former and current Saint Mary's students, SOC vice president S. Daniel Carter compiled the information in the complaint and hopes it will lead to an on-site program review from DOE.

Carter said the procedure is an audit of all Saint Mary's actions in regard to crime reporting and procedure. Keith Dennis, vice president of finance and administration, said he hopes Saint Mary's can correct its infraction before such action is taken. Dennis, in reviewing the campus' compliance with the Clery Act, says Saint Mary's has not intentionally falsified or with held reports or statistics of crimes on campus. He explains missed data to a clerical error.

"We are trying to understand how we are reporting," said Dennis. "The events were reported in the statistics but in the wrong year."

Although Dennis does acknowl-

edge not having an up to date crime log procedure, he does reassure the college hopes to improve. He said after going to recent conferences on crime reporting he understands the college policy needs updating.

"Yes we can do a better job — we must make sure we are communicating with the campus," said Dennis. "We have the summer to find out how to educate the campus."

However even if Saint Mary's amends the current practices of crime reporting, Carter still wants the college to be reviewed.

Although the complaint concerns Saint Mary's, Carter hopes it will speak as a wake up call to Notre Dame.

"We hope this will lead to better response and policy change from Saint Mary's and Notre Dame," said Carter. Some students see the complaint filed

by SOC as a starting point.

Alter, who was featured in a March Cosmopolitan article about campus rape, said Saint Mary's needs to establish concrete guidelines on how women should report crimes and provide victims of sexual assault with lists of counseling services in and out side Saint Mary's community.

"I think the complaint is the first step to make sure Saint Mary's is in compliance, which right now they are not. There is definitely more that can be done. I think CARE (Campus Alliance for Rape Elimination) is great, but Saint Mary's need staff that is trained to handle rape and assault cases," Alter said.

"Yes we can do a better job — we must make sure we are communicating with the campus."

Keith Dennis
vice president of finance and administration

Jefferson named in civil rape suit

By JASON McFARLEY
News Editor

A 19-year-old Saint Mary's student recently filed a lawsuit against Notre Dame football player Clifford Jefferson Jr., claiming he sexually assaulted her in March.

The freshman alleges Jefferson raped her on March 21 at Saint Mary's. No criminal charges are pending against the senior cornerback.

Contacted on Wednesday, Jefferson declined to comment on the civil suit.

"I have no comment on that matter," he said.

While he said his refusal to comment was at the advice of his attorney, Jefferson would not disclose his counsel's name, claiming that he was "between lawyers right now."

On Wednesday, attorney Michael Anderson, who filed the suit in St. Joseph County Superior Court on behalf of the Saint Mary's student, did not return phone calls from The Observer.

A representative at the lawyer's law firm, Anderson, Agostino & Keller, said the suit seeks damages for medical bills incurred by the woman as well as physical and emotional suffering. The student also seeks damages to discourage her alleged assailant from future sexual assaults.

The representative said the woman met Jefferson at a

downtown South Bend bar on the night of the alleged assault. She alleged Jefferson gave her a false name at the bar and later raped her on the Saint Mary's campus while she was passed out from the effects of alcohol.

According to the representative, there is little physical evidence because a local hospital did not complete a "rape kit" after the victims' friends took her to the hospital following the alleged incident.

Jefferson has reportedly denied the rape charge and claimed that the sex was consensual, the representative said.

University students who engage in pre-marital sex are subject to serious disciplinary action.

According to page 126 of the 2000-2001 edition of du Lac, "...the University believes that sexual union should occur only in marriage. Students found in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary suspension or permanent dismissal."

However, Jefferson said Wednesday that neither his status as a student nor as a football player has changed.

Asked about procedure for handling lawsuits, Dennis Moore, Notre Dame director of public relations and information, said it is not the University's policy to intercede in cases in which it is not specifically involved as a party.

The Office of Student Affairs

would like to congratulate the following graduates:

Andrea Mechenbier,

winner of the Collins Award

Paul Nebosky,

winner of the Gardner Award

David Wyncott,

winner of the Student Affairs Special Recognition Award

Thank you for your contributions to our community. Best wishes as you begin your journey beyond Notre Dame.

VIEWPOINT

THE OBSERVER

The Independent, Daily Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's

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about The Observer to meet the editors and staff

POLICIES

The Observer is the independent, daily newspaper published in print and online by the students of the University of Notre Dame du Lac and Saint Mary's College. Editorial content, including advertisements, is not governed by policies of the administration of either institution. The Observer reserves the right to refuse advertisements based on content.

The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editor and department editors. Commentaries, letters and columns present the views of the authors and not necessarily those of The Observer.

Viewpoint space is available to all readers. The free expression of all opinions through letters is encouraged. Letters to the Editor must be signed and must include contact information.

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Mike Connolly.



Celebrate graduation heartache

Our day has come.

After four years of papers, tests, late nights of studying, classes, meetings, parties, and countless other activities unique to each of our own lives, we, the members of the Class of 2001, have reached the end of the Notre Dame road. The last chapter of our collegiate books has closed, literally and figuratively.

As I reflect on this awareness, I can't help but be at least somewhat unhappy. You see, Notre Dame has been a guiding force in my life for almost as long as I can remember.

I decided I wanted to attend school in South Bend during my second campus visit — I was in the third grade at the time. As my family walked around the reflecting pool near the Hesburgh library, I told my father of my newfound ambition. He took this opportunity to inform me that grades such as the 'C' I had received in handwriting on my last report card wouldn't cut it for admission to ND.

"If it comes down to you and somebody else and you're equally good, they might look back to your last report card and say, 'Gee, we better go with the other guy,'" he told me. I went back to Cincinnati resolved to improve my penmanship, soberly believing that poor grades in such an academically-indicative subject as handwriting could threaten my chances to study under the Golden Dome and feeling determined not to let

my new dream be thwarted by such a silly fault.

A similar desire to end up here fueled my journey through freshman year English in high school with the toughest teacher I've ever had (still) and through several weeks of late nights studying for my AP exams. Since I've been here, my purpose has been to succeed academically and personally — in essence, to make my Notre Dame experience live up to my expectations for it.

These things considered, I suppose it is not altogether unreasonable to feel just a hint of sadness at the realization that it is time for me to leave this University, which has been part of my dreams and my reality for the past 13 years. No longer can college life at Notre Dame be something I excitedly anticipate or blissfully live. Throughout the past two weeks, I have at every turn been painfully aware of my imminent departure — my last class, my last final and, in all likelihood, the last time that all of The Observer's most dedicated seniors will be gathered in one room, ever.

When I was eight years old, my mother found me crying one evening in my bedroom as I reflected on the death of my great aunt. I cried and cried, lamenting the fact that this woman (whom, incidentally, I didn't even know very well) would never again be part of my earthly life. Just as it seems that the last moments of college are slipping by at a pace I am powerless to slow, the finality of that situation made me feel frustrated and helpless. Imagine my surprise when my mother advised me that it was good to feel unhappy about my loss.

It doesn't seem like a logical thing to say, but just as it was good that I was upset about the death of my great aunt, it is wonderful that I, and probably everyone who graduates with me, feel

this tinge of misery about seeing college come to an end.

What my mother told me about that sadness so many years ago can also apply to my feelings now as I approach graduation from Notre Dame: Being unhappy to lose someone or something means that you love it. Does anyone cry over the loss of a person to whom he is indifferent? And similarly, would we feel teary-eyed about graduation if college had been a mediocre experience? Of course not. The fact of the matter is that a great sense of loss for anyone or anything always goes hand in hand with a passion for that person or thing.

I am beginning to rejoice in that little ache that I feel whenever I think about graduation, because it means that Notre Dame has become the place that I've always wanted it to be — a home that I love and where I've had a wonderful time.

It's true that I'm sad to go because I know my relationship to Notre Dame in the future will never be the same as it has been during my time as a student here. But graduation doesn't mean isolation from our lady's university (at least not as long as there's fundraising to be done!), and I can take heart in knowing that no matter where I go there will always be other Domers, ready and willing to relive their years here with me. After all, as Father Hesburgh told us during our 'Before You Go' Tour, "This place is part of you and you are part of it. You can't get away from it if you try."

Anne Marie Mattingly is graduating from Notre Dame with a degree in biology. She served as News Editor of The Observer last year and owes her great college experience to God, her parents, her fellow Observerites, the McGlenn girls and Flat 7.



Anne Marie Mattingly

Senior Staff Writer

DILBERT

SCOTT ADAMS



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future."

John F. Kennedy
president

VIEWPOINT

THE
OBSERVER

Friday, May 18, 2001

page 19

What have we learned?

I've spent a lot of time thinking about what I was going to write here. Many of the compositions that wind up on these pages are long-winded but very poetic speeches about what Notre Dame means and how we can take it with us as we march into the real world. But I'm terrible at that kind of writing, so I'll spare you.

Another format is the "Survival Guide for Underclassmen" about how to endure the rigors of scholarship in one's final year. But having me give lessons like that would be like Gandhi coaching Bengal Bouts — just plain wrong. As I write, I'm swirling in an insomniac-hell brought about by equal parts overwork, procrastination and just plain old dumb luck.

So as I devoted more and more thought to how I can boil down years of learning into roughly 800 words, it suddenly occurred to me that most of the things I've learned here have not been in classrooms. Who woulda thunk it, those boring old catchphrases at Freshman Orientation turned out to be true. So, these are the lessons I've learned at Notre Dame that, at least in my mind, will stand out more in the future than anything I might have perused in some dusty textbook.

I learned from my professors that the only way to excellence is by setting the bar high and then working your ass off towards those goals. And every time I thought I had this max good and drilled into my head, I'd watch as the bar would get set even higher the next week.

The women's basketball team showed that there is no joy more sublime than accomplishing those lofty goals after putting in the maximum effort. They also destroyed the stereotype that female athletes can't be beautiful, but I could write several columns on that alone.

Scott Delgadillo, the inspirational 14-year old who spoke at the Purdue pep rally and passed away in January, taught me that there is no such thing as a dream that's too big.

Those that ran "In Tribute Of Their Race" proved that the Notre Dame "family" is alive and well, thank you very much. We are ND.

Mike Brown and Molly Kinder taught me that there is a difference between breaking tradition and remaking tradition. I must admit that I was skeptical when I first heard that for the first time the famous Notre Dame leprechaun would be an African-American — I wondered whether or not it would "look right." But when he started opening up a can on the poor Kansas Jayhawk mascot in his first football game, I knew he was something special. His spirited, bordering-on-maniacal cheering will forever make him the standard by which I rate future leprechauns. As for Ms. Kinder, the highest compliment I can pay her is that when with the Irish Guard en masse, I couldn't tell her apart from the rest of them. And she's also not a half-bad restaurant critic.

Glenn Earl taught me that when the rules in a certain situation are stupid, don't follow them. He was supposed to be the man who guarded against fake field goals, but since he knew there was no chance in hell the Air Force Academy would run one with the game on the line, he went for the block instead. Make no mistake, the Four Horsemen, Knute Rockne, George Gipp, Rudy, Touchdown Jesus and the Hand of God had nothing to do with sending that ball skittering to the turf. It was Glenn Earl and smart football.

The rest of the team taught me to always thank the people who support you. This was a valuable lesson, as it served as an antidote to one that a few thousand alumni had tried to give me by deciding to cash in their pride and watch the Nebraska give from their RVs.

The raid at Finnigan's taught me to be more careful.

The Notre Dame Security/Police gave me a couple schoolin's on humility, condensed into little yellow tickets. Their patience and understanding in dealing with me and those little yellow tickets taught me that yes, they are a force for good in the world and that no, they are not glorified rent-a-cops whose sole reason for existence is to aggravate students.

Sarah Alter taught me that everything is not always peaches and cream and that people can get mighty mad if you say so.

Finally, Dan Cichalski taught me that people you don't even know can change your life. Dan wrote a column in this very paper in Feb. 1998 that basically advocated letting President Clinton off the hook for the Lewinsky scandal, which was then only in its infancy. A 17-year old freshman whippersnapper from Holy Cross found his logic so convoluted that he rifled off a letter in response. With lessons learned from Mary Beth Ellis and Spencer Stefko, who taught that one can be both intelligent and hilarious, that young punk is nearing the completion of his 25th column.

And what a long, strange trip it's been. Who woulda thunk it?

Despite his use of "woulda," "thunk," and "schoolin's," Mike Marchand will be graduating in August, God-willing, with a B.A. in English. He's yet to make any concrete post-graduation plans, but he's sure he'll think of something.

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



Mike Marchand

Senior
Columnist

Four years' progression remembered

7-5

Natural Light
Freshman O.
Biochem
Bridget's
Random hookup at freshman party
Life-long friendships
Brag about constant sex

9-2

Coors
Sophomore Sibs
Premed
Turtle Creek
Meaningful relationship
Intellectual stimulation
Brag about constant sex

5-7

Newcastle
JPW
Environmental Science
Corby's
Promise ring at the Grotto
Spiritual balance and a personal altruism
Brag about constant sex

9-3

Pure grain alcohol
Graduation
Anthropology
Debartolo
Random hookup at freshman party
\$45,000 per year and a fat signing bonus
Admit virginity

Scott Blaszak, the author, is a graduating Viewpoint columnist.

The views expressed here are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Living for the moment

I spent last spring at an English university in London. Yes, it was fantastic, blah, blah — but that's not the point.

I felt like I had graduated, minus the "Pomp & Circumstance" (literally). No surveys filled out or silly hats. Few tearful good-byes. Away from most things related to the Golden Dome, I had a taste of the real world.

In the fall, it was as if I was blessed with a bonus year to come back and do all the things I really wanted to do. I promised myself that I would do what I felt would make me happiest — right then. Even if that was watching a movie with that person I know from psychology class instead of trekking to Coach's, or going out instead of making that club meeting.

Now that my graduation is truly here, I find that I don't regret a thing. Not even napping, walking around the lakes, having late night laughing sessions when I should be studying, cartwheeling on the quad, attending other people's lectures, chatting about how amazing God is, following my passion for ice cream, making friends with freshmen, wearing a flower behind my ear or telling that girl I've never officially met that I've always thought she has beautiful hair.

These things make me happy, and I think I might keep this philosophy indefinitely.

Nicole Rodgers
senior
off-campus
May 4, 2001

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Chastise Bush for policies

Mr. Bush has never used the power of government for the protection of the poor.

His tax plan is a colossal wealth redistribution from the poor to the top 1 percent. In the areas of bankruptcy law, health care, food and water safety and repetitive-motion injuries Bush has removed vital hard-won protections for low- and middle-income Americans.

He opposes affirmative action for those disadvantaged by decades of state-sponsored racism but offers no alternative.

There is no evidence that he ever fought for civil rights or women's rights; except for vague bromides during last year's campaign, he still refuses to face these issues.

Bush badly damaged our electoral system when last fall he went to court to toss out tens of thousands of legally valid, unambiguously marked ballots in Florida.

Complicit in this disenfranchisement were the governor of Florida, who is also Bush's younger brother, Florida's chief elections officer, who was also his state campaign chair, and several Supreme Court justices appointed by his father.

As Texas governor Mr. Bush refused to intervene in death penalty cases, turning a blind eye to substantiated reports of prosecutorial malfeasance, defense incompetence, judicial corruption and wrongful convictions. Days before her execution he even mocked Karla Faye Tucker's pleas for a commutation to life behind bars.

Bush's personal life reveals a pattern of responsibility avoidance coupled with schemes for personal advancement by currying favor with powerful family members and friends.

Despite high school grades so wretched that counselors doubted he could be admitted into a good college, Yale accepted him because his father went there. His father also pulled strings to enable his father to avoid the Vietnam War, serving instead in the Texas Air National Guard. He enjoyed an extended adolescence of drinking and partying that lasted until his 40s, including an arrest for vandalism at Yale and at least one later arrest for drunken driving.

When he sold his house upon election as Texas governor, it was revealed that his housing covenant forbade sale to any person of color; he has yet to publicly rebuke this provision.

I urge all speakers at the '01 convocation to chastise Mr. Bush for his disgraceful conduct during the Florida recount, to hold him accountable for the lofty campaign rhetoric he used to cajole voters and to challenge this year's graduates to hold themselves to higher personal standards than the ones he holds for himself.

Richard Flint
Naperville, Ill.
class of '84
May 4, 2001



VIEWPOINT

THE
OBSERVER

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Friday, May 18, 2001

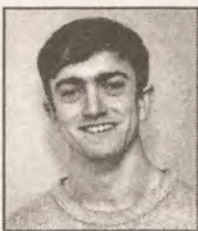
Sharing memories, and building your own

Ten and a half years ago, I was introduced to a place.

It was October of 1990. I was 12. Notre Dame was No. 1 in the country and my dad was taking me to see the Irish play Stanford.

It was the first time I had ever been to Notre Dame, and I didn't really have much conception of it as a place. I knew it was where my dad had gone to college, but really all those two French words meant to me was the football team I watched every Saturday in the fall.

We got here on Friday and spent the afternoon walking around campus. We saw the Dome, the Library, the Grotto, the Bookstore. My dad told me stories of his days here back in the mid-'60s, back when Ara was coach and there weren't any women around to keep things under control. He shared his memories of this place with



Tim Logan

Senior Staff
Writer

me, hoping I would come to understand it. I began to.

The years went by. I came out to a few more games. I heard a few more stories, and my understanding grew a little.

Maybe there was more than just football that went on at this Notre Dame place.

When it came time to start thinking about college, I thought about Notre Dame.

I knew it was a good school, but it was a long way from my mostly-Jewish high school in Boston where, to a lot of people, Notre Dame meant little more than a football team that BC beat a couple of times. But those people just didn't get it.

By then, I knew Notre Dame was different, a special place, and after some hemming and hawing I decided to come here. My dad was thrilled. His son would be joining the Notre Dame family, and he had an excuse to come to more football games. I, on the other hand, was a little more nervous.

But things worked out fine. After all the hubbub of Freshman Orientation and the first few weeks of school, I settled into life at Notre Dame. This place became much more than just a football team to watch on Saturdays; it became a home.

And my understanding of it grew deeper. I walked around the lakes on a clear night. I discussed spirituality in classrooms. I learned from the upperclassmen in my section TV lounge. I did all the little things that you don't see when you come to visit this school on a football weekend, but that make it an incredible place.

As four years flew by, I did more of these little things, and the guys I lived with and ate with in September of freshman year have are the same guys I live with and eat with today. Much as my dad talks about Kevin and Jones and Kearns — the lifelong friends who are a part of his memories here — I have my own.

Along the way I picked up a bunch of my own Notre Dame memories: late nights at The Observer, Fridays that end at the 'Backer, the Michigan game sophomore year and way too many other things to list here.

But there are also memories that I share with my dad, who graduated 34 years ago this weekend. These are the memories that each of us share with nearly everyone who has ever graduated from this University: the way the sun reflects off the Dome on a nice day, trips to the Grotto on a quiet night, our first

football game as a student. There are less tangible experiences that we have all shared, too: that inexplicable spirit which pervades our student body, the bonds that form in our unique dorm life.

These are the things that generations of Notre Dame students share, the common threads holding each class together even as each class, and each person, forms their own experiences. I could call it the true meaning of the "Notre Dame Family," but that's probably too cliched; it is just what makes Notre Dame the unique place it is.

Ten and a half years ago, on a perfect October afternoon, my dad tried to impart to me an understanding of this place we have all come to call home.

Now, after a set of Notre Dame experiences that were quite different, but also quite similar, from his, I think I've got it.

Tim Logan is a former News Editor of The Observer. He would like to thank his dad for introducing him to this wonderful place, and his mom for always encouraging him to get here.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Welcome Bush's visit without protest

Allow visit to open real dialogue

I should clarify only that while I regard myself as fairly liberal, I do not personally belong to a political "party." I find the two-party system when followed absolutely to be frequently destructive, polarizing issues that should not be polarized at all. Having said that, I want to explain why I am not willing to sign the letter circulating among us for signatures to protest President George W. Bush's giving our Commencement address and receiving an honorary degree.

First, I am not "angered" by Father Malloy's inviting George W. Bush here. I personally feel honored for our community that he is willing to spend time among us, for it gives us an opportunity for possible dialogue. We should remember as well that 30 years ago, a protestant president's accepting such an invitation from a Catholic university would have been considered outrageously liberal on his part.

I am staggered by the second sentence of the circulating letter that assumes the president's initiatives promote only the rich and damage the poor and national and global environment due to his alignment with "the predatory drive for corporate profits," as well his promoting "another arms race" — all of which are said to be "contradictory to Notre Dame's mission as a Catholic university."

As an occasional teacher of writing and of ethical rhetorical moves, I find the generalizations of that sentence boggling. We can't, at this point, unilaterally mount such statistics against President Bush, nor do I think he is someone committed to "predatory drives" on anyone's part. Perhaps I am mistaken.

I do agree we need to talk with President Bush about our concerns for the environment — really talk and ask to be heard. Certain decisions he has recently made do alarm me — however, it was Clinton and not Bush who refused to sign the international ban against land mines (to give but one example). And in fact, our country's polluting emissions have gone up by 15 percent over the last 10 years.

In this regard, I would be happy to talk with either leader, whether Democratic or Republican, to express our collected concerns precisely as a Catholic university supposedly caring in a Catholic fashion for the entire world.

Furthermore, while I do disagree with President

Bush's decision to increase our military arsenal, this is a subject we should discuss seriously rather than dismissing him out of hand. At the very least, we should consider what it means that this university is one of the largest ROTC training universities in the country and the odd (to my mind) tradition of Catholicism opposing "conscientious objection" in a serious and not naive way. Obviously, military planning is not a contradiction to Notre Dame as it currently stands.

I also do not agree that Malloy's invitation "demeans Notre Dame" because his "administrations pursues its ruthless agenda" after a "deceitful campaign." While I cannot predict the future, I see no evidence of such blatant malice on Bush's part. In fact, the rhetoric of that sentence seems to have its own "ruthless agenda," and is full of reductive generalities that would normally strike the authors of this letter as being close to propaganda itself.

However, I do agree that Father Malloy and the administration should consult with faculty, staff and students for future invitations.

In the meantime, we have other problems closer to home we should be discussing with our own president of the University, such as low cultural diversity, small numbers of female professors and suspicions of salary inequalities.

Why aren't we discussing our own environmental damage as we continue constructing increasingly large and energy-consuming buildings? Why, as a Catholic community, do we maintain a distance from the town around us? Why are we not willing to offer a degree in education, when education was a commitment to our "founding fathers?" Why the inequity between rules enforced (or ignored) for men's and women's dorms? Why do our students frequently feel they are regressing socially here, even as they progress intellectually?

I could go on, but it seems to me we have serious concerns we really should be discussing with both of our presidents rather than dismissing out of hand President Bush's coming here at the beginning of this new millennium.

Jacqueline Vaught Brogan
professor of English
April 30, 2001

Address honors school

I was astonished to hear that some people connected with the University were against the President of the United States speaking here. Silly me, I thought it was an honor and signified the current national eminence of our school. But I guess I was wrong.

What has disturbed me the most is that the people spearheading the petition to not allow Bush to speak at graduation are faculty and graduate students. And once again I guess I am being silly, because all this time I thought graduation was something for graduating seniors. Don't get me wrong, I have great respect for the graduate students and the faculty here, but the ceremony is not for them.

We all have the chance of a lifetime to be at a commencement speech given by the leader of the free world. No matter what your opinion of him or his policies might be, give him the respect due to him. I am sure Mr. Bush received many letters from Congressmen from many Universities urging him to go to their almighty. But he chose Notre Dame. I say for once just be thankful of what we have here.

Matt Friedman
freshman
O'Neill Hall
May 1, 2001

Call for respect

I have a real problem with the protest surrounding the decision to have President Bush as our commencement speaker.

A few faculty members wrote a petition that can be found on-line. The final line of the petition reads "We insist that all future invitations to address our Commencement Exercises be determined in consultation with the faculty of Notre Dame." I guess commencement is all about and for the faculty of the University. Never mind that a vast majority of the graduating students are excited and thrilled at the prospect of the president coming to give a

commencement address.

I would also like to take this opportunity to ask that no one make an active protest during graduation weekend. Just let it go. Instead of embarrassing yourselves in front of all the families and friends of the students who are celebrating the culmination of a lot of hard work and sacrifice, respectfully cheer for these graduating students and respectfully ignore President Bush. There is a time and a place for everything.

T.J. Vanderbeek
senior
May 2, 2001

Thank you for coming to my party

The last four years have been ... an experience. I would not give back any moment, good or bad, as they have all helped in cultivating me into the woman I am, the woman I am about to become and the woman I will be in the future. I may leave Saint Mary's College, but Saint Mary's College will never leave me.



Molly Strzelecki

Senior Columnist

Thank you to my parents. Simple enough — you gave me life, and in that life, I was fortunate to have three wonderful sisters, both of you, an overall loving, supportive and nutty family and eventually, the signature on the check written out to Saint Mary's College. Excuse me — can someone please help me out here? These two people have just signed their last check — after 16 years of this, I'm not sure if they can stand the no-college-tuition-payment-withdrawal.

Thank you to my girls of Saint Mary's. Rather, you are not girls but ladies, in the truest sense of the word, each and every one of you. There are too many of you to name, to go through individually and remark on all of your wonderful talents and abilities, your humor and your love. If you do not know how much I love you and cherish you all, and look forward to where and what our lives will bring us after college, then I apologize, but know that you are and always will be in my heart as the number one reason Saint Mary's was where I was supposed to be. I am a better person for knowing you, whether it has been since freshman or senior year or somewhere in between.

Thank you to my English professors over the years. I am not going to lie to you, overall there is a love/hate relationship with the department: I love the fact that you know me so well and have pushed me to become the writer that I am, and I hate the fact that in doing so, I have had to admit that I was wrong at some points. God, you guys are good.

Thank you to my young men of Morrissey Manor — all eight of you. You know exactly who you are, but I do not think you will ever know how much you truly mean to me. You have helped make my last year a very ... interesting one, shall we say? If nothing else, I love you all for it, and don't get all weirded out just because I said I love you, okay? I still expect a floor to crash on come next football season.

A final grand thank you to Saint Mary's for giving me the opportunity to come here and glean the campus and academia for all it is worth. If I could take one thing with me, I would not be able to decide, as there is so much here that I love. Above all else, I am taking the knowledge that I am a young woman coming into my own, strengthened by the most amazing backbone I could ever have thought possible.

This list could go on and on, and there is so much that I left off that deserves props, but I only have so much space. So as a closing note, I say to you all — do not miss me, because I will never be far away. I know I will not miss you too much, as you are all imprinted on my heart.

Molly Strzelecki is a graduating Viewpoint columnist with an English degree.

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Words cannot express

I've had the good fortune to write a fair amount of letters and papers in the past four years, but I don't think I ever had a more difficult time writing than with what I'm about to say. How anyone, even a psychology major with all his innate, God-given ability, can sum up four years of thanks and praise into words baffles me.

College has been a life rich and full of incident — everything that it should be and more. Every day at this University has the potential to be memorable, and the biggest challenge to any student is not taking that for granted. A wise man once said, life here moves pretty fast, if you don't stop and look around, you might miss it. Or something to that effect.

But enough fortune cookie wisdom. As tempting as it is to talk about myself for everyone to read, I have a few people to thank and this is as good a place as any I think.

I'd like to thank anyone who helped me get through four years of living with Brandon Zabrocki, from the body-painting first home game to the last game of darts we won on Wednesday night. I'm grateful for that help. Brandon isn't such a bad guy, and thanks to him for making me look like the normal one every once in a while.

Thanks to my psych nerds for making some classes bearable and still others something to look forward to and cherish. Thank you to the Venters for showing me professors don't have to be the enemy and for feeding

the entire lot of us so many times this year. I hope we didn't frighten the children too much.

I don't think anyone will believe half the stories I'll be telling for the next few years, but I wouldn't trade the memories for anything in the world.

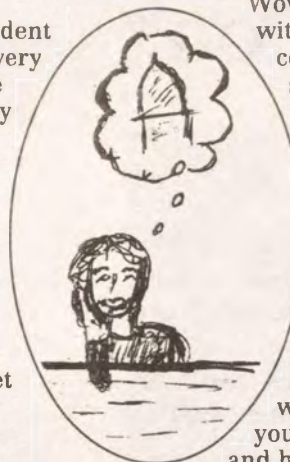
Wow, it really is impossible to sum up four years with mere words. There are so many people I could thank, but I won't take up much more space.

My roommates and I are watching West Wing, and I just realized I'll be watching next season (if I have time, hopefully) without them, that we'll be scattered to the winds, for lack of a better way to put it. This is a good thing, but the sadness I feel when I consider the closeness of my undergraduate years only accents how amazing they have been, how many unbelievable memories I have.

And now that I'm done for real, I sincerely hope that everyone has enjoyed their last weeks. I know I have. And as much as I will miss you all, I know in my heart we'll all meet again and have many more stories to tell.

God bless and keep each and every member of this senior class.

Jeremy Joslin
graduating senior
Siegfried Hall
May 6, 2001



'I hate to leave, but it's time to go'

My mom's preschool class sings a song to close out their day that sums up much more eloquently than I could my feelings as I approach graduation. It goes as follows, "It's time to go — I hate to leave, but it's time to go. I hate to leave, but it's time to go. I had so much fun that I'd really like to stay but I'll be back again someday. So long, so long, so long."

Her preschoolers sing each day the words that describe my emotions as I get ready to wear my cap and gown.

I feel a lot like a preschooler as I leave this place. Three- and 4-year olds are notorious for the phrase, "Let me do it." They want to do everything themselves but are often terrified when you let them do it. I feel exactly like that. I want to be "independent" (whatever that means) and control what my life will bring.

However, when I actually get to leave the place where my meals are cooked, my hallway is vacuumed and security will give me a ride home, I feel like crying. In some ways, I want to be an adult and do it myself. Mostly, however, I'm terrified that they're letting me do it myself from now on.

Teachers are always telling little kids to hold someone's hand as they cross the street and to look both ways. I would love someone to hold my hand as I cross State Route 31 for the last time and leave this place. I

also hope I remember to look both ways. I hope I look at the Dome and the Avenue and remember them as I cross that street.

Preschool children hug everyone within arms reach. They love hugs. For the last several weeks, as I have experienced countless "lasts," all I have wanted was a hug. I've needed someone like that preschool teacher who hugs her little ones as their parents leave them at school for the first time. I've wanted someone to hold me tight and assure me that everything will be okay.

Preschoolers are also completely confident that they can do anything. They have no inhibitions. As much as graduating scares me, I want to be like those preschoolers. I want to be ready for whatever comes next. I want to take whatever comes with the same openmindedness that preschoolers bring to each new experience they have. As I leave here, I want to leave, not only sad about what is being left behind, but excited and confident about what is to come.

One of the best parts of a preschooler's day is playing in the playroom with their friends. That has not changed a bit since I was four years old. The playroom may now be Senior Bar and The 'Backer, but all I really want to do is spend time with the people that have made this place so special: my friends.

Those preschoolers have got it right. Hold hands as you cross the street, be ready for anything, play with your friends and get a lot of hugs.

And, as the preschoolers say, it is time to go. It is time to walk across that stage and get our diploma. It is time to say goodbye to our rooms and our roommates, our professors and our classmates. It is time to move on from this place and use

what we have learned here. Its time to go.

I do hate to leave. I am excited for what graduation brings, but I am not ready to leave all that this place has meant to me. I hate to leave behind all the places and people that have become a second home and family to me. Some days I feel like they're pushing me out the door. I want to scream, "But don't you know, I'm not ready to go yet." I hate to leave.

But, it is time to go. I am graduating, and I am not leaving here empty-handed. I take with me all the things I have learned in my classes, all the faith that this place has instilled in me and all the love the people here have showered on me. I leave with a foundation for whatever my next adventure brings that is so strong that I feel ready to take on anything. It's time to go.

I had so much fun that I'd really like to stay. The memories that will stay with me are some of the best memories I have from my life. I don't think I have ever laughed so hard, cried so much or enjoyed so many people as I have in this world we call college. I don't know if I should have been allowed to have so much fun in four years and get a degree for it in the end. I had so much fun that I'd really like to stay.

But, I'll be back again someday. I will be that alumna in the bar and at the football games that really doesn't understand she doesn't go here anymore. And, I will be proud to be her. I'll be back again someday.

So long, so long, so long.

Molly McVoy is graduating with a degree in biochemistry. She served as Saint Mary's Editor last year.

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

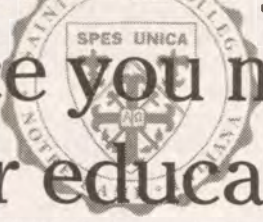


Molly McVoy

Senior Staff Writer

SCENE ASKS

What was the greatest sacrifice you made for your education?



"Living so far away from home and feeling so detached."

Crystal Aguilar-McMillan
senior, Le Mans Hall

"My parents gave things up so I could go here. For me, giving up my summers so I could work to pay for my education was a big sacrifice."

Kathy Fech
senior, Le Mans Hall



"Loans, debts, financial sacrifices — but we knew we were getting into it at the beginning. I knew that Saint Mary's would be worth it."

Cindy Traub
senior, Annunciata Hall



"We've had to sacrifice a lot to get me home, or for my family to come visit me. I haven't been able to go home for many holidays."

Megan Kosel
senior, Annunciata Hall



"When I wanted to go to Spain, all my mom's paychecks went towards that instead of anything else."

Alyson Leatherman
senior, Le Mans Hall



Photo poll by KYLIE CARTER/ The Observer

What a long, stran

Paul Grush reflects on his Notre Dame education

By AMANDA GRECO
Scene Editor

It is a cold Monday morning. Your alarm clock screams to rouse you in time to make it to your 8 a.m. class. More than a foot of snow has come down to cover South Bend — and Notre Dame, with all her luxuries, is not yet immune to such displays of Mother Nature's midwestern might. As you hit the snooze button and snuggle down under the covers, you think "There's no way I'm walking across campus in this weather."

For MBA student Paul Grush, a simple walk across campus was never an option.

When the alarm clock rang for this student, husband and father of four, it was time to rise and shine, no matter how few hours he slept, no matter how hard it was snowing. Not only did Paul face the responsibilities of family life before his first class each day, but a two-hour commute lay between his home in the small town of Grabill, Ind. and the University.

Receiving a degree from Notre Dame has been a life-long dream for Paul; this Sunday — after two grueling years of hard work and thousands of miles passed on the toll road — that dream will become a reality.

After 16 years as a software engineer for Logikos, a custom software engineering company, Paul decided in July of 1999 that he wanted more. The computer science degree he had received from the Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology did not provide him the business background to support the management or ownership positions he wanted to pursue. "I decided to go back to school to supplement my technical skills," Paul said.

One day during lunch with Kristal, his wife of nine years, he popped the question: "What do you think about me going to school?"

Kristal knew that school would be a large commitment for Paul to undertake, one that would require him spending long hours attending classes, studying and working on projects. She knew that his schooling would require her to support the family financially with her salary from her career as a software quality engineer at Raytheon. She also knew she would have to take a majority of the child rearing on herself. What she didn't know was that her husband would spend four hours every day in his car, racking up more than 1,100 miles a week.

Paul searched for a school fairly close to home, within what he deemed a "commutable distance." His main goal was to avoid uprooting the family and the home they had built throughout the past nine years. There were several options closer to home, but Notre Dame was his hope; the others served as back ups.

After his acceptance to Notre Dame, the enormity of Paul's educational endeavor struck him. Orientation consisted of what he and his wife affectionately refer to as "boot camp" — two weeks of driving the long haul, seven days a week. Each semester, Paul took anywhere from 15 to 17 credit hours, and in his first year, he had at least one 8 a.m. class each semester. Though the MBA program boasts no Friday classes, work groups and



Now that classes are over and finals have been taken, Paul (left to right) Michelle, John, Jennifer and Megan.

resources available only on campus forced Paul to spend a majority of his Fridays taking the trip back to the Bend. Saturdays found him immersed in Notre Dame football, and even some Sundays required his attendance at on-campus lectures.

Paul's devotion to his education was not limited to the approximately eight hours he averaged on campus each day. While driving, Paul would listen to audio books and digital audio versions of "The Wall Street Journal" and "The Economist." During finals, Paul would digitally record his notes and listen to them repeatedly while he drove.

Once at home, Paul continued to study and work. Though the width of his office door was all that separated him from his family, they often found that his work kept him isolated from them. "My family was basically on hold," Paul said, "I missed a lot of opportunities to be with them because of school." Paul lost the chance to participate in his children's school functions and had to pass up trick-or-treating two years in a row because of school obligations.

The children, now ranging in age from 2 to 8, wanted their father home. "He never had enough time to play with us or help with homework, he didn't get to eat supper with us," said Jennifer, the oldest. "He wasn't even happy and he was always doing homework," she added. Once football season was through, Paul was able to take the children to their Saturday morning swim lessons. But even while the kids swam "Dad was always reading and studying," Jennifer said.

One evening, as Paul tucked in his daughter Michelle, she asked if he was going to Notre Dame the following day. When he replied that yes, he would be going, she began to cry, telling her father that the kids no longer wanted him to go to school because it kept them from seeing him. "That was hard," Paul admitted, "But the kids were really good troopers." Perhaps the strongest trooper in the

ge trip it's been ... ation, and the long road he took to get there



AMANDA GRECO/The Observer

Paul has more time to spend with his four children, (from

family has been Paul's wife Kristal, who ran a household as would a single, working mom — all while supporting her husband and his quest for higher learning. Paul isn't shy in admitting that he couldn't have made it without Kristal. "She has been so supportive," Paul said. "I call her my 'pioneer woman.'"

It seems the trials have only strengthened their relationship. "I knew it was going to be hard," Kristal said, "But I also knew it was for a finite period of time. You can endure anything if you know it is finite," she added. It was hardest at the beginning, Kristal said, when Megan was only eight months old. It didn't take long, though, before the morning routine of waking, dressing, feeding and delivering four children and the afternoon juggling of rides, meals, homework, bathing and activities became simple for Kristal and the children. Aside from the constant worry for Paul's safety on the road, Kristal found the work with the family and the sacrifices she made for her husband to be "worth it ... it has been worth it."

Financially, the prospect of Paul going to Notre Dame was a bit harrowing. Not only were Kristal and Paul halving the family income and taking on the added expense of tuition, they were also paying for the cost of his travel. Paul traveled a total of 230 miles round trip four to seven times a week. This amounted to approximately \$28 a day in gasoline, plus \$4 for tolls round trip, on top of general maintenance for the vehicle. "All in all, I think I put on around 75,000 miles since I started school," Paul said. The way Kristal sees it, though, their life is status quo and ideal. "I am living the American dream," she said, "I have kids and we are in debt!"

Now that Paul is through with school, the family is returning to normal. Already the changes have begun. After his last final exam, Kristal already felt as though she "had the old Paul back," she said. "The morning after his last exam, he was a new man. It was a miracle."

Paul hopes now that with his new degree, he will be able to find the satisfying career he wants, either buying or starting a company that handles telecommunications or medical technology. While Kristal obviously holds no resentment for the extra work she contributed while her husband was in school, she is clearly ready for her own break. When Paul mentioned the possibility of pursuing a Ph.D., Kristal laughed and told him he could do that — with his next wife! For Kristal, she envisions a future that holds more time for her to spend with her children. "I have been working for 19 years," she said. "In a few years, I would like to quit and be more involved with my kids." As for the money and time Kristal contributed for her husband, her only request is that she "see a return on [her] investment."

Looking back over the last two years, the Grushes are able to breathe a deep sigh of relief and feel a great sense of accomplishment. "I never thought we wouldn't get through it," Kristal said, "Only sometimes, I just begged 'God, please hurry up!'" In his two years of two hour commutes, Paul only once missed a day of classes — not because he didn't want to get out of bed or because of inclement weather, but because his brother was undergoing a serious surgery. Even then, Paul contemplated trying to make his evening class. "There were never any days where I didn't want to go," he said. "School was something that I wanted to do for my family." In retrospect, Paul sums up his commute to school as "amazingly simple." Soon he will have his degree — and all without a single speeding ticket.



AMANDA GRECO/The Observer

Outside of his hard work, Paul owes his successful completion of the MBA program to his wife, Kristal.

SCENE ASKS

What was the greatest sacrifice you made for your education?



"Running water, medical care and safety by going abroad to Nepal."

Jenny Hickman
senior, Pasquerilla West



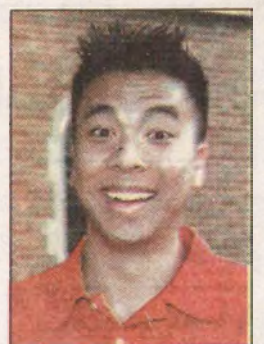
"I sacrificed sleep, sanity and had to deal with South Bend weather."

Tim Brick
senior, Knott Hall



"The amount of money that I have to pay back!"

Jackie Bower
senior, McGlenn Hall



"I sacrificed my sobriety."

Jesse Dang
senior, Dillon Hall



"I sacrificed my nightlife for studying."

Carlos Gomez Meade
senior, Keenan Hall



"I sacrificed my grades."

Ellen Leuchtman
senior, Howard Hall

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Irish bring home championship

By TIM CASEY
Senior Staff Writer

Before the season, anyone associated with women's college basketball stated the obvious. Connecticut and Tennessee, the two glamour programs, the defending national champion and runner-up, would more than likely meet once again for the bragging rights (and another banner) on April Fool's Day, 2001.

How cocky was the always self-assured Connecticut coach Geno Auriemma?

"I know you're writing for Notre Dame and you want to write, you know, that I spent all summer worrying about Notre Dame," Auriemma said. "The only thing I spent all summer worrying about was where my next beer and my next tan was coming from."

Auriemma delivered that phrase nearly an hour after Notre Dame's 90-75 win over Connecticut in the semifinal games of the NCAA Final Four. Two nights later, on April 1, the Irish were national champions and the Huskies coach had had a few additional days to down his favorite post-season beverage.

What happened in the ensuing eight months, between the summer of 2000 and the spring of 2001? For one, the Huskies and Volunteers both lost returning All-Americans to season-ending injuries (Connecticut's Shea Ralph and Svetlana Abrosimova and Tennessee's Tamika Catchings) while the Irish maintained a relatively healthy lineup the entire season.

But that's only part of the story. Even if Connecticut and Tennessee's stars had not gone down, Notre Dame still would have been the favorite. In fact, the Irish beat the Huskies by 16 points on Jan. 15, when Ralph and Abrosimova were both healthy. Also, in that game, forward Kelley Siemon played with a broken bone in her left wrist.

The 92-76 win provided the first glimpse of what was to come. On Martin Luther King Day 2001, a

group of women turned the normally quiet Joyce Center arena into a Notre Dame Stadium-type atmosphere. Plus, the victory catapulted Notre Dame to its first ever number one ranking and perhaps more importantly, gave the Irish their first win in 12 tries over the Huskies.

"To come out and see the Joyce Center full has been my dream forever since I've been here," McGraw said after the game. "It's one of those moments in my life that I'll always remember."

By season's end, McGraw would have a few more memorable highlights.

There was Senior Day on Feb. 24, the last regular season home game for Siemon, Ruth Riley, Niele Ivey, Imani Dunbar, and Meaghan Leahy. There was the 89-33 win over Georgetown in the Big East tournament, the largest margin of victory in tournament history. There were the first two NCAA games at the Joyce Center, in which the Irish outscored Alcorn State and Michigan by an average of 41.5 points per contest.

There was the 72-64 win over Vanderbilt in the Midwest regional final, a squad coached by Jim Foster, McGraw's former boss at St. Joseph's. There was the come-from-behind win in the Final Four, when the Irish trailed by 16 points late in the first half.

And then there was the national title game. For two hours, Notre Dame and Purdue staged a classic battle. It ended in storybook Indiana fashion, with Riley connecting on two free throws in the final seconds of the 68-66 win.

Save for Tammy Sutton-Brown's last-second block in a 54-53 Rutgers win on Feb. 17 and Sue Bird's

buzzer beater in Connecticut's 76-74 Big East tournament title victory and Notre Dame would have been the first undefeated team since the 1998 Tennessee squad.

"I know we talked about it (winning a national title) last year," McGraw said March 31. "But it was sort of a hollow goal. I don't think the team was ready to achieve that, I don't think they were mature enough, I don't think they worked hard enough."

They also weren't talented enough. This year, though, the Irish featured the best trio in the country plus several other players who accepted their roles. Ruth Riley blossomed from a good (but foul-prone) center into the National Player of the Year. Ivey, the unheralded fifth-year senior point guard, finally achieved some national attention and made second-team All-American. Alicia Ratay, a streaky shooter as a

freshman in 1999-2000, set the NCAA record for three-point percentage in a season. And Siemon, junior forward Ericka Haney, sophomore center Amanda Barksdale, and freshman guards Jeneka Joyce and Le'Tania Severe helped the women's basketball team capture national attention. Even President George Bush, who will address the graduating seniors on Sunday, praised them at a morning ceremony at the White House.

"I love what Coach McGraw said," Bush said on April 23. "She said, 'Usually there are negative things that occur during the season. But this year I've had not to call a single team meeting. I've gotten no complaints from professors. We can't even yell at the players, because they do everything we ask.' I need your help with Congress."

"I know you're writing for Notre Dame and you want to write that I spent all summer worrying about Notre Dame. The only thing I spent all summer worrying about was where my next beer and my next tan was coming from."

Geno Auriemma
Connecticut head coach

Riley

continued from page 44

leading the Irish to the Sweet 16. She averaged 18 points that year in Notre Dame's three NCAA tournament games.

Riley's effectiveness on the floor increased year after year, due in no small part to her work ethic and dedication that served as a model for her teammates.

"Ruth is the type of player that you look at and point to to say this is what we want everybody else to do," McGraw said.

As a senior, the once-shy Riley began to take more initiative, instructing teammates and often serving as a spokesperson.

"She led by example I think every year that she was here," McGraw said. "This year she was more vocal, and I thought that was a big improvement for her."

The biggest adjustments Riley made as a senior, however, were to her game on the court. She displayed a tendency to get into foul trouble at the worst possible times, including a Sweet 16 loss to Texas Tech in 2000 during which the Irish blew a 16-0 lead.

During Notre Dame's championship run, Riley fouled out of just two contests but still averaged 3.1 blocked shots per contest.

"I think it's just that I started realizing that you don't have to block everything," Riley said. "I just knew that I wanted to be out there on the court with my teammates and not be hindered by foul trouble. It was something I focused on all year."

That team spirit helped the Irish form a potent offensive attack. Facing double-teams, Riley's scoring was limited early on in the 2000 season. Riley frequently passed the ball off to open teammates. The names Alicia Ratay, Niele Ivey and Kelley Siemon began to appear in the "Leading Scorer" column more and more often.

"It definitely makes us a lot harder to guard," Riley said. "That's one of the reasons why we were so successful this year, because they couldn't just focus on one player."

McGraw thinks that improvement set Riley apart from other talented scorers on less successful teams.

"I thought her passing was one of the best parts of her game this year," McGraw said. "She doesn't care if she scores a lot of points, that's the best thing about Ruth. She's so unselfish, she doesn't get frustrated if she's not scoring because it's not that important to her."

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.

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PERSONAL

Colleen - from teaching me how to
copy edit and get a co-ex freshman
year, you've been one of my
favorite people here. Here's to poli-
sci classes, Observer parties, Big
East/Big Apple adventures, wearing
our black veil, Professor Left, late
nights in 024 South, security trips
with mentos, HC/Annunciata, Cathy
Maloney's freshman year appear-
ance, dancing to Janet at Heartland
and so much more. I'm going to
miss you...but the East Coast/DC
area is waiting for us! Go out there
and rock for me. Noreen

Molly — you got me through my
term as SMC editor sane and
kicked butt with yours, you keep our
cups team winning and you've
given me a legacy to live up to in
the rankings.
The "Backer won't be the same
without you...and neither will the
SMC desk. Thank you, thank you,
thank you for being a great editor,
an even better friend, and for keep-
ing me laughing.
And the Belles will always have a
space reserved for you on the team
when you come back to visit!

AMM, TL, CK, FP, KO, TC, LH, JC,
BK, MM, LL and CM:

Rocking hard core won't even begin
to describe the job you've done for
us these past four years. Thanks for
your guidance, cooperation, talent
and laughter. Now, off to rock else-
where. And keep in touch.
The Basement (024 and otherwise)
will miss you. Mike, Noreen & Kerry

To the 2000-2001 news depart-
ment:

Thanks for all your hard work this
year and for putting up with me!

Thanks especially to the senior staff
for this edition.
) AMM

Connolly and Noreen:
Thanks for a great year!
We couldn't have done it without
you.
) AMM

Jason,
Good luck next year.

You rock.
) AMM

Congratulations to Annie, Sheryl,
Katie, Tiffany and Lia. Flat 7 forev-
er!

Love,
Anne Marie

Molly -
Two years have gone by awfully
fast. I couldn't have asked for a bet-
ter sister or a better friend to share
my time here at Saint Mary's.
A call to Cincinnati will never be
quite the same as a trip to LeMans
for a hug. If I can end my four years
here with half the amount of class
and care you did, I'll be lucky!
You've always been and always will
be someone I can look up to. I love
you!
Your little sis,
Murray

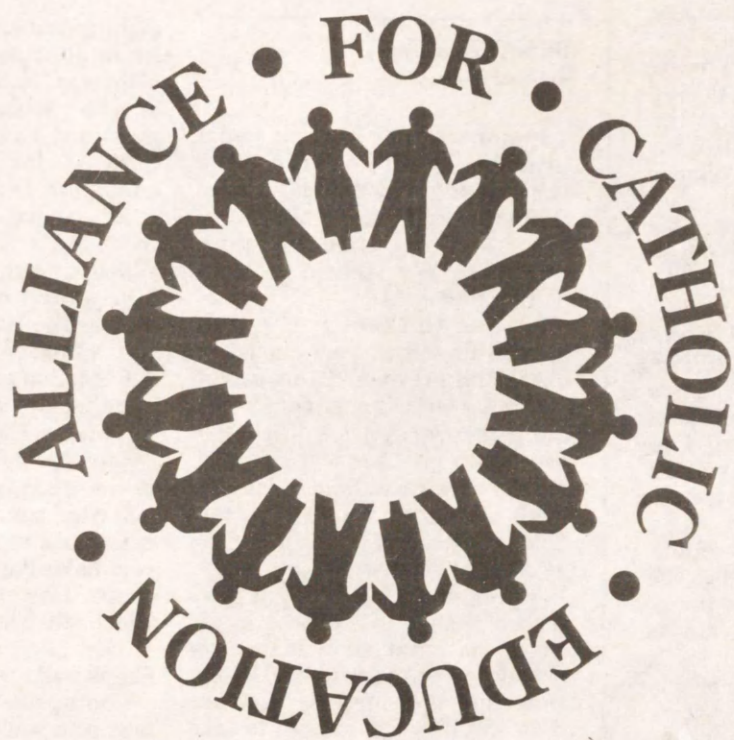
Kate,
Thanks for running the show...
tonight and every night. You know
we'll miss ya, woman2. Take care.
Jason

News seniors (especially woman):
Can't thank you guys enough for
making the past year great. Closer
than my peeps you all are to me.
Jason

Kiflin Turner ANE:
Dressed so fresh and clean. Is
Spain ready for what you're bring-
ing? We'll miss ya. Have a blast.
Jason

O staff (especially the newsies):
Thanks for making it great so far.
Have a wonderful summer, and get
ready to kick some butt in the fall.
Jason

Last one O staff!
See you in the fall!



The Alliance for Catholic Education is proud to welcome its eighth class of Catholic school teachers.

We give thanks for their gift of service to America's Catholic schools.

Please join us in congratulating the following graduates of Saint Mary's College and the University of Notre Dame.

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Elizabeth Buescher	Mobile, Alabama	Mark Nolan-Romanelli	Atlanta, Georgia
Rachel Bundick	Pensacola, Florida	Thomas Ogorzalek	Biloxi, Mississippi
Jake Cook	Los Angeles, California	Anthony Perri	Plaquemine, Louisiana
Travis Davey	Biloxi, Mississippi	Molly Posedel	Plaquemine, Louisiana
Aubree Dill	Dallas, Texas	Katherine Rakowski	Biloxi, Mississippi
Kevin Dunn	Jacksonville, Florida	NoNieqa Ramos	Kansas City, Kansas
Edward Foy	Montgomery, Alabama	Maggie Remstad	Mission, Texas
Danielle Gabriel	Charleston, South Carolina	Michael Riley	St. Petersburg, Florida
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Molly Kahn	Memphis, Tennessee	Maggie Wood	Atlanta, Georgia
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Carolyn Kelley	Kansas City, Kansas	Michael Zelenka	St. Petersburg, Florida
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Rebekah Madrid	Brownsville, Texas		
Tara Mahnesmith	Mobile, Alabama		
Caroline Marino	Charleston, South Carolina		

TRACK AND FIELD

Grow, Shay head to NCAAs

By NOAH AMSTADTER
Sports Editor

They started out as two teams of the many, working together for the best possible team finish at each weekend's competition. What remains are the few and the proud, athletes who already have or are working to qualify for the NCAA Outdoor Track and field track athletes.

Eleven athletes — four men and seven women — remain at Notre Dame while the rest of the team ended their season with the Big East Championships on May 6. At that meet, the women's team finished third for the third consecutive year, while the men's squad took sixth.

Irish head coach Joe Piane feels that his teams could have placed even higher had it not been bitten by the injury bug. On the women's side, sprinter/long jumper Tameisha King injured her hamstring, an injury Piane thinks kept his team out of second place.

"Tameisha King got hurt," Piane said. "If she wouldn't have been hurt she could have placed in the 100, the 100-meter hurdles and the long jump. That probably would have got us into second place."

On the men's side, the defending champion Irish lost top 2000 scorers Chris Cochran and Marshaun West

to graduation while sprinter Tom Gilbert was limited to the long jump with a hamstring injury. Liz Grow and Ryan Shay both were named Most Outstanding Track Performer for the men's and women's competitions, respectively.

Shay won 10,000-meter run in a time of 29:17.61, more than 12 seconds over Steve Bohan of West Virginia. Grow won the 400-meters in a time of 53.17 seconds in the finals, but it was her time of 52.40 in the preliminary heats that benefited her most.

That time automatically qualified Grow for the NCAA Championships in Eugene, Ore. May 30-June 2. Grow currently is ranked fifth in the nation.

But Notre Dame's top sprinter isn't just running the 400-meters this postseason. Grow teamed up with sophomore Kymia Love and freshmen Kristen Dodd and Ayesha Boyd to take the gold in the 4x100-meter relay at the Big East meet with a time of 45.37 seconds.

The same group took fourth in the 4x400-meter relay, finishing in 3:39.45 seconds. Both relays are in contention for spots at the NCAA meet on Eugene.

Shay, who took part in the Olympic Trials last summer in the 10,000-meters, already automatically qualified for that event earlier this season. He

also is competing for a spot in the 5,000-meters. If Shay qualified in both, he would compete in each event, Piane said.

King expects to return to the track this weekend, taking part in the long jump at the Georgia Tech Invitational. Fellow jumper Jaime Volkmer hopes to qualify for the NCAA's in the pole vault, after taking second at the Big East meet with a vault of 11-feet-11 3/4.

"I placed well but I didn't jump as well as I would have liked to," Volkmer said. "I was kind of disappointed because the height that won, I've jumped before. It wasn't exactly what I wanted to accomplish."

At the Big East meet, Volkmer also competed in the long jump and triple jump. Now she can concentrate on the pole vault exclusively, a focus she thinks will be beneficial.

"I can put all my energy and focus all on vaulting," Volkmer said. "As far as nationals go, I think I'm going to need to jump 13-feet or 13-2 to get in."

The other athletes still competing on the men's side are freshman Kevin Somok and senior Pat Conway in the 1,500-meters and junior Derek Dyer in the discus. Each look to qualify for the NCAA Championships at this weekend's Georgia Tech Invitational.

Graf makes B-cut, leads Belles in final meet

By KATIE McVOY
Associate Sports Editor

Junior transfer student Laura Graf made history for Saint Mary's College at the MIAA track championships last weekend as her 800-meter time was good enough for a provisional qualification for nationals.

Despite the fact that Graf's 2:15.28 time was good enough to break the previous MIAA record and set a new Saint Mary's outdoor record, it was only good enough to give her a third place finish in the race. Hope's Jennifer Price and Calvin's Sara Veltkamp finished ahead of Graf; Price won by nearly two seconds.

A provisional qualification gives Graf a chance to compete in the NCAA national meet if too few runners qualify automatically. However, it is unlikely that her time will be good enough to take her to the meet.

"We wanted to prove we have the girls who want to compete," Graf said. "We don't care what happened in the past. We are stronger this year."

The recently disbanded Saint Mary's track team finished in seventh place in the last meet of their current existence, defeating the Comets of Olivet.

Four women scored points for the Belles, including Graf.

Junior Erica Burket led the Belles in scoring with three top

eight finishes. A second place finish in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 16.50 seconds brought in seven points for the Belles, the most any runner scored. Her 4 foot, 10 inch high jump was enough to land her a fifth place finish, behind a 5-2 winning jump by Alma's Kristi Pykosz. She added an eighth place finish in the 400-meter hurdles, an event which she has run only twice, with a time of 1:13.61.

Joining Graf and Burket in scoring were freshmen Becky Shepkowski and Jaclyn Thompson.

Shepkowski's sixth place finish in the triple jump was a surprise following a season where she generally took second place to Burket who holds the school record in the event. However, a 31-10 jump, which still fell short of her personal best 32-7, was enough to earn Shepkowski points for the team.

Thompson tied her personal best pole vault and tied the school record, which she holds. Her 8-6 jump landed her in fourth place in the MIAA, falling three feet short of the winning 11-6 jump.

The Saint Mary's 400-meter relay team took home a fifth place finish with a time of 54.14, wrapping up the scoring for the day.

Calvin took home an unquestioned MIAA title. The Knights claimed first place in 17 of the 20 events, including five new MIAA records. Only three runner were able to quench the fire Calvin began at the Hope field.

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BASEBALL

Notre Dame hopes for first Big East Tournament title

By JEFF BALTRUZAK
Assistant Sports Editor

The Notre Dame baseball team will most likely be at graduation this weekend, but don't expect them to be especially perky.

The Irish will travel through the night on Sunday morning, leaving the Big East Championships in Bridgewater, N.J. at 4 a.m. and returning at 10 a.m., just in time to grab their sheepskins.

But before graduating, there's baseball to be played.

The No. 2 Irish squared off against Virginia Tech Thursday, vying for a Big East Championship postseason championship that has eluded the program since it began Big East play six years ago. The Irish have already secured the regular season Big East title.

The results of Thursday's game were not known Wednesday night when The Observer went to press.

"This is where the season starts," said senior captain Alec Porzel, hitting .291 out of the third lineup slot. "Everyone's comfortable. I think we have a real light mood. We'll become more focused in practice."

The Hokies provided two blemishes on Notre Dame's 45-9-1 record, beating the Irish twice in Blacksburg on March 25. In both games the Irish had leads entering the final innings, only to see the advantages evaporate with

Hokie rallies.

Virginia Tech, sporting a 27-26-1 record for the season, went 14-11-1 in Big East play. The Hokies have had problems on the hill, with Chip Runyon having the best ERA on the staff, allowing 3.53 earned runs per nine innings. In contrast, seven Irish pitchers have an ERA below 3.53.

"Most of all, I'm looking forward to Virginia Tech," Porzel said. "We're going to have Tamayo on the hill, and they haven't faced our big guns."

It will be Tamayo's first meeting with Virginia Tech this season. The senior righthander owns an 8-1 record, and opposing hitters have batted .209 against the Miami native. He will use the same pitching formula that has proved successful the entire spring.

"I'm not going to be doing anything different against them," he said.

Other than against Virginia Tech, the Irish have been dominant in Big East play with a 22-4 record. Today, the Irish will face either last year's champion Rutgers or Seton Hall. Notre Dame is a combined 6-0 against these two squads this year, outscoring them 50-13.

Being the No. 3 team in the country has proved to have other benefits besides prestige for the Irish. Notre Dame will host an NCAA Regional at Frank Eck Stadium on May 25-27. For seniors Porzel, Tamayo, Aaron

Heilman, Mike Carlin, Ben Cooke and Mike Naumann, it will be their last home games in an Irish uniform.

"They've given every ounce of energy they possibly could," said Irish head coach Paul Mainieri. "The greatest thing is they're not prima donnas, they'll talk to a young kid."

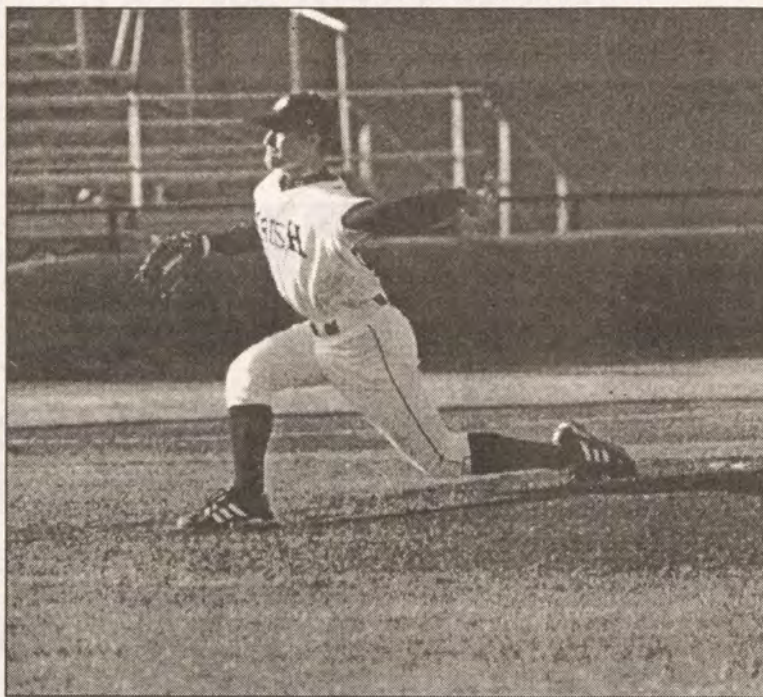
While Mainieri said the seniors are not "an especially vocal group," their leadership by example has been undeniable. The tandem of the All-American Heilman and Tamayo have won 21 games for the Irish, and have emerged as one of the top weekend starting duos in the country.

Porzel has recovered from a season opening slump to raise his average more than 100 points during the latter half of the 2001 campaign. The short-stop has proven effective in the clutch, hitting .333 with runners in scoring position.

And with Porzel's resurgence has come the resurgence of the entire Irish offense. Notre Dame is hitting .321 as a team, and has provided the pitching staff with increased run support.

"Our offense is on a roll," said Porzel. "Everyone's looking to get RBIs — everyone's stepped up."

Hosting a regional has the added benefit of playing before the Irish faithful. Notre Dame has seen their home crowds grow as they inched up in the polls and claimed their status as a national powerhouse.



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Pitcher Mike Naumann delivers during an April 5 victory over Dayton. The Irish are looking for their first Big East title.

"We've watched the fan support grow and grow and grow," said Porzel. "We will play for ourselves and play for our fans."

With so much success this season, it's hard not to discuss Notre Dame baseball without mentioning the College World Series. The Irish haven't visited Omaha mid-June since 1957. Mainieri was born three months later.

But it's clear the 2001 team knows what they're capable of

achieving.

"This team has a lot of confidence — everyone knows what we expect," said Tamayo.

For all their on-field accomplishments, Mainieri says that this year's seniors will be remembered for different reasons as well.

"I think their legacy will be that they showed everyone the proper way to carry themselves as Notre Dame baseball players," he said.

Congratulations to the following Citation of Merit winners:

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SOFTBALL

Irish make history, earn first No. 1 regional seed

By PETE FRASSO
Sports Writer

As students, parents, and faculty and the President of the United States gather this weekend for graduation and Commencement at Notre Dame, the Irish women's softball squad still has some work to do.

The team began its march to the College World Series and a shot at a national title Thursday. The Irish finished the season ranked eighth in the nation, and are seeded first in Region Seven hosted by Iowa.

This marks the first time the Irish softball team has been a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament.

Because the team is playing, the graduating seniors will not be able to participate in this weekend's ceremonies.

The Irish finished the season with a 51-5 record, the best in team history, going 20-0 in Big East play. They headed into the Big East Tournament on a 33-game winning streak. Unfortunately, the Irish ran into bad luck, losing 2-1 to Seton Hall, then were eliminated by Villanova, 1-0.

Despite this, the Irish are still the

favorites to make their first appearance in the College World Series, the playoff of the eight regional champions to determine who wins the national title.

The team began tournament play Thursday against No. 6 seed Western Illinois. Also in Region Seven are Illinois State, DePaul, South Carolina and Iowa.

The results of Thursday's games were not known when The Observer went to press Wednesday night.

Notre Dame has had successes against this field earlier in the season. On Feb. 18, the Irish shut out

South Carolina 1-0 to capture the Holiday Inn Invitational title. On April 19, they swept a road doubleheader against DePaul 7-6 and 5-1.

The Irish are enjoying the No. 1 seed after having the most successful season in team history. They set a team record for wins, breaking the old mark of 48 in 1996. They currently hold a 0.76 team ERA, on pace to smash the old record of 1.14 set in 1993.

On May 10, Notre Dame swept the three major awards at the Big East Softball Championship awards banquet. Staff of the Year

was given to Notre Dame head coach Liz Miller, associate head coach Deanna Gumpf and assistants Traci Conrad and John Gumpf.

Senior All-American Jen Sharron won an impressive fourth consecutive Pitcher of the Year award, posting a 0.32 ERA in league competition, and a 10-0 record.

Lizzy Lemire received the Player of the Year award, becoming the third player in school history to do so. She hit .383 in conference play.

Additionally, Kristin Schmidt received the Rookie of the Year award.

Belles play hard, but can't make the grade

By KATIE McVOY
Associate Sports Editor

It wasn't a question of solid pitching or getting hits. The Saint Mary's softball team just couldn't put the two together to bring home enough wins to put the team over .500 this season.

The Belles finished in the same seventh place spot they finished last season in the MIAA, with a league record of 4-10 and an overall record of 14-19. Despite the losing record, senior Cindy Traub was happy with the team's performance.

"I think that our season, although people may not see it as a success with our wins and losses, was a success because of the way we were able to deal with adversity on and off the field," she said.

The team fell under the leadership of first-year head coach John Kovach, who served as an assistant coach last season. Kovach replaced last season's head coach, Joe Speybroeck, after he left the team shortly before the season started.

Senior Anne Senger led the team's pitching effort along with help from junior Kristin Martin. Senger, who pitched 41 innings on the season, finished up her senior year with an ERA of 4.43 and a record of 1-5. Freshman

Libby Wilhelm rounded off Saint Mary's pitching with a 1.88 ERA after 26 innings of work.

"Overall, I was pretty pleased with pitching this year," Kovach said.

Sophomore catcher Susan Kutz led the Belles' hitting charge, racking up 10 RBIs, six doubles and one homerun. Her .444 batting average was enough to get her named to second team All-MIAA.

The highlight of the season came in the form of a 2-0 weekend sweep of the Knights of Calvin College in mid-April. Martin pitched a shutout during the first game, giving the Belles their biggest winning margin of the season at eight.

With Senger on the mound it was a close night cap, but Saint Mary's pulled out on top 13-12, tripling the number of wins it had taken in the MIAA up to that point.

The hits fell for the Belles during the doubleheader, as leading sluggers Rachel Deer and Kutz stole their way into home.

"We had our hitting shoes on today," said Kovach of his team's strong hitting performance.

Four MIAA wins were not enough to boost the Belles into an MIAA playoff spot and the team ended its season with a disappointing loss to Goshen College in a doubleheader.


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WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Fourth season makes firsts

By ANTHONY BISHOP
Sports Writer

The fourth season of Notre Dame women's lacrosse was a season of firsts. The team achieved its first-ever victory over a ranked team, Delaware, and then proceeded to defeat a top-10 team, Yale. These victories helped the Irish gain national recognition and their first ever ranking — peaking at No. 18 — and first ever 10-win season with an overall 10-5 record.

Head coach Tracy Coyne was very pleased about the results of this season. "We've come a long way," she said. "We accomplished a lot this year and it was exciting to be on the bubble for the playoffs."

On a sad note, the program also saw its first-ever recruiting class graduate. Standing out among the team is senior captain Lael O'Shaughnessy, the first-ever athlete to sign an Irish women's lacrosse letter of intent.

The Irish had a successful spring break, unfazed by the defeat. They went on to earn six-straight victories against Virginia Tech, Boston College, Harvard, Denver, and Ohio University. If there was one turning point of the season,

it came against Harvard. For two years, the Irish came close to beating Harvard and thanks mostly to a strong game from senior Maura Doyle, they finally did on their third try.

The sixth victory came against then 17th-ranked Delaware for their first ever victory against a ranked team. That same weekend, Vanderbilt ended the school-record six-game win streak in a heartbreaking upset.

The Irish once again bounced right back against the Huskies of Connecticut. In their second home game, the Irish played its most offensively explosive game. Sparked by three goals from sophomore Danielle Shearer in 41 seconds, the Irish won 19-5.

The rest of the season went up and down for Notre Dame with two bright spots in the middle. Facing three straight ranked teams, the Irish lost to Duke and next defeated then-No. 7 Yale. This marked the second win against a ranked team and first victory against a top 10 team.

They then finished the stretch and opened their next homestand with the season's first home loss to Georgetown. The next two home games were solid victories against rival Ohio

State and Rutgers before falling to 11th-ranked Syracuse in New York. The Syracuse loss came despite a six-goal performance by Shearer.

The Irish beat two of the six nationally-ranked teams they faced compared to zero in all previous years. In the inaugural season for Big East women's lacrosse, the Irish finished third with a 4-2 record. The team spent most of the year atop the standings with a 3-0 record before losing to Georgetown and Syracuse, who both finished ahead of the Irish.

Most of this leadership came from O'Shaughnessy, who earned the team's MVP and was voted to the first team all-Big East as well as the all-regional first team. She led the team in assists with 52.

She was joined on the all-Big East team by two juniors — Tina Fedarcyk and Alissa Moser. Fedarcyk, who joined O'Shaughnessy on the first team, led the Irish with 42 ground balls and 30 caused turnovers.

Second team all-Big East honors went to Moser, who finished with record setting 40 draw controls. Junior captain Kathryn Lam joins O'Shaughnessy on the all-regional level, earning second team honors.

MEN'S LACROSSE

Irish to make second quarterfinal appearance

By MIKE CONNOLLY
Sports Writer

The Irish have been here before but this time everything is different.

The Notre Dame men's lacrosse team makes its second straight quarterfinals appearance Sunday when it takes on John Hopkins in College Park, Md. The game will be a rematch of last year's quarterfinals which the Blue Jays won 15-11, but there are few similarities between the 2001 and 2000 versions of each team.

To start with, the Irish aren't just happy to be in the quarterfinals this year. They expected to win their first round game against Bucknell. Last year the 12th-seeded Irish shocked the fifth-seeded Loyola Greyhounds in the first round.

The joyous celebrations that followed the win against Loyola were noticeably absent after Notre Dame's 12-7 win against Bucknell.

"After the game one of the fathers came up to me and said 'Last year we celebrated like we had won the lottery,'" head coach Kevin Corrigan said. "'This year it was all business.' We aren't surprised to be here. We expect to be here and we want to win this next game to get to the Final Four."

While the Irish made a Cinderella-run in 2000, they have been solid all year in 2001. They ascended as high as No. 2 in the national rankings and never trailed at the end of regulation. Their lone blemish on their 13-1 record was an overtime loss to fellow quarterfinalist Hofstra Pride.

While its record and ranking are better in 2001, Notre Dame returns eight starters — including all-time Irish assist leader David Ulrich — from the team that lost to Hopkins in last year's quarterfinals. Hopkins, however, is a much different team.

The Blue Jays lost their goalkeeper, best midfielder and best attack from last year's semifinal team.

"They are still an extremely talented team but they don't have two guys who were two of the very best players in the country and made them very, very tough to play against," Corrigan said. "It was very difficult to concentrate on both those guys on the offensive end."

Those two guys — first team All-Americans Dan Denihan and A.J. Hogan — dominated in the last meeting. Denihan accounted for eight points while Hogan controlled the midfield. This time around, the Blue Jays won't have the benefit of either player but they are still a talented bunch.

Freshman Conor Ford has led the Blue Jay attack in the last three games with 13 goals in those contests. In the midfield, Hopkins features one of the toughest players in the country. Eric Wedin averages nearly 10 ground balls per game and wins 56.8 percent of his face-offs. Irish face-off specialist Chad DeBolt must force a draw with Wedin for the Irish to be successful, according to Corrigan.

"He's got to beat him," Corrigan said. "What we really hope for is for us to get a draw. If we can't beat him outright, he want to tie him up and see if we can turn it into a 3-on-3 ground ball and make some plays."



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Heilman

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American — all as a freshman. "You'd think he dominates all the time, but he gets in jams," Mainieri said. "The thing that sets him apart is that he has the ability to raise his game."

"The great ones can do that." Over the course of his next two seasons, Heilman didn't become just great — he was nearly invincible. He struck out a Notre Dame season-record 118 batters in both 1999 and 2000. He was named All-American for three straight years. He pitched for Team USA. He won 10 games in a row.

Heilman had pitched in plenty of memorial games. There was the 10-inning, 18-strikeout gem against West Virginia. Or his one-hitter against Villanova in Notre Dame's 3,000th ever baseball game. Or his five innings against Miami where Heilman gave up one hit en route to a 1-0 victory — the first time the Hurricanes had been shut out in 20 years.

"Honestly, I don't know what more I could have accomplished," he said.

By the time he was drafted by the Minnesota Twins at the end of his junior year, it seemed a foregone conclusion that Heilman would leave Notre Dame to compete professionally.

"At the conclusion of our season, I honestly thought I was going to sign and that was it for me playing college baseball," Heilman said.

But during the summer, Heilman had second thoughts. He wanted to earn his degree right away without having to worry about coming back to take classes in the off-season. Besides, contract negotiations weren't moving very fast, and there were major problems with the amount of the signing bonus — the Twins offered \$900,000, but Heilman was holding out for \$1.4 million. And so Heilman — and Heilman alone — made the decision to return to Notre Dame to finish his senior season.

"I knew that it had to be Aaron Heilman's decision," Mainieri said. "I was very careful not to influence him one way or the other. Nobody on our staff would have blamed Aaron for signing last summer."

"I talked to my family and some close friends," he said. "But what it all boiled down to was that it was my decision. And I'm very happy with the decision I made."

"There's no way Aaron would have come back unless he thought we were going to have an outstanding team," Mainieri said.

The Irish didn't let Heilman down. Notre Dame ascended to a No. 1 and earned the right to host the NCAA Regional. They're

in contention for their first-ever Big East Tournament title — not to mention a national championship.

A lot of that is because of Heilman. He's been an automatic win for Notre Dame whenever he steps on the mound. Entering the Big East tournament, he holds a perfect 13-0 record in 13 starts this season; and 10 of those are complete games. He broke Notre Dame records in wins and strikeouts. His ERA is hovering around the 1.50 mark. And he'll probably become the first Notre Dame baseball player to earn All-American honors four times.

"I think he goes down in history as the greatest baseball player in the history of Notre Dame baseball," Mainieri said.

But statistics don't set Heilman apart. Intangibles do.

"He's the best pitcher in the history of the school, but you'd never know it because he's so humble," Mainieri said. "He's just about the greatest leader that I've ever been around, and he does it so much by example."

When he's not pitching, Heilman is in the dugout supporting his teammates. And after a game, he'll help rake the pitchers' mound and get it ready for the next game.

"When the other players on the team see the superstar doing those kid of things, then they realize there's not reason for them to be prima donnas," said Mainieri. "If Aaron Heilman isn't a prima donna, nobody has the right to be."

But when Heilman steps on the mound, he becomes a different person. Mainieri calls him "possessed" and rarely goes out to the mound to talk to him because "he's not a very nice guy." In between innings, Heilman sits in the dugout stone-faced and silent.

"Off the field he's the nicest guy in the world," said Mainieri. "But when he walks across that white line, it's like a whole different personality. It's all business with him, and that's what you love in a kid."

Heilman's business still isn't finished. He wants to win a Big East Championship and pitch in the College World Series. He'll most likely be Notre Dame's first four-time All-American and is projected to be drafted in the first or second round this summer.

"It's been a tremendous ride," he said. "I hope we've got a few more tokens left in the machine."

Regardless of how the Irish finish their season, Mainieri already recognizes the enormous influence Heilman will have on the program even after he moves on.

"Even though he'll be gone, his legacy will be so strong that it's really a standard that he set for the players that are going to follow him," Mainieri said. "When he's finished at Notre Dame, he'll be gone, but he won't be forgotten, that's for sure."

Cook

continued from page 44

MIAA. Cook's 89.1 stroke average helped her team finish third.

This fall, Cook, an elementary education major, could not participate fully in golf because she was student teaching in the fall. Loyal to her team, however, she made any meets she could.

For all the success that Cook has brought to the Saint Mary's athletic department, sports at Saint Mary's have been even more important to Cook's success at Saint Mary's. When she transferred in as a junior, she was worried she would have difficulty adjusting to her new envi-

ronment. Athletics helped assuage her fears.

"Sports has created an atmosphere in my life where I'm busy but I have a good time," she said. "They help us try to learn to play our best and most importantly, it's an honest atmosphere. No one is out there playing just for herself."

The days when Cook will be playing college tennis may be over, but she won't ever let go of her racket. With a background like Cook's, letting go just can't happen.

Since she was 10, Cook's parents had been helping her with her tennis skills. Although she learned from a tennis pro at a local racket club, the tennis court in her parent's back yard

didn't hurt.

Cook came to Saint Mary's as the youngest of six, all of whom played tennis.

"There was a lot of competition at home," Cook said. "Some of us got very competitive, especially in high school. It was always hard for my mom and dad to know who to root for."

After receiving a degree in elementary education with an endorsement in kindergarten, Cook will take the summer off to work at the Notre Dame Warren Golf Course.

She hopes to find a job at a local elementary school in the fall. Cook will move from shaping a team into a champion to shaping the minds of a younger generation.

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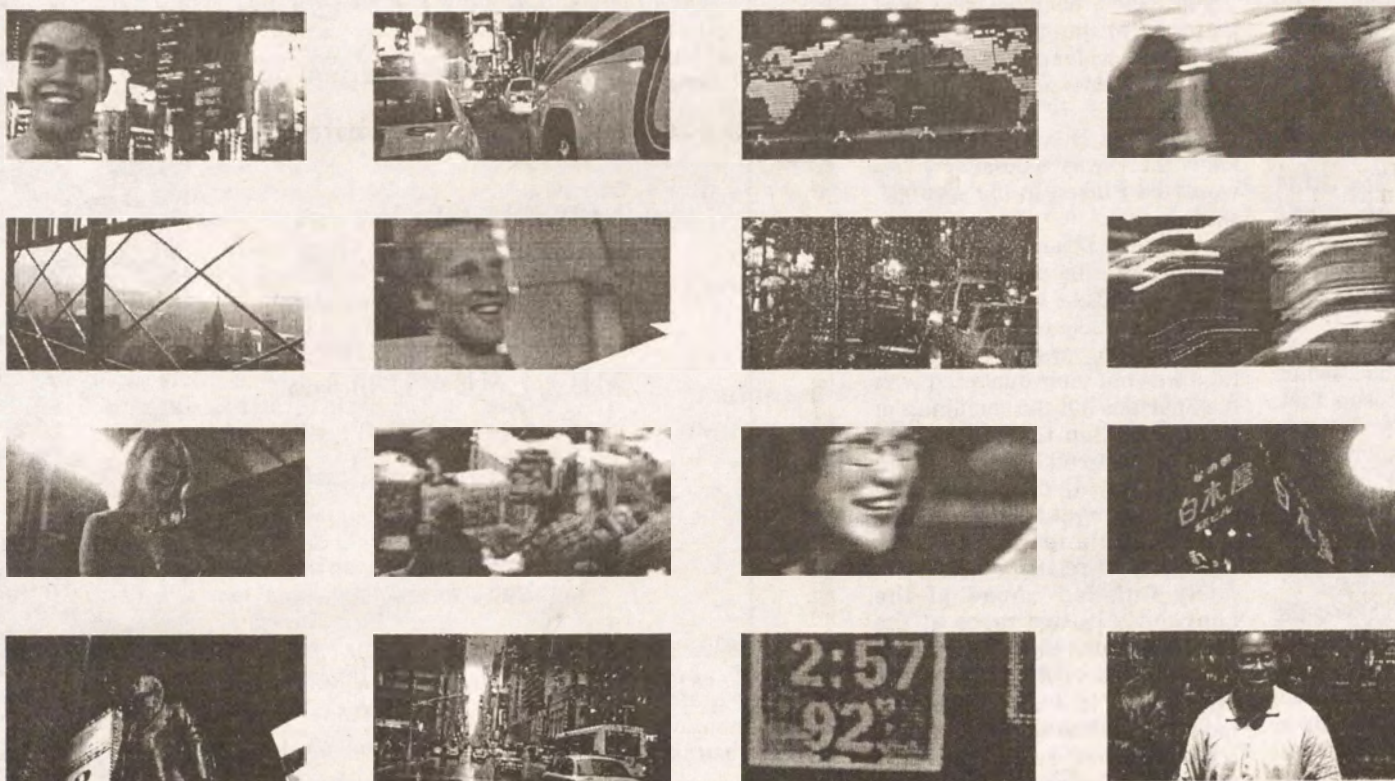
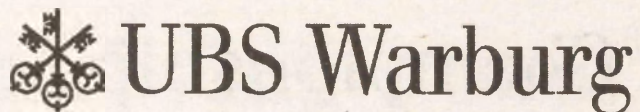
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ROWING

Irish rowers miss out on NCAA Championship regatta

By JEFF BALTRUZAK
Assistant Sports Editor

It will take two seconds to read this sentence. And two seconds was all that Irish rowing coach Martin Stone believes separated Notre Dame from a trip to its first NCAA Championship regatta.

"We were the next varsity 8 they were going to take," said Stone, referring to the NCAA selections announced Tuesday. "I think if we had beaten Rutgers in the Big East we would have gone. We were out of it by two seconds."

The Irish finished the 2001 season ranked No. 16 in the USRowing/Collegiate Coaches Rowing Association poll, with the Scarlet Knights checking in at No. 15.

But to focus on being so close to making the NCAA finals would be an injustice to a season that, by all respects, was the finest in Notre Dame rowing's short history as a varsity program.

To start, the program saw Notre Dame in the USRowing poll for the first time in school history on April 4, breaking in at No. 14. The ranking directly followed the first varsity eight's win over traditional powerhouse Michigan State on Mar. 31, when the Irish beat the Spartans twice on a shortened 1200 meter course in East Lansing, Mich.

As for the seniors that saw the program grow from a club sport to a fledgling varsity team to a nationally respected squad, this year's success was especially sweet. Captain coxswains Claire Bula and Erin Kiernicki, as well as rowers Melissa Alberding and Leah Ashe are the only four to have seen the program's seemingly exponential progression.

"It's been an unbelievable transformation," said Bula. "I remember sophomore year when we didn't win a race and now this year I have all these medals on my wall."

With Notre Dame long on youth and short on race experience, Stone found that the seniors' journey in building the program from the ground up was key to their role this season.

"They appreciate the strides we made," said Stone. "They

kept the team upbeat, and had the ability to see where we had been."

From the start of the season in the fall, Notre Dame's strides seemed to be more like leaps and bounds. Their first race of the fall season, the Chicago Chase on Oct. 7, saw Notre Dame secure three gold medals and a pair of silvers.

The Irish's early success was indicator of things to come, but for Stone, evidence of the Irish's potential would come later in the fall season.

"After the Head of the Elk, I knew there was a possibility [we would be ranked in the spring]," said Stone.

But Notre Dame's best racing would come in mid-May. Both Stone and Bula — coxswain of the first varsity eight — agreed that the first varsity eight's best race was not their dual race with the Spartans but the semifinals of the Lexus Cup Central Region Championship on May 12.

The Irish lined up with now well-known rival Michigan State, Ohio State, and Texas in the semifinal. Notre Dame has previously finished ahead of the Longhorns in two races at the San Diego Crew Classic April 8.

"It was do or die," said Bula. "We needed to make the finals to have a chance at the NCAAs."

Notre Dame responded in a race where Bula said "everything clicked," blazing to a 6:38.7 finish for the 2000-meter course, beating Texas and finishing just over two seconds behind the winning Buckeyes.

Stone shared Bula's sentiments. "It was pure speed. They put everything together," he said.

Later in the day, the Irish finished fifth in the Grand Final, positioning them for a shot at the NCAA Championships. And though that shot didn't materialize this year, Stone sees benefits from this year's success and knowing that Notre Dame is within striking distance of the top competition in the country.

"We raced against 10 of the top 15 varsity teams, and we were within 10 seconds of most of them," he said.

The Grand Final at the Central Championships would be the last race for the Irish rowers this sea-

son. Bula felt that though she wishes she could experience Notre Dame building on the foundation she and her fellow seniors help build, it was an unique

experience to be part of the beginning.

"In some ways I wish I could be there," said Bula. "But it's a great feeling that we helped set

the standard for how the program will be, and be part of Notre Dame history being on the first women's rowing varsity team."

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WOMEN'S TENNIS

Belles bring home first MIAA championship

By KATIE McVOY
Associate Sports Editor

A small but lively crowd greeted the Saint Mary's tennis team on a May 7—a night when most students were studying for finals. The 15 members of the tennis team were all smiles as they entered an Angela Athletic Facility rally held in their honor to accept the first ever Saint Mary's MIAA title.



Knish

By a margin of five points, the Belles defeated defending champion Hope College and brought home the MIAA women's tennis conference championship. "I am extremely proud and I still can't believe we accomplished that," junior co-captain Annie Knish said. "Coach promised me we would have a conference championship before I graduated and I never believed him until the tournament."

The seven players who traveled to Kalamazoo, Mich. each came home with a medal as the Belles claimed four singles titles and two doubles titles,

along with one third place finish each at singles and doubles. "The hard work [the team] put into tennis all year, the work in the winter when they went six or seven weeks without playing anyone but each other, that hard work at that point when they played the matches really paid off," head coach Dee Stevenson said.

The doubles teams were the foundation of the Saint Mary's team this season, and proved to be so again during the MIAA tournament. All three teams took home a medal.

"I'm very proud of them," Knish said. "They worked together and made great improvements over the season."

Senior Natalie Cook and junior Annie Knish led the doubles with a No. 1 doubles championship. Cook also claimed a third place finish in No. 2 singles.

Hope, a familiar adversary, was the final obstacle for the team of Knish and Cook. The Flying Dutch defeated the Albion's No. 1 double's only loss all season before facing off against the Belles. It was a close match, but Knish and Cook came out on top in three sets, 6-4, 5-7, 6-2.

"[Natalie] and Annie winning No. 1 doubles when few people thought they could was a big inspiration," Stevenson said.

"We had to win every [championship] match, including the one they did, to win the tournament."

The Knish-Cook team, which was defeated only once in conference play this season, took an easy first round win on the way to the championship, defeating Alma 6-1, 6-0.

In the semifinal round, Knish and Cook faced off against a Calvin team that appeared to be an easy target. They took the first set 6-3, but Calvin came back to take a 6-4 victory in set two, tying up the match.

Cook and Knish were not willing to leave Kalamazoo without a championship, and came back to claim a solid 6-1 victory in set three, guaranteeing them a spot in the championship. "The combination of being focused and having a goal, along with having a good time as friends and partners was what helped us win that championship," Knish said.

The No. 3 doubles team of sophomores Elisa Ryan and Trisha Jones also took home a

championship. They remained undefeated in the MIAA, cleaning up a Hope team with a two set victory (6-4, 6-3). The team dropped only one set in its climb to the championship, losing set two to Albion 6-2.

Freshmen Jeannie Knish and Kaitlin Cutler wrapped up solid doubles play with a third place finish in No. 2 doubles after losing to Calvin in the semifinals. A solid two set (6-0, 6-0) victory against Alma in the consolation round claimed the third place finish.

It was the Saint Mary's freshmen who ruled the courts in singles play. All three women playing their first year of college tennis came home with a championship.

"I have to give a lot of credit to the freshmen who came [this season]," Annie Knish said. "They added a lot to our team." Kaitlin Cutler finished off a perfect season with a perfect final tournament. Cutler, who had not lost one set in MIAA play all season, continued that impressive record at the Kalamazoo tournament.

She claimed the No. 4 singles championship in six sets, giving up a total of four points. Hope's

Jennifer Coleman took only two points in the second set of the championship round as Cutler defeated her in two sets.

Joining Cutler as freshman champions were Jeannie Knish at No. 3 singles and Kris Spriggle at No. 5 singles. Knish took the championship round from Calvin, winning in two sets (6-2, 6-2). Spriggle wrapped up an undefeated season with a two set victory in the championship round (6-1, 6-0) against Albion's Kristen Roskam.

Ryan completed singles wins with a No. 6 singles victory, defeating her opponents by no less than five points in each set. A final two set victory (6-1, 6-0) against Hope's Dee Clouse wrapped up the sophomore's first No. 6 singles victory.

Annie Knish and Cook made first team All-MIAA while Jeannie Knish and Cutler found themselves on All-MIAA second team. Topping off the weekend tournament was the presentation of the Sue Little Sportsmanship Award to Lynn Kachmarik led the rally to welcome home the team. She presented each player with her championship medal and congratulated all 15 who have been supporting the varsity team.

Cook is the only graduating senior as a strong team returns for the 2002 season.

"Coach promised me we would have a championship before I graduated and I never believed him until the tournament."

Annie Knish
captain

FROM THE OFFICE OF RESIDENCE LIFE Congratulations And Good Luck To The Following Hall Staff Members As They Leave Their Positions



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Juvencio Perez-Stanford Hall
Brett Perkins-Keough Hall
Benjamin Perossa-O'Neill Hall
Anthony Perri-Fisher Hall
Nick Petroni, Jr.-Keough Hall
Heather Phillips-Pasquerilla East
Molly Posedel-Cavanaugh Hall

Jennifer Geraci-Farley Hall
Matthew Giefer-Keenan Hall
Jamie Glasser-McGlenn Hall
Andrea Gonzalez-Pasquerilla West
Geoffrey Goode-St. Edward's Hall
Abigail Gottschalk-Lyons Hall
Matthew Graziano-Carroll Hall
Timothy Greene-St. Edward's Hall
Matthew Griffith-Alumni Hall
Martie Gyulai-Knott Hall
Katie Hainley-Welsh Family Hall
Maura Halbach-Lewis Hall
Michael Hannover-Knott Hall
Huntley Hanover-St. Edward's Hall
Thomas Herman-Zahm Hall
Jeremy Herzog-Keough Hall
Ryan Hodge-Zahm Hall
Charles Holden-Corbett-Keenan Hall
Valerie Holsinger-Walsh Hall
Allan Huebner-Alumni Hall
Eileen Huie-Farley Hall
Meredith Profeta-Lewis Hall
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Katie Rak-Welsh Family Hall
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Melissa Anne Reilly-Br. Phillips
Margaret Remstad-McGlenn Hall
Joseph Ribando-Zahm Hall
Michael Riley-Fisher Hall
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Maureen Ruder-Knott Hall
Edward Ryan-Zahm Hall
Richard Salinas-Sorin Hall
David Schwartz-O'Neill Hall
Gregory Sech-Keough Hall
Paul Sepe-Morrissey Manor
Shawn Sheridan-Morrissey Manor
Arthur Silva-Morrissey Manor
Patricia Simone-Walsh Hall

Jeffrey Hurd-O'Neill Hall
Daniel Johnston-Dillon Hall
Amy Jongeling-Lewis Hall
Michael Kassing-Keenan Hall
Catherine Kearney-Pasquerilla West
Colleen Kerwin-Cavanaugh Hall
Gregory Koch-Morrissey Manor
Matthew Koop-Carroll Hall
Keith Kowalczyk-Sorin Hall
Carly Krum-Welsh Family Hall
Timothy Kuhn-Siegfried Hall
Nicholas Lagoni-Fisher Hall
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Bethany Lanzafame-Br. Phillips Hall
David Laurel-Alumni Hall
Jason Linster-Dillon Hall
Joseph Lomangino-Dillon Hall
James Lyden-St. Edward's Hall
Mary Lyons-Pangborn Hall
Rebekah Madrid-Lyons Hall
Patrick Maloney-Knott Hall
Joseph Steirer, Jr.-Dillon Hall
Mary Beth Stryker-Br. Phillips Hall
Bridie Sullivan-Pasquerilla East
Brian Szakaly-Siegfried Hall
Bridget Tomes-Cavanaugh Hall
Lynn Vichick-Cavanaugh Hall
Liza Villaruz-Pasquerilla East
Jason Visner-Dillon Hall
Sarah Wagner-Pangborn Hall
Vern Walker-Zahm Hall
Celeste Warda-McGlenn Hall
James Weedon-Alumni Hall
Carolyn Weir-Breen-Phillips Hall
Alison Weltner-McGlenn Hall
Justin Westervelt-Fisher Hall
Karen Wiener-Pasquerilla West
Sarah Wittliff-Lewis Hall
James Yannakopoulos-Keenan Hall
Matthew Yung-Dillon Hall
Albert Zangrilli-Stanford Hall
Brian Zant-Zahm Hall

FOOTBALL

Season-ending bowl loss taints successful season

By TIM CASEY
Senior Staff Writer

One night. That's how long it took for the 2000 football campaign to change from being termed a surprising success to being treated as another Bob Davie-led failure. It all "came apart" on Jan. 1, in front of a national television audience when Oregon State destroyed Notre Dame 41-9 in the Fiesta Bowl.

"It's pretty obvious we got whipped," Davie said at the time. "We were out coached and outplayed. We got our butts kicked."

Hard to believe six weeks earlier, Davie, for perhaps the first time in his four-year career, captured a sliver of sympathy from the Notre Dame nation. A 38-21 win against USC in Los Angeles capped a 9-2 regular season and virtually clinched a Bowl Championship Series-bowl berth. After the game, even some of Davie's harshest critics gave "Bullet Bob" partial credit for the Notre Dame seven-game winning streak.

So here's where Davie stands today, as he prepares for his fifth year at the helm: a coach who signed a new five-year contract on Dec. 5 but also a man who understands that nothing is guaranteed. Truth is, he (and his players) will be judged every day for the rest of his Notre Dame career.

And during this past year, the Irish received mixed reviews.

Never was that more apparent than in the season's second game, against Nebraska on Sept. 9.

Less than a year after an NCAA major violation, a 5-7 season and an unflattering Sports Illustrated story, the Irish were on the verge of upsetting the nation's top team. Notre Dame had a first down with 1:07 left in the game and the score tied 21-21. But the Irish opted for overtime and lost 27-24 when quarterback Eric Crouch ran seven yards for the winning score.

The near-upset showed the first glimpse of the Irish talent. It also came at a price, both physically and emotionally. Prior to kickoff, the Stadium looked like a Nebraska home game. The Cornhuskers' fans apparently scalped thousands of tickets and showed up in their customary red attire. The "Sea of Red" confirmed for some that Notre Dame football

had lost its luster.

Although that perception cannot be proven, the post-game reality can. Both quarterback Arnaz Battle and defensive end Grant Irons suffered season-ending injuries during the contest. Now, a 1-1 Irish squad faced the rest of the schedule with a quarterback who had never played in a college game.

But who was the signal caller? Within days, former tight end Gary Godsey was named the starter. The 6-foot-7 235 pound sophomore led the Irish to a 23-21 win the next weekend against Purdue. His numbers (14-of-25 for 158 yards with one interception) were decent but by early October, Godsey had been relegated to a back-up role.

One week later, Godsey completed only 4-of-15 passes for 20 yards in a 27-21 loss at Michigan State, and alternated in the second half with freshman Matt LoVecchio.

LoVecchio, one of three freshmen quarterbacks, took over the reins for good starting with the Oct. 7 Stanford tilt.

"I had no idea [I would play so soon]," LoVecchio said on Oct. 4, the day he was announced as the starter. "I still don't know what's going to happen."

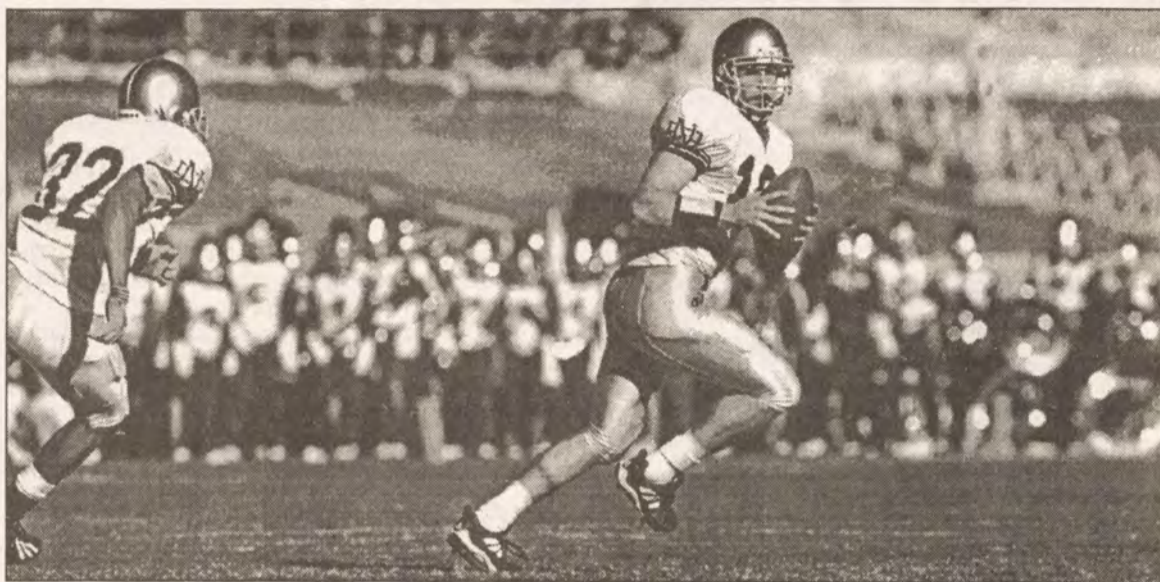
Neither did anyone else. But it became apparent that LoVecchio was not your typical 18-year old.

Against the Cardinal, the Franklin Lakes, N.J. native passed for two touchdowns and 100 yards and helped Notre Dame (3-2 on the season) to a 20-14 victory.

Only one of the six remaining games was decided by less than 12 points — a 34-31 near-defeat to Air Force. With two seconds remaining, Dave Adams, the Falcons place kicker, lined up for a potential game-winning 28-yard field goal. But Notre Dame sophomore Glenn Earl blocked Adams' attempt, forcing overtime. Joey Getherall's nine-yard touchdown run on a "Z-reverse" sealed the Irish's sixth victory and kept their BCS chances alive.

On Dec. 2, after November victories against Boston College, Rutgers and USC, the Irish were officially announced as Fiesta Bowl participants. And within three days Davie received the contract extension.

"The head coaching position at Notre Dame is the most visible, and



Freshman quarterback Matt LoVecchio (above) filled the role of signal caller and helped lead the Irish to the Fiesta Bowl. The Irish fell to Oregon State in the bowl game, ending a successful season.

photos by
PETER RICHARDSON



from that perspective, the most demanding in the country," White said in a prepared statement. "Bob has grown and learned a great deal during his four years in the job and has demonstrated to me not only that he is a very good football coach, but also that he has the respect and confidence of his players and staff."

Then came the bowl game. One month of anticipation turned into three hours of frustration. From the opening whistle, Oregon State dominated Notre Dame. The Beavers gained twice as many yards (475 to 237), scored 29 unanswered third quarter points, and forced the normally efficient LoVecchio (13-of-33 for 138 yards

and two interceptions) to panic. Suddenly, the win streak meant virtually nothing.

"I've never been a part of something like that," cornerback Brock Williams said after the game. "This is the worst loss I've been a part of. It's hard, man. I don't want to criticize anyone but overall we need a lot of work."

Congratulations Math Majors. You've done a great job!

- Sami Assaf
- Daniel Bennett
- Bridget Coleman
- Brooke Davis
- Andrew Dempsey
- Margaret Foltz
- Maureen Guilfoyle
- Maura Halbach
- Matthew Hedden
- Matthew Johnson
- Mitchell Karam
- Mark Luczak
- Christopher McGee
- Meghan McIntyre
- Robert Miske
- Michael Munn
- Timothy Muething
- Erin O'Connor
- Kathleen Parks
- Katherine Rakowski

- Rachel Riley
- Kathleen Rimkus
- Anthony Rizzuti
- Bradford Rodrigues
- Michelle Rubner
- Paul Sepe
- Kate Simpson
- Gregory Smith
- Kimberly Spayd
- David Swinarski
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MEN'S BASKETBALL

Inglesby, Murphy spark Irish to regular season success

By KATHLEEN O'BRIEN
Senior Staff Writer

Every year during the last decade, the Notre Dame men's basketball program found itself on the outside looking in at an exclusive party — March Madness. This year, the Irish earned themselves an invitation to the NCAA Tournament.

Sparked to success by senior point guard Martin Inglesby and junior All-American Troy Murphy, the 20-10 Irish advanced to the second round of the tourney for the first time since 1989, where they lost to the Ole Miss Rebels 59-56.

Notre Dame also won its first league championship since joining the Big East, with an 11-5 conference record good enough for the West Division title.

"That was one of our goals, to win the Big East regular season, and we did it," Inglesby said.

Along the way, the Irish knocked off a host of ranked foes, rose to the top 10 in the national polls, went on an eight-game winning streak in the conference and beat Xavier in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

The transition to success wasn't the only one the Irish made in 2000-01. They also adjusted to yet another coach, as Mike Brey moved in after Matt Doherty's one-year tenure at Notre Dame ended.

Once Brey took over, he went to work winning over the current players. First up was Inglesby, the lone starting senior and a player who started his first two seasons before sliding into a reserve role for Doherty. Brey made him a captain, and Inglesby responded, averaging

among the top 10 in the nation with 6.4 assists per game, along with a Big East-best 3.16 assist-to-turnover ratio. He also hit a game-winning shot against conference rival Boston College to put Notre Dame ahead for good 76-75.

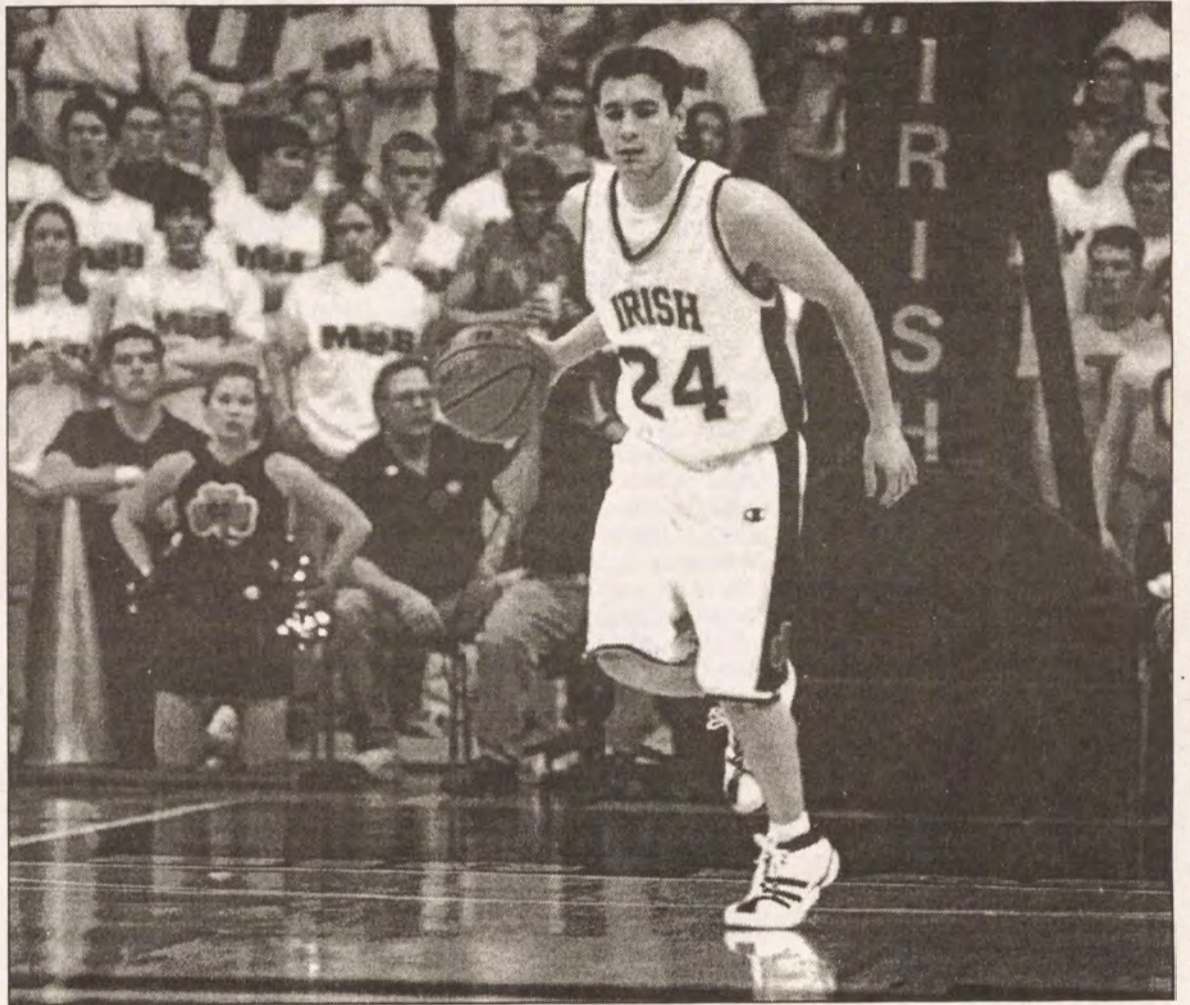
"From day one, I knew that this was my team and I was going to be the point guard," Inglesby said. "With me and Murph being named captains, that really helped out, just trying to lead this team to the NCAA Tournament. That was our goal from day one this year."

A season ago, the Irish were NIT runners-up. Not content with Not In Tournament status this year, the Irish took their game to the next level.

Murphy repeated as a first-team All-American and Big East Player of the Year. The 6-foot-11 forward scored 21.8 points per game and pulled down 9.2 rebounds.

Joining Murphy in frontcourt dominance was junior transfer Ryan Humphrey, a 6-8 bundle of energy who rattled the Joyce Center with his backboard-shaking dunks, 14 points and nine rebounds per contest. Harold Swanagan, also a junior forward, played well in both a starting role or as a sixth man, doing the little things that helped the team get to the tournament.

The other clutch performers for Notre Dame this year were sophomore shooting guard Matt Carroll and junior small forward David Graves. Carroll jumped up his scoring average to 12.4 points per game and became a better all-around player. Graves scored nearly 14 points a contest and learned to adjust to any role the team needed him in, be it starter



DUFFY-MARIE ARNOULT/The Observer

Senior Martin Inglesby dribbles down the court in an Irish victory against St. John's. Inglesby helped lead the Irish to their first playoff berth in the last 10 years.

or reserve.

The next question for the Irish is whether they can match this year's success in 2001-02, having lost Inglesby and reserve Hans Rasmussen to graduation and Murphy to the upcoming NBA Draft.

"I like the experience we have

coming back," said Brey, "even though we lost a heck of a player."

Although they lose the two team captains, the Irish return the brunt of their scoring and core of their starting lineup in Carroll, Graves, Humphrey and Swanagan. Freshman guard Torrian Jones will be expected to build on his minutes from this season, as will reserve forwards Jere Macura and Tom Timmermans. Walk-on Chuck Thomas will also be back.

New to the Irish lineup will be Chris Markwood, a freshman who redshirted after having knee

surgery, and recruits Chris Thomas and Jordan Cornette.

Thomas, a McDonald's All-American who led Indianapolis Pike High School to the state championship, is slated to take over the point guard duties, while Cornette will see time at the forward position.

The departed members of the Irish await their fates. Murphy will learn where his new home when the draft is held June 27. Inglesby hopes to either continue his playing career or move to the sidelines as a coach at the college level, and Rasmussen would like to stay on the court.

The Notre Dame Chapter
of
Phi Beta Kappa

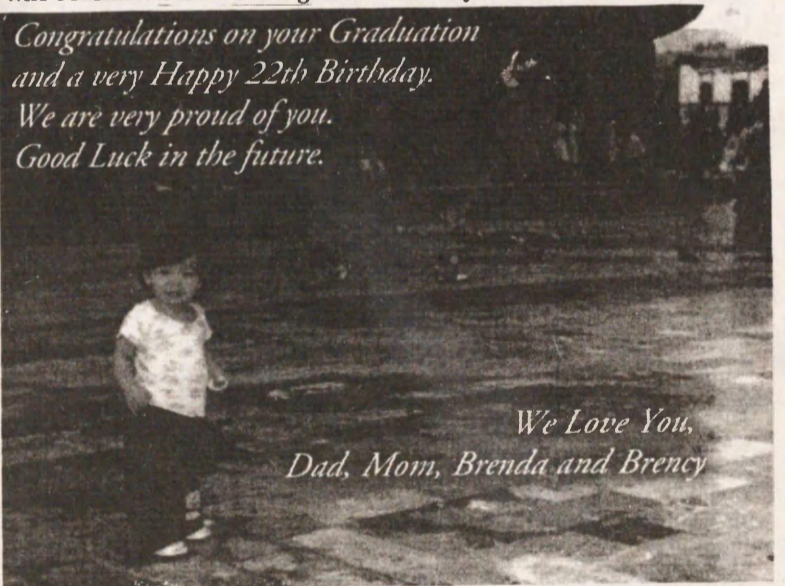
Congratulates And Welcomes Its
New Members From The Class Of 2001

Ingrid Anderson
Charles Ashbrook
Sami Assaf
Mathew Baggetta
Anna Benjamin
Michael Blaha
Timothy Bodony
Zachary Bray
Liam Brennan
Rachel Bundick
Collin Burkart
Matthew Caccamo
Karen Callan
Robert Cellini
James Chisholm
Jessica Cichalski
Joseph Clamon
Priscilla Clements
Patrick Cloud
Meghan Cokeley
Shannon Couture
Erin Cowell
Christina Denman
Christopher Dillon
Paul Dougherty
Joseph Doyle
Michael Enyeart
Scott Ford
Andrea Formolo
Susan Gloss
Shannon Goodwin

Sarah Haight
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Jakub Langer
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Megan Rector
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and a very Happy 22th Birthday.
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Good Luck in the future.*



*We Love You,
Dad, Mom, Brenda and Brency*

Congratulations, Kevin Green!

Finally, Something you CAN smile about as you complete "our" Notre Dame family.

Love,
Dad (B.S. '65, M.S. '67), Mom (M.A. '67),
Erin (B.B.A. '97), Brian (B.B.A. '99)



FALL SPORTS

Teams face highs and lows in fall season

Observer Staff Report

Notre Dame Men's Soccer

It was a season of recovery and regret for the Irish men's soccer team this fall.

At first glance, fans may simply see a team with a 7-8-2 record that failed to qualify for the Big East Tournament. Upon closer investigation, however, one finds out how much this team had to overcome just to take the field.

One morning last January, Irish head coach Mike Berticelli suddenly suffered a fatal heart attack at age 48. Thirty-year old assistant coach Chris Apple took over soon after on an interim basis.

From the start of the season, the Irish exhibited a strong defense, but an inability to close the game on offense.

The Irish opened with a win against New Mexico and a scoreless tie against host UNLV at the UNLV FILA/Snickers Rebel Classic. In their first home game, the Irish fell 3-1 to then No. 26 Bradley despite outshooting the Braves 26-7.

That trend continued through the season, culminating in highs such as a victory against a ranked St. John's squad and a close 1-0 loss to Connecticut.

"I think the fact that we competed so well against top teams shows a lot about our team," said senior forward Reggie McKnight. "I think our team displayed a lot of character at times."

At the same time, McKnight thinks that his team's experience will benefit each athlete.

"I think a good mark of a team and individual people is how they deal with adversity," McKnight said. "We had to deal with a lot of adversity and a lot of things maybe a lot of people outside the team don't even know about."

Former Stanford head coach Bobby Clark was hired to replace Apple in early February.

- Noah Amstadter

Saint Mary's Soccer

It was a season filled with injury for the Saint Mary's soccer team as the Belles landed in seventh place in the MIAA with a record of 3-13.

The loss of leading scorer Heather Muth to a season ending head injury wrapped up an unhealthy season for second-year head coach Jason Milligan. The loss added another hole to an already weak team due the loss of sweepers Jessica Klink and Alissa Brasseur and freshman Emily Erchick early in the season.

An opening season win against Alma seemed to be a good omen for the young team, but it proved to be one of only three wins and one tie. The Belles squashed the Bulldogs of Adrian twice, allowing them to avoid a last place finish.

Despite a final loss, Saint Mary's ended its season on a positive note. The Belles reached overtime play with the Flying Dutch of Hope who finished fifth in the MIAA. Despite losing the game, the Belles saw the win as a step in the right direction for next season.

"We're basically going to have the same team next year," freshman Wendy Irvin said. "If we pick up where we left off after [our last game] we'll have an

awesome season next year."

Bobby Johnston will replace Milligan who resigned at the end of the season. Johnston, who hails from Washington D.C., will be coming to Saint Mary's after coaching high school soccer at Potomac High School.

- Katie McVoy

Notre Dame Cross Country

Not even a season off by top runner and All-American Ryan Shay could keep the Irish men's cross country team out of the nation's elite, as Notre Dame placed ninth in the NCAA Championships.

Shay sat out the season after a summer of heavy training for the U.S. Olympic Trials. His teammates picked up the slack.

Not only did head coach Joe Piane's squad snag its sixth top-10 finish at nationals in nine years, the Irish placed fourth in the Big East Championships and captured several meet titles.

"I thought we could [qualify for nationals]," Piane said, "but it doesn't matter what I think. It's what the kids think."

"The kids" had their minds set on success. Junior Luke Watson finished in the top 10 in every meet of the season, including a seventh-place All-American finish at nationals. Two other juniors, Pat Conway and Marc Striowski, were the second and third runners for Notre Dame.

With only Sean Zanderson slated to graduate and Shay returning to the lineup, the Irish are poised for a run at the title in 2001.

On the women's side, a young team missed a return trip to nationals, placing eighth at the Great Lakes Regional meet.

"It's always hard not to get your goal," said senior Chrissy Kuenster.

Kuenster was the only senior on the Irish varsity squad, which graduated two All-Americans the year before. Sophomore Jen Handley led the Irish most of the year, followed by Kuenster.

A slate of young runners rounded out the Irish varsity team. Junior Hilary Burn, sophomores Kari Eaton and Muffy Schmidt, and freshmen Rachel Endress, Megan Johnson and Jen Fibuch all took turns on Notre Dame's varsity.

- Kathleen O'Brien

Saint Mary's Cross Country

The Saint Mary's cross country team didn't go the distance quite fast enough this season to improve on its performance last season, remaining in seventh place in the MIAA for the second year in a row.

Under the direction of returning head coach Dave Barstis, the Belles goals did not include a high finish in the MIAA. They were looking only to run their best races.

"My expectations are to have everyone run their best time," Barstis said. "All I ask is that they cross the finish line and be able to tell me they ran the best they could."

The best they could run put Saint Mary's leading runners —

senior Genny Yavello and sophomore Megan Tenney — in 75th and 72nd place respectively in the MIAA final race.

Despite a weak running finish, Saint Mary's did make news in the MIAA cross country world. The college hosted the annual MIAA Jamboree for the first time in its history in late September, bringing all eight MIAA teams to campus.

- Katie McVoy

Notre Dame Volleyball

The Irish volleyball team continued its Big East conference dominance in 2000, posting a 26-7 record and winning its fifth Big East regular season and Big East championship titles.

It was the first time since 1997 the squad won both in the same year. The Irish swept through the Big East tournament with 3-0 victories against Connecticut and Rutgers. Denise Boylan earned Big East player of the year honors as well as most outstanding player of the tournament.

Notre Dame continued the hot streak with a three-game win against Cincinnati in the first round of the NCAA tournament, before falling in the second round to Ohio State. In that contest, the Irish dropped a five-game heartbreaker losing the final game by only two points, 13-15.

"Winning the Big East was huge," said senior first team All Big East outside hitter Christi Gorton. "It was a goal of ours this year to dominate the Big East again, since it was the first time since my freshman year we won both the regular season and tournament in the same year."

"The NAAs was disappointing because we were so close, and we had a goal to reach the Sweet 16."

- Brian Burke

Saint Mary's Volleyball

Returning no starters from the 1999 season and facing the challenge of bonding with a new coaching staff, the Saint Mary's volleyball team tempered its seventh place conference standing and 7-22 record with individual and team improvements as the 2000 season progressed.

"It didn't look like we did much as far as wins and losses go but we had to make the transition to a whole new team," lone senior Victoria Butcko. "It was a building year for the team. I think we did outstanding considering we were so young."

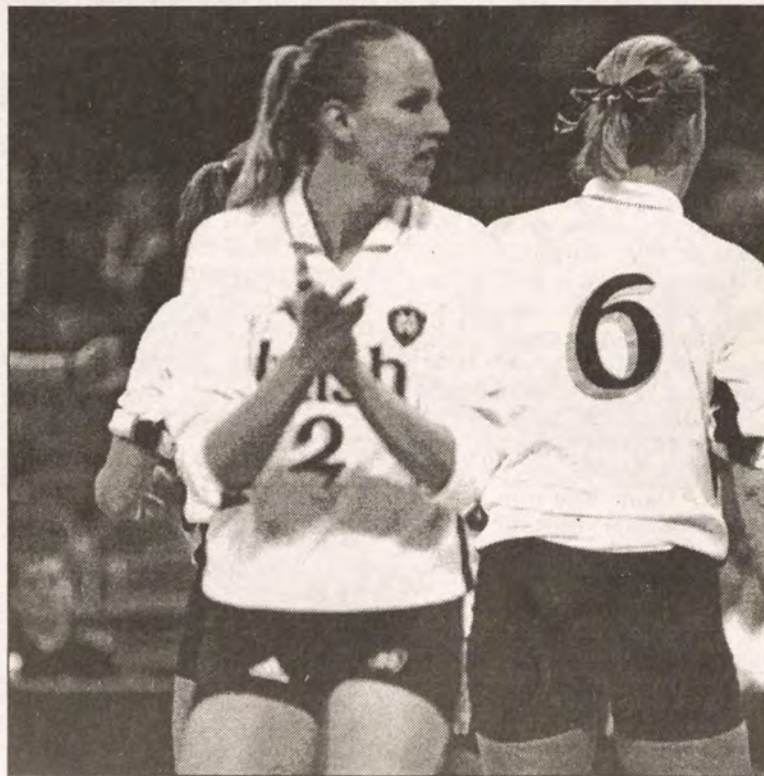
Inexperience took its toll early as first-year head coach Julie Schroder-Biek struggled to find the right mixture of players and positions.

"We had a lot of losses but we tried to stay positive," Butcko said. "We did a lot of things on and off the court to stick together."

Despite a slew tough opponents and hard losses, the team did enjoy some highs along the bumpy road of a tough season.

One of the highs came midseason with a five-match win over Manchester Sept. 21. Suffering with a discouraging 1-9 record, the win gave the team a much needed boost.

"We took it to five games and



ERNESTO LACAYO/The Observer

Denise Boylan encourages a teammate. The Notre Dame volleyball team finished in first place in the Big East.

we were ecstatic," Butcko said. "We had to fight hard and it gave us a lot of that energy. It was one of the high points. The team really pulled together."

Another high came late in the season when the Belles pulled out a big victory at the Albion Triangular with wins against Albion and Kenyon Colleges to round out the regular season.

The Belles didn't fare so well in the MIAA tournament, however. The squad suffered a tough loss to a 27-8 Calvin squad (3-15, 5-15, 4-15).

- Kerry Smith

years with the program," head coach Ross Smith said. "To win three tournaments was great. Shane Smith has been a three year starter and our No. 1 player for two years."

"She had a very good career and will continue with golf playing futures next year. Danielle Villarosa's performance in that last tournament was great. I hate to say one performance won it with five golfers playing on a team, but her play put us over the edge to win the last one at Illinois."

- Brian Burke

Notre Dame Men's Golf

The men's golf team finished fifth at the Big East Championships while junior Steve Ratay finished in a three-way tie for first place with a 54 hole total of 215. Sophomore Kyle Monfort tied for the best final round with a one-under-par 69, while senior Alex Kent finished in a tie for 17th overall with a score of 28.

"Steve Ratay did a fantastic job," said head coach George Thomas. "We got off to a mediocre start this year, and that set the tone, where I did not think we performed as well as I had hoped. I was pleased with our third place finish at Kent State. I'm very optimistic for next year. I expect the freshmen and sophomore's to take over with Ratay who has been the nucleus of this team."

- Brian Burke

Notre Dame Women's Golf

The Notre Dame women's golf team made huge strides this season, winning three tournaments, a single season school record. The first win came at the Notre Dame Invitational in October, followed by the William and Mary Invitational and Illinois Invitational in the spring.

In the last win, senior Shane Smith finished in a tie for third with freshman teammate Shannon Byrne with 36 hole scores of 153. Senior Danielle Villarosa had the best finish of her career shooting 156, which was good for seventh place.

"This is the best year the women have had in my seven

Saint Mary's Golf

A stormy start to the MIAA season ended sunny as the Saint Mary's golf team wrapped up its season with a strong finish in the conference tournament.

Senior Kyle Veltri led the Belles to second place finish in the tournament with a third place individual finish.

The 2000 season kicked off on a day when the weather had other things in mind. The tournament the Belles hosted at Brookwood Golf Course fell prey to thunderstorms that ended the tournament prematurely and left the scores unrecorded.

The Belles spent the entire season battling with the Flying Dutch of Hope College. After it became clear that Albion would take home a first place finish in almost every meet, the Belles and the Flying Dutch teed off for second place. Five out of the seven times the two teams faced off, Saint Mary's came out victorious. But it was an overall low team score that left the Flying Dutch with the second place finish by little more than two strokes — a team average of 360.3 compared to Saint Mary's 362.1.

Veltri ended her senior season with a personal victory. She placed individually in the MIAA top 15 and earned a spot on the All-MIAA second team along with freshman Jennifer DeWitt.

"It was a lot of work leading up to the season, a lot of preparation," Veltri said. "So I was delighted to see it turn out the way it did."

- Katie McVoy

WINTER SPORTS

Winter snows wins, losses on Irish, Belles



ERNESTO LACAYO/The Observer

Irish senior captain Ryan Dolder skates during a fast break in a Feb. 9 game against Bowling Green. Freshman center Aaron Gill looks on. The Irish missed the CCHA playoffs.

Notre Dame Hockey

After making its first trip to the CCHA quarterfinals at Joe Lewis Arena in Detroit after the 1999-2000 season, this year's Notre Dame hockey team looked to build on that momentum and get their first ever bid to the NCAA tournament.

But after stumbling to last place in the CCHA in the first few months of the season, not even a late season surge was enough for the Irish to claim a spot in the CCHA playoffs.

The low point for the team came on the first weekend of February when Notre Dame traveled to Ohio State and were swept by the young Buckeyes. By this point, the Irish were at the bottom of the CCHA standings with little hope of making the CCHA playoffs.

Notre Dame needed to sweep the next two series against Bowling Green and Alaska-Fairbanks to have enough points to make the playoffs.

First, the Irish swept Bowling Green. Then came an improbable tie at Michigan. It was Notre Dame's first non-loss at Michigan since 1982. Then, the Irish traveled to Alaska, where they took a tie and a win against the Nanooks.

With tiebreakers against the two teams ahead of them in the CCHA, Notre Dame looked to be in the playoffs. All they needed was a win and a Bowling Green loss in the final two games of the regular season to be assured a spot in the playoffs. The Irish got their win on Friday against Western Michigan, but so did Bowling Green.

But it wasn't meant to be. While the Irish lost their last home game to Western Michigan 7-2, Bowling Green won in overtime to take over the last playoff spot, keeping the Irish out of the CCHA playoffs.

- Matt Orenchuk

Notre Dame Fencing

A strong showing by the men and a breakthrough performance by sophomore epeeist Meagan Call were not enough for the Irish in 2001 as Notre Dame finished third at the NCAA Fencing Championships.

Sophomore Jan Viviani repeated as a first team All-American

with his second straight second place finish in epee. Viviani was the only first team All-American for the Irish but all five men earned All-American honors while Anna Carnick and Call were named All-Americans on the women's side.

Brian Casas and Forrest Walton both used strong second-day performances to move up the rankings into All-American status. Walton finished ninth and made second team All-American while Casas rallied to finish seventh and earn second team All-American honors for the second team. Casas finished eighth as a freshman in 1999.

Andrzej Bednarski and Andre Crompton each finished with All-American honors in sabre.

Sophomore second team All-American Ozren Debic just barely missed out on his second straight first team All-American award with a fifth place finish in foil.

With the exception of Carnick and Call in epee, the women struggled at the championships. Liza Boutsikaris and Maggie Jordan finished 16th and 17th respectively in foil. Cari McCullough and Destanie Milo took home 15th and 17th place finishes.

Viviani still has some competition ahead of him, as he will be heading to two Senior World Cup events and the U.S. National Championships.

- Mike Connolly

Notre Dame Men's Swimming

Call it a season of fours.

All season long, the men's swimming and diving team was led by four swimmers. Their greatest strength was their diving — Notre Dame had four of them. And at the Big East championships, the men finished — surprise — fourth.

"We did what we were capable of doing," Irish head coach Tim Welsh said. "Do we wish we were capable of more? Sure we do."

On a thin squad that finished 7-2, the focus was more on individual performances rather than what the team could do.

Among the bright points for the Irish was their diving tandem of senior Herb Huesman and sophomore Andy Maggio.

"I've been here for 16 years

and there's probably one other diver who would compete with Herbie and Andy," Walsh said.

Maggio holds the school record — set earlier this season against Cleveland State. Huesman is in second. At the Big East Championships, Maggio took second on both the three-meter springboard and the one-meter springboard. Meanwhile, Huesman finished fourth on the one-meter springboard and fifth on the three-meter springboard.

While Huesman and Maggio were dominating the diving events, senior Jonathan Pierce staked his claim as one of the best male Irish swimmers ever. Although Pierce failed to defend his 1,650 freestyle title at Big East, he still turned in a solid all-around performance.

Pierce started the Big East weekend by finishing third in the 500 freestyle. He ended it by taking third in the 1,650 freestyle. In between, he became the second Notre Dame swimmer to break the four-minute barrier in the 400 individual medley.

Meanwhile, senior Ryan Verlin showed why he was Notre Dame's top butterflyer when he took sixth in the 200 butterfly at the Big East Championships.

A pair of rising stars for the Irish was sophomore Jason Fitzpatrick and freshman Matt Obringer.

Fitzpatrick took sixth in the 100 breaststroke and third in the 200 breaststroke, while Obringer was solid in the 200 and 500 freestyle all year long.

When the season ended, the Irish failed to qualify anyone for nationals. Their best chance was in diving, but Maggio finished tenth at the Zone Diving meet and Huesman was 13th.

- Andrew Soukup

Notre Dame Women's Swimming

Make it five in a row.

In what might be considered one of their best seasons ever, the women's swimming and div-

ing team won their fifth consecutive Big East Championship. In the process, they swam their way to a 10-1 record and a No. 15 ranking, the highest in the program's history.

"Where do you begin?" asked Irish head coach Bailey Weathers said after the Irish secured their title. "It's a new generation of kids. To be able to win again is really important, and to make that transition is pretty incredible for us."

But it didn't appear as if the Irish would be so successful early on. Senior Carrie Nixon hurt her shoulder and Notre Dame's top sprinter ended up not competing for most of the season. It took a talented group of freshman to make up for Nixon's absence.

Within a month after she began competing, Labosky had won three individual events — the 200 individual medley, the 400 individual medley, and the 1,650 freestyle — three meets in a row.

Her season culminated with a victory in the Big East finals in the 200 individual medley and second-place finishes in the 400 individual medley and in the 1,650 freestyle. She qualified for the NCAA Championships in all three events, and earned honorable mention All-American honors in the 200 individual medley.

"Whatever you tell her to swim, she says, 'OK, I'll do it,' and does it really well," said senior co-captain Kristen Van Saun.

While Labosky was dominating the distance events, Danielle Hulick and Lisa Garcia were filling in for Nixon in the sprint events. Meanwhile, Lisa D'Olier finished with a surge by winning the 100 and 200 yard butterfly races at the Big East

Championships.

Hecking shattered every backstroke record. She played an integral role in Notre Dame's victories over Northwestern and Michigan — two ranked opponents that the Irish faced, and beat, in consecutive nights. And she was just beginning to shine.

At the Big East championships, she swam a 54.98 in the 100 backstroke, becoming the first Irish backstroke to break the 55-second barrier. And just 10 minutes later, she finished ninth in the 100 freestyle.

By the time her season was over, she earned honorable mention All-American honors in the 200 backstroke — joining Labosky and junior diver Heather Mattingly.

It's hard to imagine how good the Irish would be when Nixon went down. But they didn't miss a beat and did what they do best — win.

- Andrew Soukup

Saint Mary's Swimming

A freshman-dominated squad shot to a sixth-place finish at the MIAA Swimming and Diving Championships in February propelled by a host of record-breaking swims by freshman standout Megan Ramsey.

Just narrowly missing NCAA Division III provisional qualifying times in two events, Ramsey decorated the record board with lower marks in the 100- and 200-yard butterfly and 200-yard freestyle at the championships.

She also added her name to three record-breaking relays during the weekend, clocking new records in the 200, 400 and 800-yard freestyle relays.

Senior Colleen Sullivan rounded out her collegiate swimming career with in record-breaking style, resetting the 100-yard freestyle mark twice at the MIAA Championships. While the team was disappointed not to finish higher in the MIAA ranks, the personal bests and records made this squad arguably one of the best in Saint Mary's history.

"In the beginning our main focus was Alma and Albion, but as the meet went on and the records started falling and people were swimming personal bests we forgot about the other teams and focused on us," said Sullivan.

The finish was the second-highest finish for the Belles after finishing fifth in 2000. Graduating only three seniors from this year's squad, the Belles will return a solid core of underclassmen for the 2001-2002 season. Head coach Gretchen Hildebrandt will turn over the helm of the team to a new head coach.

- Noreen Gillespie

Saint Mary's Basketball

It was a season of firsts and lasts for the Saint Mary's basketball team this year.

A first for new head coach Suzanne Smith and assistant coach Sherry Donnelly and a last place conference finish for the team.

A first for starting freshmen players Katie Miller and Leigh Ann Matesich and a last for graduating senior Julie Norman.

Despite a 14-19 record, Smith believed her team took a much-needed stride in the right direction.

"I think if you really look at where we came from, although our wins came early, we improved immensely," Smith said. "We really took some steps forward."

After a disappointing 4-22 1999-2000 season, head coach Dave Roeder resigned and was replaced by new sports information director Suzanne Smith. With Smith's help, the Belles started off the season on the right foot.

The Belles boasted a 6-3 non-conference record including a championship at the Marietta Turkey Shootout as they headed into league play in early January. A strong 61-52 win against Albion started off Saint Mary's MIAA play.

However, an injury that benched leading scorer Kristen Matha put a damper on the team's strong start. Until her injury, Matha had been named MIAA player of the week and claimed the most rebounds in an MIAA game.

Without the help of their leading post player, the Belles struggled to claim victory. They went on a 10-game losing skid before eventually recovering to defeat the Comets of Olivet in their last victory of the season.

Three disappointing losses ended the season and guaranteed that Saint Mary's would have to face off against league leader Hope in round 1 of MIAA tournament play.

The Flying Dutch, who came in undefeated, made short work of the Belles, wrapping up Saint Mary's with a 95-48 victory.

- Katie McVoy

FOUR YEARS IN REVIEW

1



Women win national championship

April 2, 2001

With 5.8 seconds remaining and the NCAA Championship game tied at 66, Kelley Siemon found Ruth Riley open under the basket. Riley missed the shot, but collected the foul. The 2000-01 Naismith Player of the Year sank both free throws, putting the Irish up 68-66.

Purdue inbounded the ball. All-American Katie Douglas missed a prayer shot from just inside the key. Notre Dame's Alicia Ratay grabbed the rebound and the Irish were champions. Monk Malloy embraced Irish coach Muffet McGraw, 1,500 fans showed up to welcome the Irish back to campus and, two

weeks later, the Irish were on the North Lawn of the White House receiving honors from President Bush.

But the Irish could not have achieved what they did without their three senior starters — Riley, Siemon and point guard Niele Ivey. The championship was especially sweet for Ivey, playing in front of her hometown fans in St. Louis. The 5-7 point guard overcame two torn knee ligaments in her career to emerge as a third-team All-American.

Riley — a three-time Big East Defensive Player of the Year — improved her game as a senior, limiting her fouls and increas-

ing her assists. She was a unanimous first-team All-American, Verizon's Women's Academic All-American Athlete of the Year and Notre Dame's leading scorer.

Siemon, the Big East's Most Improved Player, played half of her season with her left hand in a brace after breaking bones in the hand Jan. 13. Siemon led the Irish in scoring their final regular season game at Pittsburgh only 24 hours after a stay in the infirmary with a stomach virus.

Riley now plays in the WNBA with the Miami Sol, while Ivey is a member of the Indiana Fever.

2

Football earns Fiesta Bowl bid



After a horrendous 5-7 season, most predicted Irish head coach Bob Davie would be out of a job.

But behind freshman quarterback Matt LoVecchio, the Irish earned their first-ever BCS bid. However, against Oregon State in the Fiesta Bowl, the Irish were humiliated 41-9 and finished the season 9-3.

Dec. 12, 2000

3

Irish teams earn No. 1 rankings



When the Irish baseball squad ascended to the top of the College Baseball poll, it became the fourth team to reach the No. 1 ranking in the 2000-01 academic year.

In mid-October, women's soccer was the first team. During the winter they were joined by women's basketball and men's fencing.

April 24, 2001

4

Saint Mary's cuts track program



Under the recommendation of second year athletic director Lynn Kachmarik, Saint Mary's President Marilou Eldred made the decision to discontinue the track and field team following the 2001 season.

Kachmarik, who was hired in 1999, made the decision in the hopes of rebuilding a struggling athletic program.

Feb. 1, 2001

5

Murphy leaves early for pros



After spending three years at Notre Dame and leading the Irish to the NCAA tournament, junior Troy Murphy announced his decision to leave Notre Dame early for the NBA draft.

The two time All-American led the Irish in scoring and was named the Big East player of the year in 2000 and 2001.

April 23, 2001

6

Brey's squad makes NCAA tourney



Under the direction of first-year head coach Mike Brey, the men's basketball team made the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1990.

After earning a share of the Big East regular season title, the Irish lost to Pitt in the first round of the Big East Tournament. In the NCAA Tourney, the Irish beat Xavier before falling to Ole Miss.

March 4, 2001

7

Berticelli dies of heart attack



Irish men's soccer head coach Mike Berticelli died suddenly of a heart attack.

Berticelli, 48, coached the Irish for 10 of his 23 years as head coach and compiled a 104-80-19 overall record. Berticelli led his team to the 1996 Big East Championship title and three NCAA tournament appearances.

Jan. 26, 2000

8

Tennis wins first MIAA crown



Only two years after Saint Mary's joined the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association, the Belles tennis team brought home an MIAA title.

Led by Natalie Cook and Annie Knish, the team claimed four singles championships and two doubles championships on the way to defeating defending champion Hope.

April 20, 2001

9

Brey takes over men's program



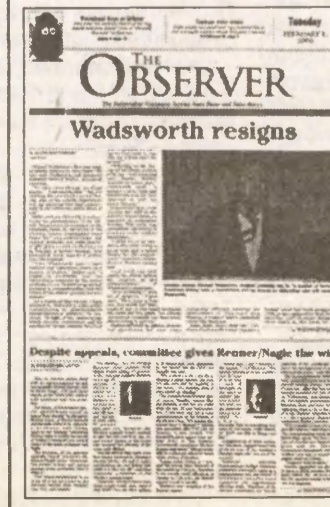
After only one year of coaching, Matt Doherty abandoned Notre Dame to return to his alma mater, North Carolina.

One month later, Notre Dame hired former Duke assistant coach Mike Brey as its 11th head coach. Brey left his head coaching position at Delaware to take the Irish to an NCAA playoff berth.

Aug. 19, 2000

10

Wadsworth resigns as AD



When Michael Wadsworth resigned as athletic director, President Edward Malloy announced a restructuring of the athletic department.

Later that year, Malloy announced that Kevin White would become the new athletic director. White's first major decision was to give football coach Bob Davie a five-year extension.

Feb. 8, 2000

MEN'S TENNIS

Huskies end Irish tournament run

By KATIE HUGHES
Sports Writer

The Irish men's tennis team ended its 2000-01 campaign in the second round of the tournament with a 4-1 loss to Washington, ending a path that soared past expectations.

The Irish defeated No. 47 Harvard decisively 4-0 to advance to the second round in their 11th consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance.

The 19th-ranked doubles team of juniors Javier Taborga and Aaron Talarico defeated Harvard's Barker and Turner 8-1, and Matt Daly and Luis Haddock-Morales defeated Chiou and Snyder at No. 3 doubles 8-5 to take the doubles point. Junior Aaron Talarico won 6-3, 6-3 over Harvard's Anthony Barker at No. 4 singles, sophomore Brian Farrell took No. 5 6-2, defeating Harvard's George Turner, 6-2, and senior Matt Daly won at No. 6 6-2, 6-3 over Mark Riddell to clinch the victory. The last three singles matches were abandoned.

The Irish headed into the second round of NCAAs looking for their first trip to the final 16 since 1994, knowing what the 18th ranked Washington Huskies were capable of doing.

"Washington has had an up and down year, but when they get it together, they're pretty talented. They've only had one loss all year, to No. 1 Georgia," said head coach Bob Bayliss.

Washington took Nos. 1 and 3 doubles, clinching the singles point to make the score 1-0, then Haddock-Morales defeated Jeremy Berman 6-2, 6-3 at No. 3 singles. The Huskies then took Nos. 1, 4 and 5 singles, winning

the match 4-1, and advancing to play second-seeded UCLA.

"The score was a little misleading," said Bayliss. "Matt Daly and Javier Taborga were winning their matches. We missed a lot of very good opportunities, and in that process lost some momentum. That was the beginning of a collapse for us. There were a lot of ifs, but if wishes were horses, then beggars would ride."

Senior Matt Daly was defeating Washington's Dillon Ruby 7-6, 2-1 when the match ended. Daly finishes his last season for the Irish having won eight of nine dual singles matches.

"Matt Daly had as big a turnaround this year as anyone we've had in a while," said Bayliss. "He's been a real beacon and a real example this year. He's very team-oriented."

While the team's tournament run is finished, Taborga and Talarico will continue on to compete in the next round of the doubles tournament on May 23 in Athens, Ga.

"Last year, we were kind of in awe of being at NCAAs," said Talarico. "If we play together and we play as a team, if we're on the same page we can do some great things on the court. I think our games compliment each other. I was really proud of all the guys this year. I wish we could have brought the whole team down to Athens."

The Irish finish the season 17-7, most of their losses, including

heartbreakers to Indiana State, Miami and SMU, could have easily ended in Irish victories.

Entering the 2001 season, Notre Dame lost its best player, senior Ryan Sachire, and were ranked 34th.

The season evolved into a mix of exceeding expectations by winning the Blue Gray Invitational and flirting with an elite top 10 ranking, thanks to the reliable, consistent performances from the bottom of the Irish lineup.

"This year we had a lot of different characteristics from each guy on the team," said Talarico. "A lot of times we just clicked. Coming off of the Blue-Gray, I felt like we could have beat any team, but as the season lagged on, we kind of hit a lower point and didn't perform as well as we should have."

This season, Irish tennis raised the bar by churning out solid match after solid match, and heading into next season, they will lose only one starter, Daly.

"Once you begin to

exceed any expectations you originally had, you like the taste of that," said Bayliss. "Your expectations continue to grow. Mine have, and the team's have as well. What we got this year was the confidence that we can play with the best teams in the country, and with some new freshmen next year, we could be the best we've been in over a decade. Until you win it all, you're never quite satisfied."

"If we play together and play as a team, if we're on the same page we can do some great things."

Javier Taborga
tennis player

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Top-ranked season ends in semifinals

By MIKE CONNOLLY
Sports Writer

For 24 straight games, the Irish women's soccer team never found itself trailing when time ticked off the clock. For 17 straight games they held on to the No. 1 ranking in the country. For 45 minutes, they dominated defending champion North Carolina in the semifinals of the Women's College Cup.

But then 24 games of injury, 24 games of fatigue and North Carolina's quick strike offense caught up with the Irish.

"I was really proud of the effort, due to a lot of things we fought through all season due to injury," head coach Randy Waldrum said after the Tar Heels scored two second half goals to end Notre Dame's perfect season.

The Irish battled to a 23-0-1 record in Waldrum's second year leading the Irish but knee injuries to key players like Ashley Dryer, Kelly Lindsey and Amy Warner finally ended their run to a title.

But what a run it was.

Notre Dame opened the season with dominating wins against Detroit (6-0), Tulsa (2-0) and Providence (5-1) before facing its first real challenge of the season — the Santa Clara Broncos.

The Irish knocked the previously undefeated Broncos out of the 1999 NCAA tournament. The Broncos entered Alumni Field with revenge on their minds but Anne Mäkinen sent them home with a 6-1 blowout loss. The senior from Finland, who was later named the Hermann Trophy winner as the top women's college soccer player, assisted on two goals and converted a penalty

kick for another goal as the Irish completed dominated the Broncos.

"Our team is just not ready for this type of competition," Santa Clara head coach Jerry Smith said after the game.

Three wins against west coast soccer powers Stanford, Washington and Portland propelled Notre Dame to its first No. 1 ranking in women's soccer since 1996.

"It's certainly a special moment but we hope there are many more to come for us," Waldrum said in a prepared statement.

There were nine more special moments for Notre Dame before it hit the only blemish on its regular season record. After winning 16 games in a row, the Irish had their first set back against the Connecticut Huskies. Connecticut played strong defense against the Irish and settled for a 0-0 tie.

Four games later, however, Notre Dame would have its revenge with a 1-0 win against the Huskies in the finals of the Big East Championships at Alumni Field.

The win gave the Irish their sixth straight Big East women's soccer championship. The Irish have won the title every year they have been in the league.

The Irish entered NCAA play undefeated for just the second time in the history of the program. The Irish entered the 1997 tournament undefeated as well.

The Irish easily advanced to the semifinals of the Women's College Cup for the second straight year. They outscored their opponents 7-1 including a 2-1 win against Santa Clara in the quarterfinals.



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Meghan!!!

YO, Kevin!

Love
M, D, K, C,
D, & K



WOMEN'S TENNIS

Irish make second consecutive trip to NCAA tournament

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Associate Sports Editor

Sixteen teams arrived in Georgia. Only one will leave with a championship.

For Notre Dame's women's tennis team, this is the last stop.

The Irish landed in Georgia late Monday night to begin preparations for the NCAA Championships, and Irish head coach Jay Louderback feels the Irish are poised to make a strong run through the tournament.

"I think we're playing the best we can right now," he said. "We're easily playing our best tennis of the year."

This is the second consecutive year that Notre Dame has advanced to the Sweet 16. But of the five times Notre Dame has qualified for the national finals, they've lost in the quarterfinals each time.

This time around, No. 13 seeded Notre Dame faces a familiar foe in No. 4 seeded Florida. Last year, the Gators knocked the Irish out of the championships, but Louderback expects a different ending this time around.

"Playing Florida last year helped us a lot," he said. "They lost quite a few people, and so they're not as good. By the same token, we're a lot better."

"It's gonna be a good match."

As she has all season, Michelle Dasso will lead the Irish at No. 1 singles. Dasso, the winningest

singles player in Notre Dame history, has also qualified for the NCAA singles competition and teamed up with Becky Varnum in for the doubles championship.

The Irish lineup will not change — Varnum will still compete at No. 2 singles and Nina Vaughan will play No. 3. Caylan Leslie, Lindsey Green, and Kimberly Guy will round out the singles lineup.

The forecast calls for 80-degree weather with high humidity levels. Louderback doesn't expect the weather to affect the Irish.

The Irish, who practiced for two hours Tuesday and Wednesday, faced Florida Thursday afternoon. Results were not available by press time.

In order to get to the finals, the Irish beat Eastern Michigan and Tulane last weekend on Notre Dame's campus.

The Irish began their tournament run with a 4-0 victory over Eastern Michigan. They handily won the doubles point as Dasso and Varnum won 8-1 and Green and Vaughan captured their match 8-2. When their match was abandoned, Katie Cunha and Guy were winning 6-2.

In the singles match, the No. 8 Irish quickly picked up the other three points. Guy was the first to win, as she won her No. 6 match 6-1, 6-0. Green gave the Irish a 3-0 lead with her 6-1, 6-1 victory at No. 5 singles, and Caylan Leslie clinched the victory for

Notre Dame with a 6-4, 6-1 win.

While Notre Dame was dismantling Eastern Michigan, No. 16 Texas A&M was upset 4-2 by Tulane. The cold and windy conditions contributed to Texas A&M's early exit.

"I was very surprised," Louderback said. "A&M is a really good team, and I thought they would give us some trouble."

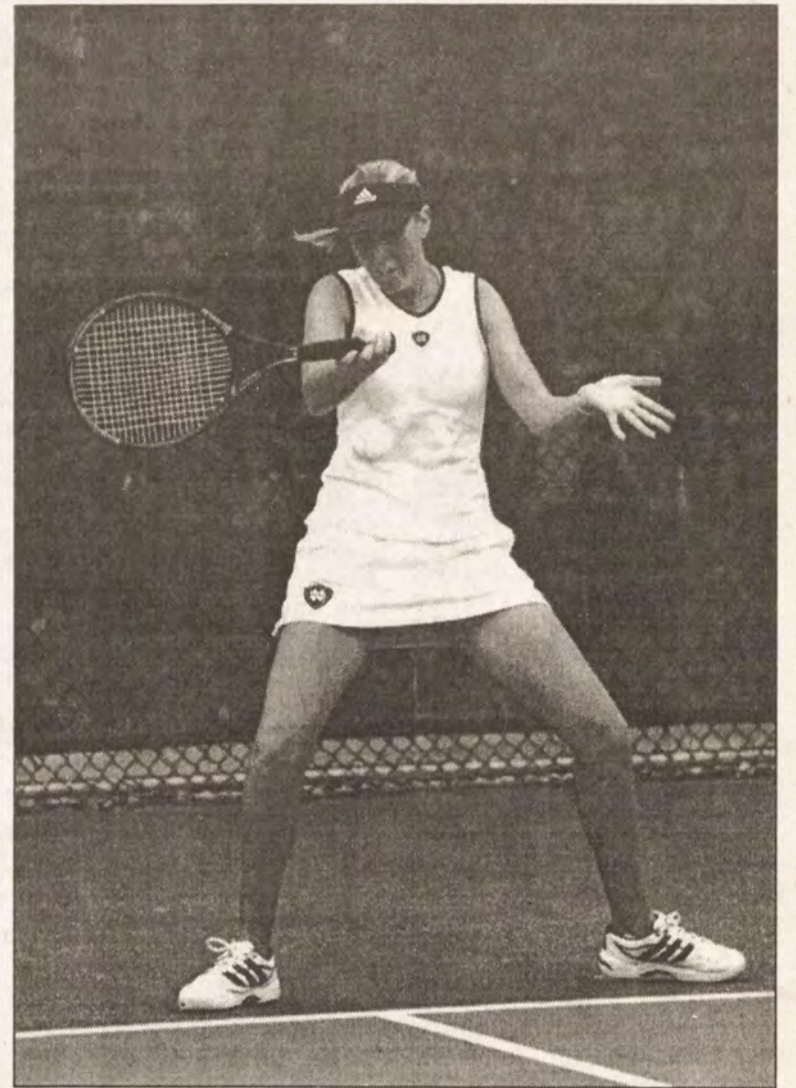
In the second round, Notre Dame didn't have any trouble blowing by Tulane as they won 4-0 to advance to the Sweet 16.

Dasso and Varnum started the Irish off with an 8-1 win at No. 1 doubles. But the Irish fell behind 6-4 in the other two matches before Green and Vaughan rallied to win 9-7 at No. 3 doubles, clinching the doubles point for the Irish.

In singles, Guy crushed Anneli Axsater 6-0, 6-1, while Vaughan won 6-0, 6-3 at No. 3 singles and Green won her match 6-1, 6-2 to move the Irish into the Sweet 16.

Louderback believed the two wins gave the Irish a strong advantage heading into the NCAA finals. The Irish hadn't played a match since they won the Big East Championship three weeks ago.

"We're used to playing two matches during the season, have three or four days off, and then go at it again," he said. "We definitely have some momentum heading into the NCAA Tournament."



TIM KACMAR/The Observer

Junior Nina Vaughan returns a serve. The Irish tennis team will be travelling to Iowa to compete in the NCAA tournament.

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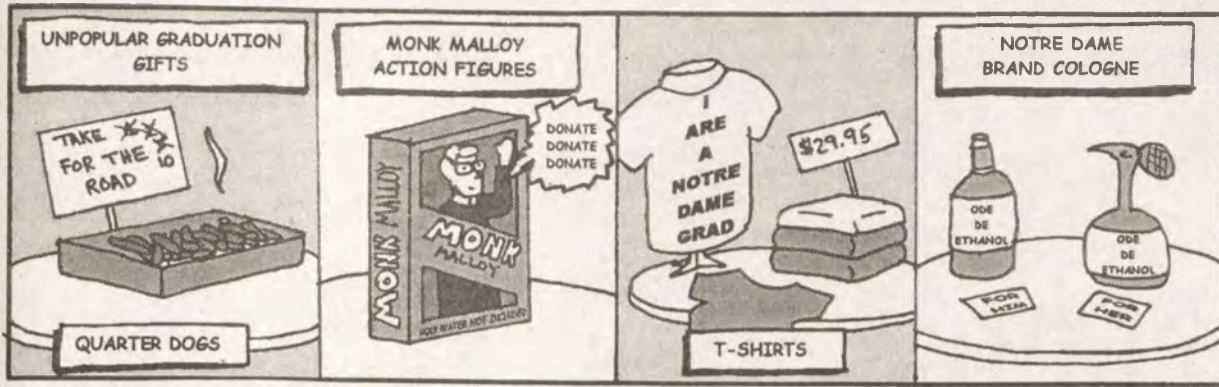
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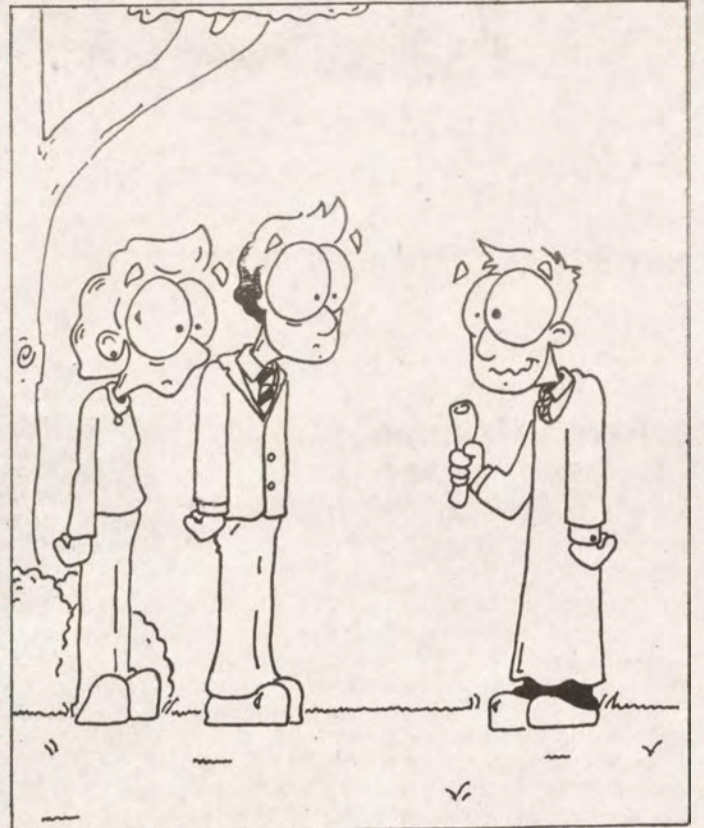
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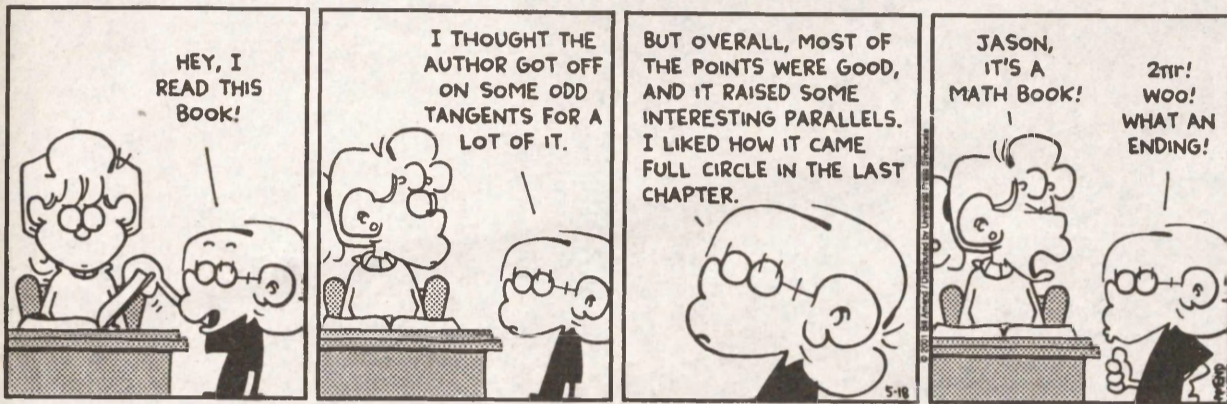
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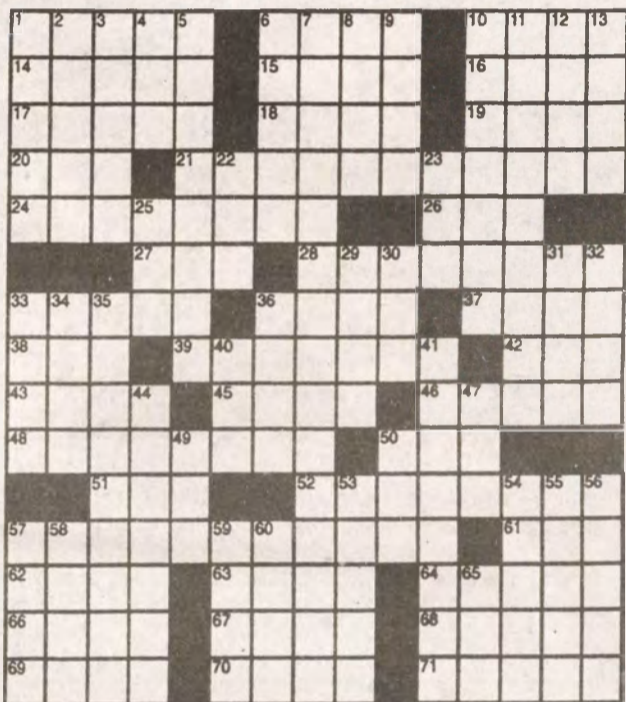


CROSSWORD

HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

- ACROSS**
- 1 Beasts of burden
 - 6 Tennis great Arthur
 - 10 Kills, in mob slang
 - 14 Kind of acid
 - 15 Simba, for one
 - 16 Jockey's whip
 - 17 One who prays to Vishnu
 - 18 Dog food brand
 - 19 When said three times, a 1970 war film
 - 20 Greek vowel
 - 21 Manager's catchphrase
 - 24 Spy novelist Len
 - 26 Likely
 - 27 Increases
 - 28 They're integrated into microchips
 - 33 Fettuccine, e.g.
 - 36 Sandwich seller
 - 37 It has a ball at the circus
 - 38 Ottawa's prov.
 - 39 "Alas!"
 - 42 TV manufacturer
 - 43 Soft ball material
 - 45 ___ Major
 - 46 Like some colognes
 - 48 Towering over
 - 50 "Antiques Roadshow" shower
 - 51 "Charlotte's ___"
 - 52 Potato chip accompanier
 - 57 Saying about romance
- DOWN**
- 1 Oohed and ___
 - 2 Strike down
 - 3 Egyptian peninsula
 - 4 Terminus
 - 5 Lefty
 - 6 Memorable mission
 - 7 Librarian's motto, perhaps
 - 8 Arizona Indian
 - 9 "The Dukes of Hazzard" spinoff
 - 10 One that's armed and dangerous?
 - 11 Limits of achievement
 - 12 Duffer's cry
 - 13 Fix, in a way
 - 22 For what ___ worth
 - 23 PC alternative
 - 25 Disembowel
 - 29 Rick's love, in "Casablanca"
 - 30 Backboard attachment
 - 61 Before, in poetry
 - 62 Declare openly
 - 63 Yield
 - 64 Ancient Peruvians
 - 66 Introduction to physics?
 - 67 Oscar winner Guinness
 - 68 Muse of lyric poetry
 - 69 Hunted animals
 - 70 Neck hair
 - 71 Yeggs' targets



Puzzle by Peter Gordon

- 31 Zigzag movement
 - 32 Delight, slangily
 - 33 Duck's home
 - 34 Freshly
 - 35 Poll that's just for fun
 - 36 Actress Laura
 - 40 Opposite of non
 - 41 Personifies
 - 44 Many an interstate
 - 47 Admiral's org.
 - 49 G-man's org.
 - 50 Wrestling win
 - 53 Family girl
 - 54 Coffee before bedtime
 - 55 Angry
 - 56 Mexican moolah
 - 57 Light source
 - 58 Walkie-talkie word
 - 59 Swindle
 - 60 Composer Bartok
 - 65 Pres. Charton Heston's group
- Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Tim Reid, Cicely Tyson, Robert Urich, Janie Fricke, David Susskind, Kristy Swanson
Happy Birthday: Don't look back. It will take everything you've got to keep up with the fast-paced year ahead of you. The opportunities will be plentiful, but you will have to assess and act fast to take advantage of them. Romance is likely to take a passionate turn. Rekindle the relationship you are in or start something new. Your numbers: 3, 16, 28, 31, 36, 42

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Your temper will flare if you don't get your way. Curb your tantrums if you want to save the relationship. You may want to join self-awareness groups. Soul-searching will be a must. ☹☹☹

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): A secret love affair will be not only unhealthy, but also short-lived and emotionally destructive. Think twice before you jump; chances are you're only looking for some excitement. ☹☹☹

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't overspend on unnecessary luxury times. Although you will meet exciting new friends, don't offer to pay their way. You will have opportunities to do things with children. ☹☹☹

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You mustn't make hasty decisions. You will upset your home environment if you have taken a risk that involves property. Expect to have more people living under your roof. ☹☹☹

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your outgoing nature will help you meet interesting people. You may be put in a position to lecture and will get your points across clearly. New relationships look stable and lasting. ☹☹☹

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will handle other people's money and possessions well today. Travel should be on your mind, and so should activities that will be conducive to passionate encounters. ☹☹☹

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Your partner will be erratic, and you will be in a state of panic. Channel all your energy into making peace, not war. You can make things work if you are willing to bend to each other's needs. ☹☹☹

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Your mate will be much harder to deal with than your boss. Keep your work and your personal life separate. Don't get backed into a corner. Discover all the facts before you make a decision. ☹☹☹

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Develop a new hobby. Do things you enjoy for relaxation. Lately all you seem to be doing is work. Social events will lead to a passionate relationship. ☹☹☹

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You and your partner have not been completely honest with yourselves or one another. Back up and see if you can salvage your relationship. Situations have gotten out of hand. ☹☹☹

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Relatives will not be pleased with you today. Don't be too pushy about your intentions unless you are prepared to face opposition. You need to get away by yourself for a while. ☹☹☹

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You mustn't let others talk you out of your hard-earned money. You are far too giving. Tuck something away for a rainy day instead of letting your cash slip through your fingers. ☹☹☹

Birthdays: You are smart, quick and ready to conquer the world. You have the right attitude and the proper protocol to make your dreams come true. You hold your head high and know exactly what you want.
 (Need advice? Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com, eugenialast.com, astromate.com.)

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SPORTS

How sweet it is
The women's tennis team looks to advance past the Sweet 16 for the first time in school history when it competes in this weekend's NCAA Championships.
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THE
OBSERVER

Friday, May 18, 2001

NOTRE DAME ATHLETES OF THE YEAR

Top of the class

◆ Aaron Heilman returns for senior year, sparks Irish baseball resurgence

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Associate Sports Editor

One inning. Just one inning. That's how long it took Notre Dame baseball coach Paul Mainieri to realize just how good Aaron Heilman was going to be.

Notre Dame was in the process of dismantling Florida State 10-1 in the 1998 season opener when Mainieri decided to have an unknown freshman pitch the final inning.

"I wanted to bring him along slowly to get his feet wet," Mainieri said. "I didn't want him to get shelled his first time out."

It turns out that Mainieri didn't have anything to worry about. In his first collegiate outing, he threw the ball so hard and so fast that he shocked the entire Irish coaching staff.

"He threw that ball so good, I turned to [pitching coach] Brian O'Connor and said, 'I think we may have something here,'" Mainieri said. "And that was after the first inning of a freshman year in a game that had already been decided."

"I'll never forget that game as long as I live."

"Coach gave me the opportunity the first game of the season and I just ran with it," said Heilman, The Observer's 2000-01 Notre Dame Male Athlete of the Year. "I looked at it as my opportunity to prove that I belonged at this level and that I could be successful."

Little did Heilman know just how successful he was going to be. As a closer, Heilman led the nation in ERA, recorded nine saves, won seven games and was named an All-

see HEILMAN/page 32



BRIAN PUCAVICH/JOSE CUELLAR/The Observer

Seniors Aaron Heilman (top) and Ruth Riley (bottom) are the Observer's male and female athlete of the year after outstanding play.

◆ All-American Ruth Riley leads Irish to first national championship

By NOAH AMSTADTER
Sports Editor

Most members of the Class of 2001 spent this past week enjoying the rewards of their four years on campus — a trip to Cedar Point, an outing to Wrigley Field to see the Cubs and Wednesday night's formal dance.

Ruth Riley had to miss the festivities — she was busy working. The Observer's 2000-01 Female Athlete of the Year spent the week in Florida, preparing for her first season in the WNBA as a member of the Miami Sol.

The fifth overall pick in the WNBA draft last month, Riley is less than two months removed from leading the Irish women's basketball team to its first ever NCAA title. She averaged 18.7 points as a senior to go along with 7.8 rebounds, efforts that helped earn her recognition as the Naismith Women's College Player of the Year.

But the 6-foot-5 center didn't always have it so easy at Notre Dame. When she first came to South Bend from the small town of Macy, Ind. in the fall of 1997, Riley was a tall and gangly project.

"I think when she came in she wasn't ready really for the pace of the game," said Irish head coach Muffet McGraw.

But Riley adjusted quickly, starting the final 26 games of the season and leading the Irish to the Sweet 16. She

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SAINT MARY'S ATHLETE OF THE YEAR

Cook ends two successful years with championship



LIZ LANG/The Observer

Senior Natalie Cook was named the Observer's Saint Mary's athlete of the year after winning an MIAA title.

By KATIE McVOY
Associate Sports Editor

Sad circumstances brought her to Saint Mary's, but senior Natalie Cook will leave with a smile.

Cook, who came to Saint Mary's after the death of her tennis coach, wrapped up two years of personal and athletic success last Saturday with a team conference tennis championship, an individual tennis championship and public recognition for an attitude her teammates have been aware of all along.

"[Natalie] is a tremendous leader and a great role model," doubles partner Annie Knish said. "That's probably why she won the sportsmanship award. There is no athlete more deserving."

Cook received the Sue Little sportsmanship award from the MIAA Saturday, the same day the Belles tennis team won Saint Mary's first league championship in any sport.

"[Natalie's] not give up attitude, her cheering on her other teammates when they were still playing and giving them words of encouragement have been a great help to the team," head coach Dee Stevenson said.

Cook transferred to Saint Mary's from Taylor University after her

sophomore year, following the death of her tennis coach at that university.

"After he died I started thinking about family, and my parents live an hour from [Saint Mary's] and I wanted to be closer," she said.

The year Cook transferred to Saint Mary's, hers was not the only new face in the athletic department.

That same year Saint Mary's welcomed new golf coach Theresa Pekarek and new head tennis coach Stevenson. As the coaches adjusted to the teams, so did Natalie.

The results of this past tennis season prove Cook made the adjustment well. As the only senior on the squad, Cook faced her share of difficulties, but left feeling like a success.

"It was good because I felt like people respected me," Cook said. "But at the same time, I felt people couldn't relate to what I was going through."

Cook teamed with Knish to take home the No. 1 doubles championship in the MIAA tournament last weekend. Despite early season losses, the pair came together as teammates and friends to bring home the victory.

"At the beginning of the season we were losing together," Cook said. "Then our chemistry picked up. We're both really fired up and

aggressive and we attack the net."

"Sharing that honor [of winning the championship] with Natalie was wonderful, especially since we're really good friends," Knish added.

In addition to finishing with a doubles championship, Cook placed third in No. 2 singles at the MIAA championship, defeating Kalamazoo's Jodi Kite and earning a place on first team All-MIAA.

Cook and the Saint Mary's tennis team's journey to the top did not come without struggle. When Cook arrived at Saint Mary's last year, the tennis team was in disarray.

The coach who began the 1999 season was fired. The players now faced the challenge of learning how to play under Stevenson, as well as welcoming a new junior who had been playing tennis at another school.

The Belles rose to the occasion. A second place finish in the MIAA was aided by Cook who teamed up with senior Becky Kremer to claim a No. 2 doubles championship and a place on second team All-MIAA.

Cook's MIAA honors, however, are not limited to tennis.

Cook also earned All-MIAA honors in golf in 1999. As a junior, she placed in the top 10 of the MIAA and was named second team All-

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