

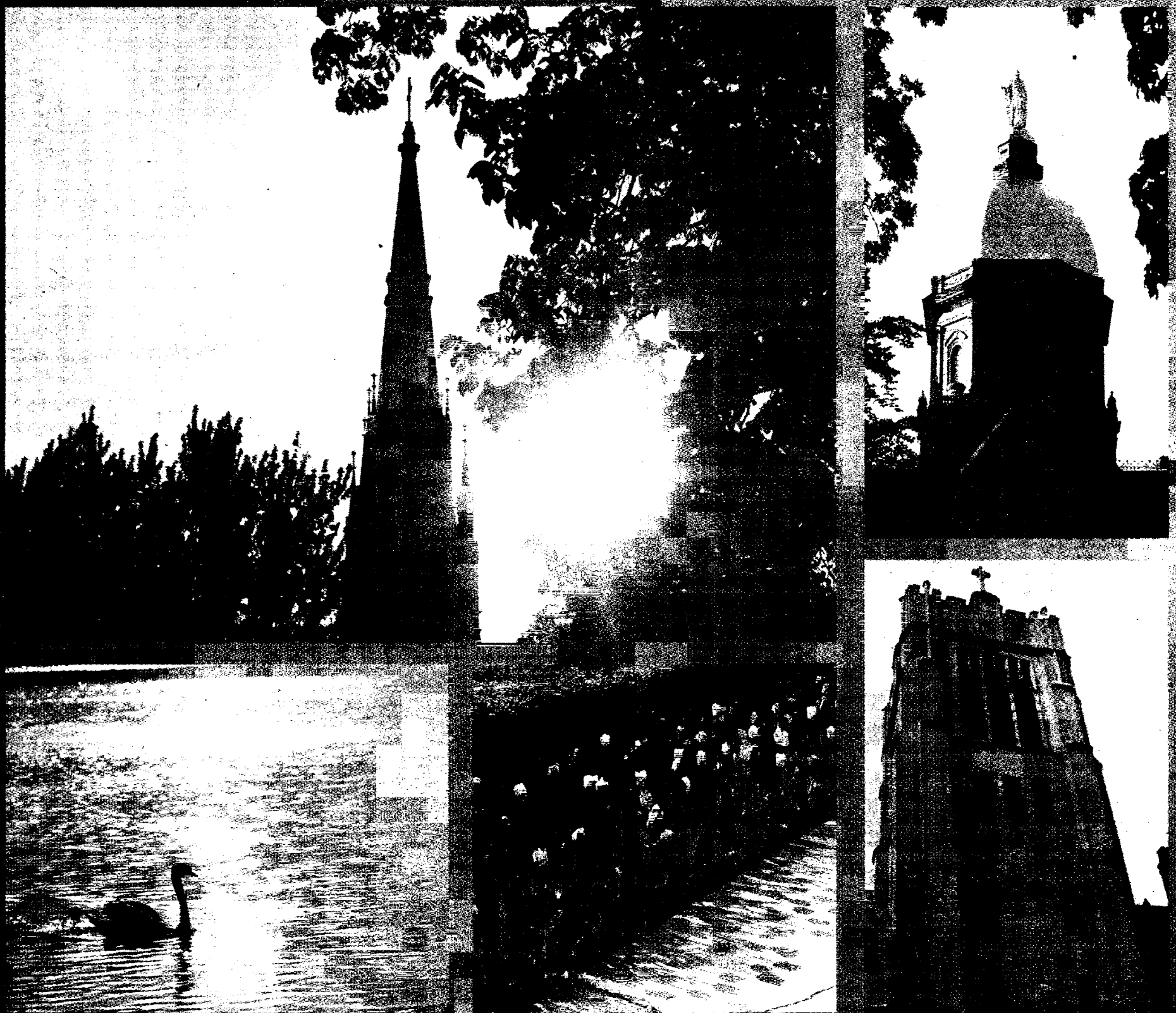
THE OBSERVER

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The Independent Newspaper Serving Notre Dame and South Bend



Rectors leave positions

Five rectors will step down at the end of the academic year. Keough rector Mark DeMott, Welsh Family rector Candace Carson, Howard rector Jenni Oliva, Zahm rector Father Dan Parrish and University Village rector Molly O'Neill will be leaving their positions to pursue ministry, to work in other capacities

at the University or for family purposes.

Associate Vice President of Student Affairs Ann Firth said Student Affairs was grateful for the contribution of the five rectors and commended them for their service to their residents and to the Notre Dame community.

SEE STORY PAGE 16

Dean Roche to resign

College of Arts and Letters Dean Mark Roche announced May 1 he will resign from his administrative position at the end of the 2007-08 school year, ending 11 years of leading the college. Roche will remain at Notre Dame as a professor and as a scholar.

Provost Thomas Burish will head a

nationwide search for a new dean to succeed Roche.

During Roche's time at the helm of the College, one of his major goals was to promote Notre Dame's identity as a "residential liberal arts college," an "ambitious and dynamic research university" and "a Catholic institution of international standing."

SEE STORY PAGE 17

INSIDE COLUMN

The college sophomore

Before Notre Dame played Nebraska in 2000, I mowed an interlocking "ND" logo into my sloping Omaha front yard. Passing drivers probably thought I was obsessed with a football game. Although that's true, I created that large lawn decoration because I was proud.

I wanted everyone (or, at least, the handful of people who glanced awkwardly toward my house that week) to know that I was for the Fighting Irish.

This weekend, I graduate from the only school I ever wanted to attend.

While I'm as proud as ever, I don't believe Notre Dame is perfect. It has its problems. The administration can be too controlling, the students can demand too much and, sometimes, we do take football too seriously.

I'm proud today because this school is my home. We came as North Siders and South Siders, Californians and Pennsylvanians, Nebraskans and New Yorkers. We leave as Notre Dame.

And that's a group that includes more than just the few thousand people on campus.

We snicker when Chuck Lennon "raises the roof" at pep rallies, but there's a little Chuck Lennon in everyone who loves this university. When someone buys a Victory March-playing key chain or drives 12 hours after work to see the Irish beat Duke by five touchdowns, we know that Notre Dame is more than a little college in northern Indiana. It's a community built by the passion people have for it.

It's bigger than its size. Go anywhere in the world and there's someone who wants to talk about Notre Dame. Whether it be your grandfather, the grocery store cashier or Regis himself.

Most people talk about how they would love to visit for a day. We were lucky enough to live here.

We spent our mornings in DeBartolo, our Saturdays in the Stadium and our Tuesdays at Corby's. There's a lot that we'll miss about this school. But we only had four years here — we knew that going in. That's four more years than most will ever spend at this place.

Like a friend of mine said about graduation, "I've had my fun." Me too. I've spent four years with my best friends at the school I love.

One sophomore night, a dozen of us on Stanford Hall's fourth floor spent hours duct-taping a room shut while its occupants slept. We slept in the hallway just to see Ray and Joe's reaction in the morning.

Buying the Huddle out of its duct tape supply was stupid. But it wasn't a waste of time. It was what happens when kids take advantage of the only moment in their lives when they don't have anything better to do.

From now on, I'll return to Notre Dame and remember when I was a sophomore. Maybe that's the beauty of college that we get out before we get too old.

I've never felt better than when I was 19 on a Football Friday afternoon. We had no responsibility, save for sneaking Keystone Light down North Quad before an evening at Turtle Creek. Meals were paid for, parents were away and nothing mattered but five classes and 12 football games.

Senior year is different. Most of us are concerned with starting (or finding) a job and renting an apartment. We're worried about cable bills and cell phone charges. We're nervous about the real world.

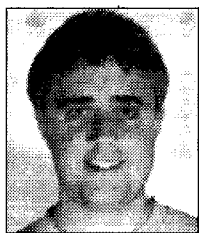
But we won't have to worry about Notre Dame. As much as we'll miss it, it's not going anywhere. It's a place where we will always be young.

One of my best friends and roommates asked at dinner a couple years ago, "Guys, can we ever say anything not sarcastic? Can we ever have a serious conversation?"

I don't know, Packy. Maybe when we're 57, the college sophomore inside us will be gone. But I hope not.

Mike Gilloon will be graduating with a degree in English and journalism, ethics and democracy. He will be working for a marketing firm in Chicago next year. He'd like to thank his parents for everything, his grandfather for lunch at Clancy's and Kevin Tracy for the NDDBA.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu. The views in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.



Mike Gilloon

Editor in Chief Emeritus

COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND EVENTS

FRIDAY, MAY 18:

- COMMENCEMENT BAND CONCERT
5:30 P.M., LEIGHTON CONCERT HALL
- BUFFET DINNER
5:30 — 8 P.M., SOUTH DINING HALL

SATURDAY, MAY 19:

- 2007 GRADUATE SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
1 P.M., LEIGHTON CONCERT HALL
- COMMENCEMENT MASS
5 P.M., JOYCE CENTER

SUNDAY, MAY 20:

- 2007 UNDERGRADUATE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
2 P.M., JOYCE CENTER

FRIDAY, MAY 18:

- NURSES PINNING CEREMONY
1 P.M., CHURCH OF OUR LADY OF LORETTO
- BACCALAUREATE LITURGY
4 P.M., ANGELA ATHLETIC FACILITY
- BACCALAUREATE DINNER/SENIOR RECEPTION
6:30 — 9:30 P.M., STUDENT CENTER

SATURDAY, MAY 19:

- GRADUATION BRUNCH
10 A.M., NOBLE DINING HALL
- 2007 COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
NOON, COURT OF LEMANS HALL
- VIGIL MASS
4:30 P.M., REGINA CHAPEL

SOURCE: University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College Web sites

KEN FOWLER/Observer Graphic

McCartan to be honored with Laetare medal

By JENN METZ
News Writer

The chair of Notre Dame's Board of Trustees, Patrick McCartan, will be honored as the 131st recipient of the University's Laetare Medal during the undergraduate commencement exercises Sunday.

The medal is awarded annually to a Catholic "whose genius has ennobled the arts and sciences, illustrated the ideals of the Church and enriched the heritage of humanity."

It was first awarded in 1883 and is regarded as the most distinguished honor given to American Catholics, akin to the Golden Rose — a papal award dating back to the 11th century.

McCartan will rank among notable American Catholics like activist Dorothy Day and former President John F. Kennedy, who have previously received the award.

Last year, the Laetare Medal was awarded to renowned jazz musician Dave Brubeck, the popular jazz pianist who has produced pieces such as "Blue Rondo a la Turk" and "Take Five" and who has been featured on the cover of Time magazine.

McCartan, who has served on the Board since 1989, was elected

Board chair and University fellow in 2000. In surveys conducted by the National Law Journal, McCartan has been listed as one of the most influential and respected lawyers in the country.

He graduated from Notre Dame with an undergraduate degree in 1956 and earned a juris doctor degree from the Law School in 1959.

After serving as a law clerk for

former Supreme Court Justice Charles Evans Whittaker, McCartan became a senior partner at Jones Day, an international law firm.

"Notre Dame's auspicious institutional position as it enters a new era owes much to Pat McCartan's strong and sure leadership."

McCartan received an honorary degree from the University in 1999.

He has also been previously honored with the Archdiocese of Cleveland's Archbishop Edward F. Hoban award in 1994 and the Anti-Defamation League's Torch of Liberty Award in 1998.

The Laetare Medal is inscribed with the Latin "Magna est veritas et prevalebit," which translates as "Truth is mighty, and it shall prevail."

The annual recipient of the medal is

announced on the fourth Sunday of Lent each year, which is known as Laetare Sunday in the Catholic Church.

Richard C. Notebaert, CEO and chairman of Qwest Communications International, was elected in February to replace McCartan as chair of the Board. His three-year term will begin July 1. Notebaert has served as a trustee for the past 10 years.

"I look forward to joining with our president, Father John Jenkins, in advancing our position as the premier Catholic research university in the world," Notebaert said in a news release.

"I look forward to joining with our president, Father John Jenkins, in advancing our position as the premier Catholic research university in the world."

Richard C. Notebaert
Board of Trustees
chairman elect

"Notre Dame's auspicious institutional position as it enters a new era owes much to Pat McCartan's strong and sure leadership."

Father John Jenkins
University President

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

QUICK FACTS ABOUT THE CLASS OF 2007

- APPROXIMATELY 95 PERCENT OF THE 1,935 UNDERGRADUATES WHO ENROLLED AT NOTRE DAME IN THE FALL OF 2003 WILL RECEIVE A DIPLOMA SUNDAY (MAY 20) — A GRADUATION RATE EXCEEDED ONLY BY HARVARD, PRINCETON AND YALE.
- ABOUT 80 PERCENT OF NOTRE DAME'S GRADUATES PARTICIPATED IN VOLUNTEER AND SERVICE-LEARNING PROGRAMS IN THE GREATER SOUTH BEND AREA, NATIONWIDE AND AROUND THE WORLD.
- APPROXIMATELY 10 PERCENT OF NOTRE DAME SENIORS WILL GO INTO VOLUNTEER SERVICE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING THE PEACE CORPS, TEACH FOR AMERICA, THE JESUIT VOLUNTEER CORPS AND THE ALLIANCE FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION.
- ABOUT 3 PERCENT OF NOTRE DAME'S GRADUATING CLASS WILL SERVE IN THE ARMED FORCES.
- ALL 50 OF THE UNITED STATES ARE REPRESENTED IN THE SENIOR CLASS, MAKING NOTRE DAME AMONG THE NATION'S MOST GEOGRAPHICALLY DIVERSE UNIVERSITIES.

INFORMATION COURTESY NEWS AND INFORMATION.

KEN FOWLER/Observer Graphic

General Electric CEO to address graduates

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

Jeffrey R. Immelt, the chairman and chief executive officer of General Electric, Inc., will be the principal graduation speaker and will receive an honorary degree Sunday at Notre Dame's undergraduate commencement ceremony.



Immelt

University officials announced in February that Immelt would speak at Notre Dame's 162nd Commencement ceremony — to be held in the Joyce Center — and that he would receive an honorary doctor of laws degree.

In a statement released with the announcement of the speaker, University President Father John Jenkins praised Immelt and expressed excitement for his visit to the University.

"During his five-plus years as head of the world's second largest company, Jeff Immelt has demonstrated the innovative philosophy, leadership traits and personal integrity that make him a business executive worthy of emulating," Jenkins said. "We are delighted that he will join us in May to speak to our graduates and accept an honorary degree."

The commencement speaker is traditionally chosen by the presi-

dent of the University, with the input of University officers and other leaders, said Dennis Brown, the assistant vice president for News and Information. But anyone can make a suggestion to the president's office for the graduation speaker or for honorary degree recipients, he said.

"We seek speakers who have made significant contributions to society in any number of ways and who also will deliver a compelling message to graduates," Brown said. He emphasized that speakers are not chosen on the "basis of celebrity," and said Notre Dame has, in the past, had speakers who were well known, but also speakers who were not that widely known.

University officials also try to draw speakers from a variety of fields, like politics, science or entertainment. This year, the speaker is from the corporate world.

"We have a partnership with [General Electric] through NBC, so many people know Mr. Immelt through that," Brown said.

General Electric (GE) owns NBC Universal.

Immelt, 50, was appointed the

ninth chairman of GE Sept. 7, 2001, succeeding Jack Welch. He has worked for GE since 1982, became a GE officer in 1989 and joined the GE Capital Board in 1997. He served as president and chairman-elect starting in November 2000.

GE makes and sells products and services ranging from jet engines and home appliances to television broadcasting and power generation equipment. The company employs more than 300,000 people worldwide and in 2006 had revenues of \$163.4 billion. Its stock is among the most widely held in the world.

"During his five-plus years as head of the world's second largest company, Jeff Immelt has demonstrated the innovative philosophy, leadership traits and personal integrity that make him a business executive worthy of emulating."

Father John Jenkins
University president

Since assuming his position as the leader of GE, Immelt has paid special attention to his company's impact on the environment. In 2005, he announced his "Ecoimagination" initiative to use cleaner technologies and reduce gas emissions. The initiative includes the development of solar energy, fuel cells, lighter and stronger technology and water purification technology.

GE plans to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by one percent by 2012 and to reduce the intensity

of those emissions 30 percent by 2008, as compared to the intensity in 2004.

In a 2005 Industry Week magazine interview, Immelt said his Ecoimagination plan is not only good for society but also a positive move for GE and its investors.

"We intend to put our global capabilities, technology leadership and market knowledge to work to take on some of the world's toughest problems — and we think we can make money doing it. This is good business," he said.

Immelt has received recognition for his work at GE, and under his leadership, GE has received honors as well. In 2005 and 2006, Barron's Magazine named Immelt one of the "World's Best CEOs."

With Immelt at the helm, GE has been named "America's Most Admired Company" in a Fortune magazine poll and called the world's most respected company in polls conducted by Barron's and the Financial Times.

Immelt, a native of Cincinnati, graduated from Dartmouth College in 1978 with a bachelor's degree in applied mathematics.

He received a master of business administration degree from Harvard University in 1982.

In addition to his responsibilities at GE, Immelt serves as chairman of The Business Council and is on the board of three non-profit organizations.

He is involved with Catalyst, a group that works to advance women in business; Robin Hood, which addresses poverty in New York City; and the Federal Reserve Bank.

He lives with his wife, Andrea, and their daughter in Connecticut.

Brown said he had not yet seen a copy of Immelt's speech, but said Immelt has been in contact with News and Information to get background information on Notre Dame to help him prepare.

Mary McAleese, the president of Ireland, was the principal speaker and an honorary degree recipient at last year's commencement ceremony.

Jeffrey R. Immelt
chief executive officer
General Electric

"We intend to put our global capabilities, technology leadership and market knowledge to work to take on some of the world's toughest problems — and we think we can make money doing it. This is good business."

Contact Kaitlynn RielY at
kriely@nd.edu

THE OBSERVER

Expresses its deep *Thanks* to the following *seniors* for their hard work and *dedication* over the years.

Jeff Albert
Patricia Alvarez
Kate Antonacci
Alyssa Brauweiler
Sharon Brown
Tim Dougherty
Brian Doxtader
Eileen Duffy
Rob Dugas
Adam Fairholm
Kate Gales
Alejandro Gerbaud
Mike Gilloon

Rama Gottumukkala
Bobby Griffin
Tom Hanculak
Carolyn Hubscher
Steve Kerins
Jim Kiriara
Pam Lock
Erin McGinn
Kelly Meehan
Amanda Michaels
Liam Moran
Nina Pressly
Eric Retter

Cate Samuel
Marty Schroeder
Francesca Seta
Kristen Smith
Clem Suhendra
Tim Sullivan
Sean Sweany
Annie Tilton
Rosemary Walsh
Alec White
Meghan Wons

And wishes them the *Best of Luck* in the years to come.

Work remains underway on pedestrian plaza near Joyce, new male dormitory Duncan Hall, as 10-year plan is carried out

The newly announced “Spirit of Notre Dame” capital campaign – Notre Dame’s most ambitious fundraising effort, with a set goal of \$1.5 billion — will contribute to current and future projects, Lyphout said. The campaign currently has about half its goal.

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Rossmann to give ND valedictory address

Valedictorian, chosen out of 16 candidates, graduates with 4.0 overall G.P.A.; senior plans to join priesthood

By AARON STEINER
News Writer

After Michael Rossmann graduates on Sunday, his view of the ceremony will be different from his classmates' experience.

A theology and economics double major from Iowa City, Iowa, Rossmann will graduate with a 4.0 overall G.P.A., earning him the coveted title of valedictorian and the privilege to deliver the valedictory address during the undergraduate commencement ceremony. His speech will last about 10 minutes, during which he'll have a unique vantage point of the graduating class.

"It's still overwhelming ... kind of hard to believe, but very exciting, too — and I'm thankful as well," Rossmann said of the honor.

He said he was chosen from a pool of approximately 16 students after submitting a copy of his speech, a résumé and other application materials shortly after spring break.

After an interview, Rossmann was notified of the decision to name him the top student in his graduating class.

He said he was honored and excited by the opportunity to speak at the commencement exercises.

"A lot of people who know me have been excited for me," he said.

Rossmann joked that those who aren't as familiar with him and might not know of his academic side say, "I was just so surprised." He can understand people's idea of what a valedictorian looks like — a person focused almost solely on academics — but Rossmann thinks he is different from that type of a person.

His time at Notre Dame has indeed touched on a lot more than academics.

Rossmann said he has had diverse experiences over the last four years through extracurricular activities, research, studying abroad and encounters with the hundreds of people he has met.

His service work at the Center for Social Concerns (CSC) has been especially significant, he said, as the center became "one of my homes on campus."

"The friends I have made there have shaped my life in many different ways," Rossmann said.

His time abroad — studying in Uganda during his sophomore year and returning to East Africa to work on a senior thesis — also had a significant impact on his impression of Notre Dame.

"My time in Uganda was extremely formative," Rossmann said.

Rossmann said that among the many people on campus who have had an influence on him, his professors have been important, especially outside the classroom.

"I've had great relationships

with a lot of my professors and their guidance has been incredibly beneficial," he said.

Friends he has met through the CSC, his residence hall and daily Mass have also been important guiding forces in his life the last four years, he said.

And while he has grown academically and socially, Rossmann said the opportunities he has had to grow spiritually are what will lead him to the next chapter in his life.

"My faith development has been so significant," he said.

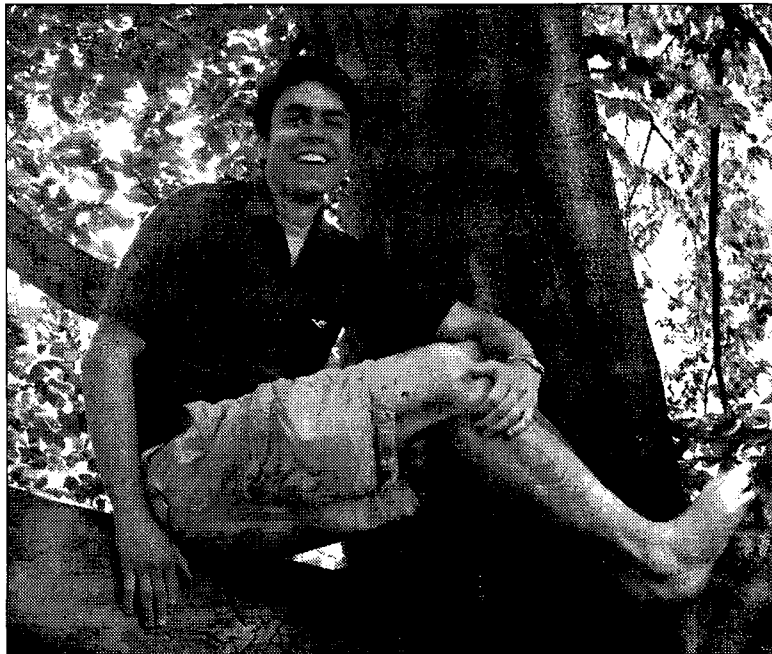
Rossmann intends to pursue the priesthood next and will join the novitiate with the Jesuits in St. Paul, Minn. after graduation. The first two years at the novitiate are the first step in joining the order, Rossmann said, and are meant for "discovering if this is in fact for me."

Studying for the priesthood was something he said he hadn't really considered until he spent time at Notre Dame.

"I had never really thought about it until freshman year," he said. "But during that year, I thought, 'maybe I should be open to this.'"

It was later, during the fall of his sophomore year, that Rossmann said the question "really hit me."

It was a long process to reach this point of discernment, Rossmann said, and he's prepared to move on to a more serious consideration of a life of min-



ALLISON AMBROSE/The Observer

Notre Dame valedictorian Michael Rossmann, a theology and economics double major, will graduate with a 4.0 overall G.P.A.

istry.

"I'm ready to take this ... to a different level," he said.

Rossmann said he is currently unsure where a life in the priesthood would lead him, though he is open to many paths — including teaching at the university level, working and serving abroad, promoting social justice or just doing pastoral work, he said.

"I'm taking comfort in the fact that I don't really have to know, at

this point," he said.

As for Sunday's ceremony, Rossmann said he is excited to speak about things that are important to him. He said his address is focused on "the faith identity of Notre Dame ... and what that means, living that out."

"I'm tremendously thankful for this honor and opportunity," he said.

Contact Aaron Steiner at asteiner@nd.edu

Campus hit hard by storms

Strong winds destroy 30 trees, knock spire off Basilica tower



CHRISTIAN SAGARDIA/The Observer

Wreckage from a spire on top of the Basilica lays in front of the building after strong winds caused it to fall Tuesday.

By KEN FOWLER and
KAITLYNN RIELY
News Writers

Strong winds associated with the line of severe thunderstorms that passed just north of campus Tuesday knocked off one of the four minor spires from the bell tower of the Basilica of the Sacred Heart and damaged dozens of trees just days before graduation activities were set to begin.

The front-left spire on the main tower of the Basilica fell to the ground amid straight-line wind gusts just before 5 p.m. The spire moved west as it fell and shattered southeast of the Basilica's main entrance.

Witnesses said Notre Dame

Security/Police (NDSP) responded within minutes after the spire collapsed from the Basilica. The area outside of the Basilica and the main dome was cordoned off with caution tape, and officers told onlookers to stay away from the scene.

University spokesman Dennis Brown said Wednesday the University would have a structural engineer inspect the area around the lost spire, as well as the three remaining spires, to evaluate their structural integrity.

Brown said 23 trees on North Quad were blown down or suffered such significant damage that they would need to be torn down. He said an additional seven trees near the Grotto were similarly destroyed by the

storm, though many trees that lost large branches appeared stable elsewhere on campus.

The University would not have any cost estimates on the damage to the Basilica or the landscape on campus until after The Observer's Wednesday press time, Brown said.

He said he did not know of any comparable structural damage to the Basilica in recent history.

"They'll evaluate each tree in terms of whether it's a danger — whether it's a risk in terms of falling on its own in any other winds," Brown said.

Brown said Superintendent of Landscape Services Bill Thistlethwaite told him that the storm fatally damaged more trees than any storm in Thistlethwaite's 30-year career.

Brown said the University was expediting the clean-up process and hoped to finish by today. He said the time frame for removing damaged trees would be in the "weeks," though the possibility for repairs to the Basilica would take much longer.

Elsewhere on campus, the glass casing of a lamppost between Siegfried Hall and Pasquerilla West Hall lay shattered on the ground amid fallen branches Wednesday.

"Most of the severe damage occurred on the northern side of campus," Brown said. "We're not aware of any major damage elsewhere."

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu and Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

Myers, O'Sullivan named SMC co-valedictorians

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

Saint Mary's seniors Kim Myers and Margaret O'Sullivan weren't looking for the honor but will be co-valedictorians Saturday at Saint Mary's commencement exercises.

Myers, who will graduate with a degree in English literature and a minor in humanistic studies, called the experience "surreal."

"I'm honored, and quite frankly, a little bewildered," Myers said.

Myers did not seek out the honor, but said she did as well as she could in her classes over her four years at Saint Mary's.

"I worked towards doing well in my classes," Myers said, "but not towards earning a specific title."

Myers also participated in several extracurricular activities. She was the secretary of Peacemakers, a social justice organization; a tutor for the Writing Center; a teacher's assistant for first-year writing classes; and a member of Alpha Xi Eta — the Saint Mary's chapter of the International English Honor Society.

O'Sullivan, a biology major with a minor in chemistry, also said that she did not work toward becoming valedictorian.

"I did my best and then was told three and a half years later that in doing so I inadvertently was a valedictorian,"

O'Sullivan said.

O'Sullivan graduated a semester early from Saint Mary's to take time off before returning to classes for four to six years of dental school.

O'Sullivan was also heavily involved in extracurricular activities. She was a member of the biology and chemistry clubs, Holy Cross Hall council, Rome Program, Ecuadorian Expedition, Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society, NDSMC Irish Dance Team and was a St. Joseph County Scholar.

O'Sullivan said that while being valedictorian is a great honor, she embarrasses easily and therefore doesn't like to bring the subject up since she blushes when talking about it.

"I am very thankful for the chance to give a farewell address to my class at graduation," O'Sullivan said. "I feel blessed and appreciative for this honor."

Both women will attend graduate schools after graduation. Myers will study at Purdue University, working toward a master's degree in English Literature. O'Sullivan will study at Case Western University's School of Dental Medicine; she plans to practice general dentistry if she does not specialize.

Myers and O'Sullivan both said they would miss Saint Mary's as they go on to new schools.

Myers said the learning environment at Saint Mary's is something she will miss.

"It's very personal. The professors take a real interest in you," she said. "I have had professors approach me and start conversations years after I took one of their classes."

O'Sullivan, who studied in Rome, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands, said she was thankful for the College's study abroad programs.

"College is a great time to experience the world through travel," she said.

Contact Liz Harter at charte01@saintmarys.edu



Myers



O'Sullivan

Leaders to receive ND, SMC honorary degrees

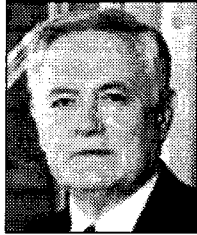
Lithuanian president, Vatican preacher, University of Michigan president, sculptor among the 12 awarded

By JENN METZ
News Writer

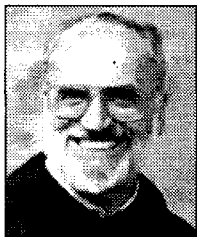
Notre Dame and Saint Mary's will award 12 honorary degrees during the commencement exercises this weekend.

General Electric CEO Jeffrey Immelt, the undergraduate commencement speaker for Notre Dame, will be receiving one of Notre Dame's honorary degrees, along with nine other figures.

Valdas Adamkus, the president of Lithuania, will receive an honorary doctorate of laws. He served in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from 1970 until 1997 and was elected president of Lithuania in 1998. Known as "a force for democratization



Adamkus



Cantalamessa

in the nation," Adamkus served as president until 2003 when his opponent, Rolandus Paksus, won the election. Paksus was impeached 14 months later, and Adamkus won a second term in a run-off election.

Notre Dame graduate Robert Kiely will be awarded a doctorate of laws for his 50 years of public service. He served as chair and CEO of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority in New York City from 1983 until 1990. Later, he served as a commissioner of transport in London from 2001 until 2006.

Mary Sue Coleman, the president of the University of Michigan and commencement speaker for doctoral and master's degree graduates, will be honored with a doctor of science degree. The award is for her work in "student residential life, interdisciplinary studies, ethics in society and health care," a University news release said.

A doctor of humanities degree will be awarded to Immaculée Ilibagiza, a member of the United Nations Development Program. Ilibagiza is also the author of "Left to Tell: Discovering God

Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust."

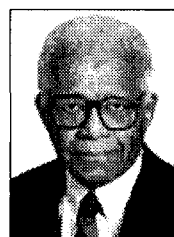
Kenneth Hackett, the president of Catholic Relief Services, will also receive a doctorate of humanities. He has led Catholic Relief Services since 2003, during which time the organization aided recovery efforts in the aftermath of the Indian Ocean tsunami in 2004 and Hurricane Katrina in 2005.

Robert Hunt, a Chicago-based sculptor, will receive a doctorate of fine arts. His works include "I Have Been to the Mountaintop" at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial in Memphis, Tenn., and "Jacob's Ladder" at the Carter G. Woodson Library in Chicago.

Dr. Paul Farmer, an attending physician at two hospitals and a professor of medical



Coleman



Hunt

anthropology at Harvard Medical School, will receive an honorary doctorate of science. Farmer participated in this year's Notre Dame Forum, entitled "The Global Health Crisis: Forging Solutions, Effecting Change."

Father P. Raniero Cantalamessa, OFM Cap, will receive a doctor of laws degree. He has served as the Vatican's preacher for the papal house since 1980.

Archbishop Elias Chacour, a Melkite priest in the Holy Lands, will also receive a doctor of laws degree for his work with peace efforts in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He is the founder of the Mar Elias Educational Institutions, which has been in existence for over 20 years. It currently educates 4,500 students of all three major monotheistic faiths. He is the author of "Blood Brothers" and "We Belong to the Land."

Saint Mary's honorary degrees

At Saint Mary's, Sister Mary Scullion, RSM, and Dr. Bernard McGinn of the University of Chicago Divinity School will be honored at the commencement exercises Saturday.

Scullion has worked for nearly 30 years to improve the lives of the homeless and mentally ill in Philadelphia. She is currently the executive director of Project H.O.M.E. (Housing, Opportunities for employment, Medical care, Education) — a nationally recognized organization that works to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty. Scullion has been honored with the Ford Foundation's Leadership for a Changing World Award by the city of Philadelphia.

McGinn is the Naomi Shenhstone Donnelly Professor Emeritus at the University of Chicago Divinity School, where he taught from 1969 until 2003. He is recognized as the preeminent scholar of mysticism in the Western Christian tradition. McGinn is a fellow of the Medieval Academy, where he also serves as president. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and has previously served as president of the American Society of Church History and of the American Catholic Historical Association.

Contact Jenn Metz at jmetz@nd.edu

Graduates reflect on 4 years of academics and growth

Seniors reminisce about first impressions of Notre Dame, lessons learned, friendships made, preparation for the future

By MARCELA BERRIOS
Associate News Editor

The president changed, the football coach did too and the campus is ever expanding. Notre Dame has moved fast the past four years, but for the seniors graduating Sunday, life suddenly seems to be moving even faster. Still, as they pack up and prepare to leave their undergraduate careers behind, students say they're ready to enter the workforce, thanks to the University and lessons that will last.

Surpassed expectations

Senior Patrick Welch said he arrived at St. Edward's Hall four years ago excited about football games and the life of a college student. Like many teenagers out of high school, the thought of four years away from parental supervision, push-ups after touchdowns and pizza at midnight with the guys down the hall were Notre Dame's most attractive promises. He said he leaves now knowing the University gave him a lot more than that.

"I came to ND excited about dorm life and football. I leave most excited about the great people I've met here, helping others, philosophy and literature," Welch said.

An English and philosophy student, he will participate in the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program after graduation, teaching at under-resourced Catholic schools across the country for two years.

Senior Francisco Castillo echoed Welch's words, saying, "Notre Dame really is more than just football."

Hailing from Puerto Rico, Castillo said after he was admitted to Notre Dame, he thought

he would spend the next four years of his life standing on cornfields with white people from the Midwest. Instead, he said he has made friends from every country in Latin America, as well as from Europe and Asia.

"I come from an island," he said. "If I had stayed in Puerto Rico, I would've never been exposed to all the different cultures I've encountered here. In class, every person has a different upbringing and different opinions about everything, and when people say Notre Dame is homogenous, I really don't think they're talking about the same university I'm talking about."

Castillo said he has friends from Argentina, Switzerland and Ohio, from different religions and socioeconomic backgrounds — and they all have shared their stories with him, teaching him more about people than any textbook.

Annie Lauer also said she never expected to love Notre Dame as much as she does.

"I grew up with a degree of wariness about crazed ND football fans, being formed as a Marquette basketball fan from birth. But the past four years have converted me, and I love it," she said.

Lauer said her pleasant four years at Notre Dame are a direct result of the moments that touched her, including spring break service seminars, visits to Cardinal Nursing Home with Sant'Egidio, peace studies conferences and memorable lectures.

The most important gifts Notre Dame gave her, however, were the wonderful people that filled her life, she said.

"Friends with whom I can talk, laugh, dance, work, pray, and just enjoy being alive," Lauer

said. "It's going to be difficult to leave, but excitement for the future definitely serves as a consolation — and I look forward to hearing about the world-changing things that my friends and classmates will do in their lives."

"Everyone here has something to teach you"

Juan Antonio Balderrama, a Keough resident, said for four years he has been in awe of the intelligence and the wisdom of every person at Notre Dame.

"Intellectually, I was overwhelmed," he said. "The faculty at this university is first class and extremely knowledgeable and dedicated and committed to the students' education."

As a civil engineer, he said his professors challenged him to fight sleep and study beyond his body's strength — but his classmates also pushed him to learn more.

"My classmates certainly contributed and enriched my education," he said. "They shared with me their own interpretations of the material and through teamwork we improved our experiences in the classroom, and maybe angles and perspectives that I would've otherwise missed, I got from them."

He said in the midst of their discussions about physics and calculus, he also learned to laugh with his team members and enjoy the work in front of him.

"The guys in my classes, I hang out with them every day, and since everyone is so smart every conversation we have is simply enriching for me," he said. "They're great guys, and they got me through those all-nighters and any boring lectures, but they also set the bar for what I want to do next."

What Balderrama will do next

is tackle graduate school in Florida. He said he thinks Notre Dame gave him the basics and the tools to become a satisfactory employee, but he has learned to demand more from himself than mere satisfaction.

"My ambitions go beyond being a high-ranking employee at some company. I think that Notre Dame's undergrad preparation is great, if you want to be a great employee," he said. "But if your ambitions are greater you need more knowledge, both theoretical and practical, so you just have to keep working at it and drawing knowledge from everyone around you. It's a process that never ends."

Though it may never end, Balderrama said he's not tired of homework or burned out, but rather motivated about the challenges that await him. He said he thinks he's learned everything the College of Engineering could teach him, and he's ready for the next step, outside Indiana.

"I have all the basic tools I need," he said. "This school gave me my wings. I have to fly away now and keep going on my own."

Religion and faith

Senior Larissa Zavala said Notre Dame helped her mold her Catholicism from her parents' catechism into a conscious and individual faith.

"You get here and you attend the freshman Mass with your parents because it's on the schedule and that's what your parents want to do with you, but before you realize it, you're going to Mass because you really want to be there and soak it in," she said. "People develop their own consciences and a desire to be a better person because the Masses really touch you and

wake up in you that feeling."

Zavala said she found refuge and solace in her hall Mass every Sunday after a week of work and play because the homilies spoke directly to her thoughts and feelings as a college student. During final exams, for example, her hall Mass relaxed her, telling her tests will come and go, but her friendship with Christ will remain.

"The realization that the Lord's word is aimed directly at you hits you, and that's not something you can get as easily from Masses outside Notre Dame because the priests have to broaden their homilies to accommodate all the ages and all the different people that may be present," she said.

When Zavala returned to her home country, Panama, during the summers, she said sometimes she experienced difficulties enjoying Sunday Masses without her classmates and the feelings of empathy and solidarity with every person in the room. She said she has thought a lot about the changes that lie ahead for her relationship with God after she leaves Notre Dame and hall Masses behind permanently.

"I have to accept that from this moment forward, I am a part of the larger Catholic community, and that Mass can no longer be about me and my college experiences," she said. "Notre Dame brought me closer to God but now it's up to me to keep it that way because it won't be laid out on a silver platter for me anymore. I'll have to look for him everything I do, but I think I'm leaving this place well prepared to do that."

Contact Marcela Berrios at aberrios@nd.edu

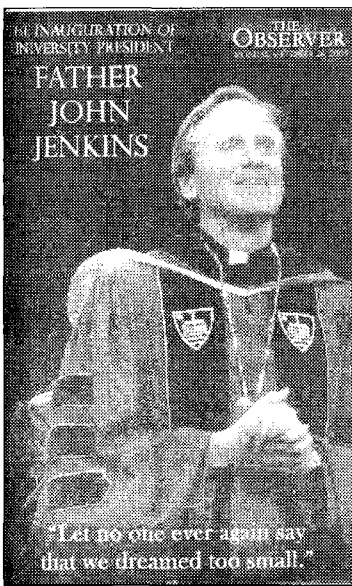
FOUR YEARS IN REVIEW

Friday, May 18, 2007

The top 10 Observer news stories from the 2003-07 academic years.

page 7

1



Jenkins replaces Malloy as president

September 23, 2005

University President Father John Jenkins was inaugurated as Notre Dame's 17th president Sept. 23, 2006. Inauguration activities spanned two full days as afternoon classes were cancelled in order for students to attend an academic forum Thursday afternoon featuring Tom Brokaw as the moderator and a Mass Friday morning.

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

Timothy Brady.

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

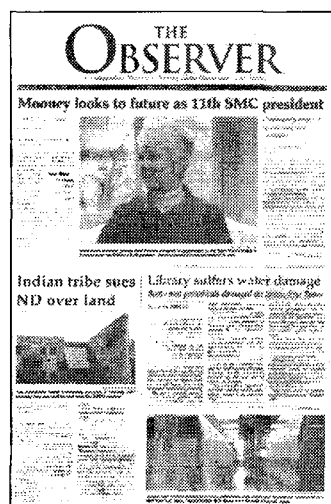
His promise to promote academic excellence and religious faith as "two indispensable and wholly compatible strands of higher learning" proved to be pillars of his presidency just months after he took office when he ques-

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

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

2

Mooney chosen to succeed Eldred

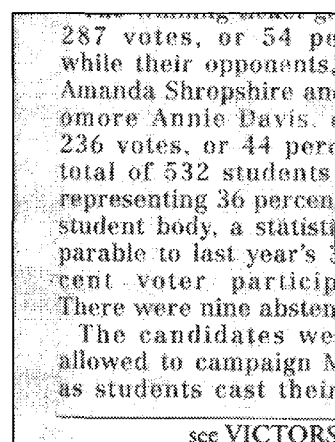


The Saint Mary's Board of Trustees selected Notre Dame Vice President and Associate Provost Carol Ann Mooney as the 11th president of the College on Dec. 26. College President Marilou Eldred announced her retirement in March 2003, which launched a nine-month search process for her successor.

December 26, 2003

3

Jenkins questions 'Monologues'



In a series of three speeches, Jenkins appeals to the Notre Dame community for feedback on the interplay between academic freedom and Catholic character. Vigorous campus debate followed. Ten weeks later Jenkins announced "The Vagina Monologues" would not be prohibited at Notre Dame.

January 25, 2006

4

Jenkins meets Pope Benedict XVI

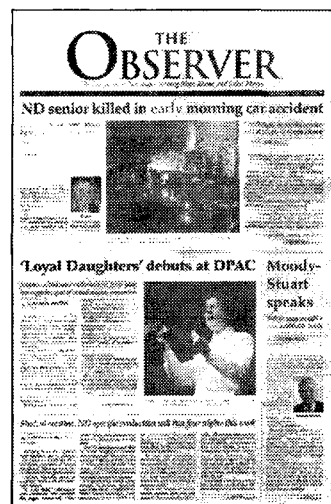


Jenkins and Pope Benedict XVI spoke for 30 seconds in Vatican City during the former's pilgrimage to the Holy See. Jenkins, University officials and the Board of Trustees travelled to Rome for a series of meetings and conferences with Vatican leaders. The Pope called Notre Dame "a great Catholic university."

February 1, 2006

5

University mourns senior's death



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

Brann was a marketing major from Orland Park, Ill.

November 10, 2006

6

Va. Tech massacre shakes campus



The Notre Dame community gathered in grief and celebrated a Mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart to remember the 33 victims of the Virginia Tech shootings. A lone gunman opened fire on his professors and classmates, sparking nationwide debates about campus safety measures.

April 16, 2007

7

ResLife suspends McAlarney



The University suspended sophomore basketball player Kyle McAlarney after the starting point guard was charged with possession of marijuana. His mother declared "the punishment does not fit the crime," and debate raged on whether McAlarney received an appropriate punishment.

January 23, 2007

8

Ordinance stirs controversy



The South Bend Common Council's July 25, 2005 passage of a disorderly house ordinance amendment spurred campus backlash as students returned to Notre Dame and Saint Mary's in the fall.

The revised ordinance significantly increased the risk of eviction for students living off campus.

August 25, 2005

9

Elam convicted of sexual battery



Abram Elam, one of four football players accused of sexual assault in March 2002, was found guilty of sexual battery on Aug. 30. However, he was acquitted of conspiracy to commit rape and criminal deviate conduct. Donald Dykes was found not guilty on all charges and the other two players' suits were dropped.

August 30, 2003

10

'Gay? Fine by Me' held on campus



Approximately 1,700 students and faculty members wore blaze orange T-shirts with the message "Gay? Fine by Me."

Distributed in demonstration of solidarity with homosexual members of the Notre Dame community, the shirts prompted a campus-wide debate.

March 18, 2004

At global health forum, Jenkins announces a new initiative in Uganda. Brann dies in crash. McAlarney suspended.

The Year

2006 ♦



By KEN FOWLER
News Writer

Hotel to open at Saint Mary's

Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross President Sister Joy O'Grady announced plans Aug. 16 for Saint Mary's to lease campus land to the Holladay Corporation for an on-campus Hilton Garden Inn. The addition of the hotel — expected to open by the start of the 2007 football season — prompted a contest for the renaming of the Inn at Saint Mary's and concern about the possible influx of travelers on campus.

Notre Dame focuses on global health, Uganda

The second annual Notre Dame Forum, focusing on the "global health crisis," took place Sept. 14 in the Joyce Center and led to an ongoing partnership between the University and a village in Uganda.

The forum's panelists included Dr. Paul Farmer, the founding director of the international non-profit organization Partners in Health; Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, director of the United Nations Millennium Project; and Dr. Miriam Opwonya of the Makerere University Infectious Diseases Institute in Uganda.

At the forum, University President Father John Jenkins announced the University's decision to participate in the Millennium Villages Project in Uganda, where the Congregation of the Holy Cross has a strong presence.

Jenkins followed that discussion and commitment with a trip to Uganda to promote the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals and support Notre Dame's commitment to the village of Nindye. From Jan. 5 through Jan. 12, Jenkins led a group of delegates — including Executive Assistant to the President Frances Shavers, Associate Vice President for Marketing Communication Todd Woodward and Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative (NDMDI) Director Father Bob Dowd

— in a week-long trip to Uganda to see firsthand the village the University will partner with through the NDMDI.

Jenkins pushes for more Catholic faculty

In his second annual address to the faculty Sept. 26, Jenkins announced an initiative for the University to actively recruit more Catholic faculty members.

Though the number of undergraduate Catholics has remained relatively consistent at approximately 85 percent, the percentage of Catholic faculty has gradually decreased during the past 20 years.

In the 1985-86 school year, Catholics constituted 65 percent of the faculty. That number now hovers around 54 percent, according to statistics from the Office of Institutional Research.

To achieve the goal of increasing the percentage of Catholic faculty members, Jenkins created a new office funded by the Keough family to identify Catholic scholars well suited to teach at Notre Dame. The University can only advance its Catholic mission, Jenkins said in the address, if it has faculty members who are active in the Church and in their Catholic faith.

Caitlin Brann dies in car crash

Notre Dame senior Caitlin Brann died Nov. 10 in an early-morning car crash on Indiana State Toll Road near LaPorte, Ind. Brann, whose blood-alcohol level was more than three times the legal limit at .249 percent, had her rear passenger-side tire blow out, causing her to lose control of her 2000 Chevrolet Cavalier convertible, according to an Indiana State Police report.

More than 200 students gathered at the Grotto the next day for a candlelight memorial to honor the senior from Pasquerilla East Hall.

'Loyal Daughters' debuts

"Loyal Daughters," a student-created production about sexuality and sexual assault at Notre Dame, premiered Nov. 13 at the DeBartolo

Performing Arts Center without the endorsement of University President Father John Jenkins. The play, which Jenkins mentioned as a promising initiative in his "Closing Statement" on academic freedom in April 2006, ran without his endorsement because of what he called a "neutral" stance on premarital sexual relationships.

The performances were followed on three nights by panels discussing the prevalence of sexual assaults on college campuses — including Notre Dame — and the hope of promoting an environment more conducive to fostering better inter-gender relationships.

McAlarney arrested, suspended

Notre Dame sophomore basketball starting point guard Kyle McAlarney was suspended for the spring semester after his Dec. 29 marijuana possession charges. McAlarney, who was pulled over during what a police report called a "routine" traffic stop, was enrolled in classes for more than a week in January before learning of his suspension from the Office of Residence Life and Housing Jan. 23.

McAlarney's mother, Janice, said in interviews that she was upset with the length of time it took the University to come to a decision on McAlarney's punishment.

The decision also sparked campus debate over the severity of such punishments and whether Notre Dame was consistent in its treatment of McAlarney.

Hodges makes history

Kim Hodges and Kelly Payne came away with a narrow victory over opponents Colleen Ferreira and Jenny Antonelli in the Saint Mary's student body presidential and vice presidential elections Jan. 25. Hodges, who came to Saint Mary's hoping to "to be the first at something," became the College's first black student body president beginning with her inauguration April 1.

Notebaert follows McCartan

Richard Notebaert, a 10-year



November 10 ○

Notre Dame senior Caitlin Brann dies in an early-morning car crash on Indiana State Toll Road near LaPorte, Indiana. Brann, whose blood-alcohol content was more than three times the legal limit at .249 percent, had her rear passenger-side tire blow out, causing her to lose control of her 2000 Chevrolet Cavalier convertible, according to an Indiana State Police report.

January 5 ○

Jenkins leads a group of delegates — including Executive Assistant to the President Frances Shavers, Associate Vice President for Marketing Communication Todd Woodward and Notre Dame Millennium Development Initiative (NDMDI) Director Father Bob Dowd — in a week-long trip to Uganda to see firsthand the village the University will partner with through the NDMDI.

August

September

October

November

December

January

August 16 ○

Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross President Sister Joy O'Grady announces plans for Saint Mary's to lease campus land to the Holladay Corporation for an on-campus Hilton Garden Inn. The hotel is expected to open by the start of the 2007 football season.

September 14

The second annual Notre Dame Forum, focusing on the "global health crisis," kicks off at the Joyce Center. Panelists included Dr. Paul Farmer, the founding director of the international non-profit organization Partners in Health; Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, director of the United Nations Millennium Project and Dr. Miriam Opwonya of the Makerere University Infectious Diseases Institute in Uganda.

November 13 ○

"Loyal Daughters" premieres at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center without the endorsement of University President Father John Jenkins. The play ran without Jenkins' endorsement because of what he called a "neutral" stance on premarital sexual relationships.

January 22

Notre Dame basketball point guard Kyle McAlarney is suspended for the semester after his arrest in December on marijuana possession charges. The decision sparked campus debate over the severity of such punishments.

ND, SMC student body presidential elections make history. 'Loyal Daughters' and 'Vagina Monologues' performed.

in Review

♦ 2007

member of the University Board of Trustees and chief executive officer of Qwest Communications International, was elected to a three-year chair term in February. His term begins July 1, and he will become Notre Dame's sixth chairman.

He succeeds Patrick McCartan, who was chairman of the board for seven years.

Notebaert, who received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Wisconsin, has served as chair of the University Relations and Public Affairs and Communication Committee. Notebaert is also one of the University's 12 Fellows, who make up the "University's ultimate governing body."

Crews cause gas leaks

A gas leak on St. Joseph's Drive caused the evacuation of seven buildings — including DeBartolo Hall and Decio Hall — on campus Feb. 13.

Crews working to fix a broken water line struck a 4-inch gas line with a backhoe, prompting gas and soot to rise more than 20 feet in the air for more than an hour.

A month later, on March 26, a construction crew working on St. Joseph's Drive south of the Center for Social Concerns caused the rupture of another gas line. In that incident, vibrations from the digging likely unsettled the soil and caused rupture in the transition point, "that had been failing already," Director of Utilities Paul Kempf said.

University officials defended staff efforts after each incident and said they were just examples of the inherent possible problems of construction.

Brown, Braun make history

After a hotly contested race for the top two spots in student government, Liz Brown and Maris Braun were elected student body president and vice president, respectively, in a closed-door Student Senate meeting Feb. 18.

The final vote came after a run-off with contenders Danny Smith

and Ashley Weiss failed to produce a majority winner. During that race, Morrissey senator Greg Dworjan illegally used student government printers to produce flyers for the "campaign to abstain" and posted the flyers without proper approval. The campaign criticized both tickets and asked students to select the "abstain" option on their ballots.

Brown and Braun became the first all-female ticket to lead Notre Dame's student body when their term began April 1, and the pair's choice of Sheena Plamoottil as chief executive assistant created an all-female top-three for Notre Dame's student government.

'Vagina Monologues' open off campus

Students performed the first of three renditions of "The Vagina Monologues" in front of an audience of approximately 50 people at South Bend's First Unitarian Church Feb. 28.

The presentation, which moved off campus after organizers could not secure the endorsement of an academic department at Notre Dame, came nearly a year after Jenkins' decision not to ban the play from campus. Instead, organizers were restricted to an academic setting, prohibiting them from raising money. By moving off campus, the performance was able to collect more than \$200 on opening night and donate the money to charities, including the YWCA of St. Joseph County, which has the only overnight shelter in the county.

Campus construction progresses

Construction on several projects continued throughout the school year, with work on campus roads, new buildings and repairs.

The most striking change early in the school year was the closing of Juniper Road and the creation of a new entrance to campus several hundred feet west of Twyckenham Road.

The University also pushed forward its planned development south of campus, with Kite Realty

submitting its proposal to South Bend for zoning approval in late April. As the University plans the future of southern side of campus, it continued construction of a new road from the "C" parking lot to Edison Road to replace Juniper Road.

In March, Notre Dame broke ground on Duncan Hall, a planned male dormitory on West Quad.

Duncan Hall will house 232 students and stand next to McGlinn Hall, which was the last dorm built by the University, completed in 1997. The new dorm will be the first of four new dormitories the University hopes to build in the next 10 years. Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves said the new building, funded by 1952 Notre Dame graduate Raymond T. Duncan, will be completed by the summer of 2008 and house students that fall.

Construction on "Athletic Quad" — between Notre Dame Stadium and the Joyce Center — will continue as the University makes the space more pedestrian friendly.

Memorial Mass remembers Tech victims

Notre Dame held a memorial Mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart April 17 for the victims of the shooting massacre at Virginia Tech days earlier.

The Basilica was packed to a standing room only capacity, with the entire vestibule of the church completely full. The Mass drew more people than the 9/11 five-year anniversary Mass, which took place in the Basilica during the fall semester.

In the days after the incident, Notre Dame officials were initially hesitant to comment on the University's security protocols. Three days after the shootings, Jenkins sent an e-mail to students — which was also posted on his Web site — that was written to assure students and parents the University has a plan in place to respond to emergencies.

Contact Ken Fowler at kfowler1@nd.edu



○ January 25

Saint Mary's students vote Kimberly Hodges their new student body president. Hodges becomes the first African-American to lead the College's students beginning with her inauguration April 1.

○ February 18

Liz Brown is elected student body president and Maris Braun vice president in a closed-door Student Senate meeting after a run-off with Danny Smith and Ashley Weiss failed to produce a majority winner. The pair became the first all-female ticket to lead Notre Dame's student body when its term began April 1, and Brown and Braun's choice of Sheena Plamoottil as Chief Executive Assistant created an all-female top-three for Notre Dame's student government.

March 8

Notre Dame breaks ground on Duncan Hall, which is expected to be a male dormitory for 232 students. The University is expediting the construction of the building, which is the first of four residence halls Notre Dame hopes to complete in the next 10 years, so it can house students for the 2008 school year.

○ April 17

Notre Dame holds a memorial Mass in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart for the victims of the shooting massacre at Virginia Tech. The Basilica was packed to a standing room only capacity, with the entire rear lobby of the church completely full. The Mass drew more people than last fall's 9/11 five-year anniversary Mass.

February

March

April

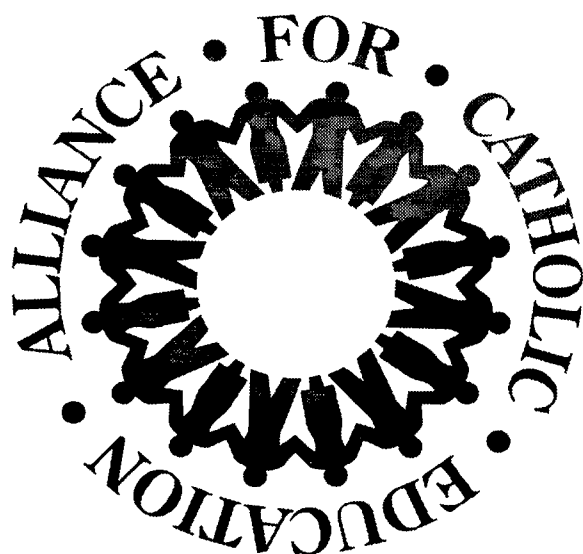
May

February 13 ○

A gas leak on St. Joseph's Drive causes the evacuation of seven buildings on campus. Crews working to fix a broken water line struck a 4-inch gas line with a backhoe, prompting gas and soot to rise more than 20 feet in the air for more than an hour.

February 28

Students open the first performance of "The Vagina Monologues" in front of an audience of approximately 50 people at South Bend's First Unitarian Church. The presentation was moved off campus after organizers could not secure the endorsement of an academic department at Notre Dame.



*The Alliance for Catholic Education
is proud to welcome its fourteenth 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 2007 graduates of
Saint Mary's College and
the University of Notre Dame.*

Welcome ACE 14!

Laura Adams	Tampa Bay, Florida
Kathleen Amato	Biloxi, Mississippi
Clare Ayala	Jackson, Mississippi
Kevin Braun	Dallas, Texas
Anne Brusky	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Lauren Bugos	Dallas, Texas
Daniel Chisholm	Dallas, Texas
John Clark	Denver, Colorado
Tony Crafa	Tampa Bay, Florida
Ryan Daily	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Mary DeMott	Tampa Bay, Florida
Julie Denkler	Kansas City, Kansas
David Duffey	Fort Worth, Texas
Lindsay Fitzpatrick	Denver, Colorado
Laura Hamman	San Antonio, Texas
Matt Hughes	Mission, Texas
Josh Hugo	Mobile, Alabama
Brynn Johnson	Birmingham, Alabama
Michelle Kemp	San Antonio, Texas
Clare Kizer	Jackson, Mississippi

Julie Libardi	Jacksonville, Florida
Ann Loughery	New Orleans, Louisiana
Patrick Manning	Memphis, Tennessee
Christine McGlinchy	Jacksonville, Florida
Phil Milroy	Jacksonville, Florida
Elias Moo	Denver, Colorado
Jeremy Moreno	Tucson, Arizona
Joseph O'Brien	Mission, Texas
Johnnie Quigley	Dallas, Texas
Robert Rhinesmith	Memphis, Tennessee
Barbie Sloan	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Allison Smith	Mission, Texas
André Smith	New Orleans, Louisiana
Savannah Spillers	Brownsville, Texas
Tim Sullivan	Denver, Colorado
Michael Suso	Pensacola, Florida
Erin Thornton	Denver, Colorado
Nancy Weaver	Fort Worth, Texas
Patrick Welch	Washington, D.C.
Kyle Winking	Brownsville, Texas

Justice Alito to speak to Saint Mary's grads

Some students plan silent protest against Supreme Court judge; College President Carol Ann Mooney backs decision

By KATIE KOHLER
Saint Mary's Editor

Saint Mary's selection of Supreme Court Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. to speak at Saturday's graduation has sparked a backlash among some in the College community.

In a news release, College President Carol Ann Mooney said Alito's acceptance of the College's offer was "an honor," but more than 60 seniors and professors are expected to participate in a silent protest during the commencement exercises Saturday.

Participants will be distributing yellow roses to audience members with the message "Remember the Women" and a quote from former College President Sister Madeleva Wolff: "Here is your profile. Here is your future. You are as fearless as you are good. Your faith has the long courage and the freedom of truth. Your education has been an education in truth. You go out today to face wrong everywhere, to take the longest strides your souls have ever taken."

"In response to Justice Alito's presence, College members have organized a respectful silent demonstration during the commencement exercises," senior



Alito

Kirsten Kensinger, one of the organizers of the protest, said in a statement. "It is in this spirit of a Saint Mary's education that some demonstrating seniors will silently place their yellow rose on the stage as they move forward to accept their diplomas."

In a formal statement to the College, participants said Alito has "consistently opposed concerns raised by women activists and, therefore weakened the necessary foundation of equality within our democratic system. While respecting Justice Samuel Alito as a person and honoring him as a member of the highest court in our land, those opposed feel we must take exception to his public record, which presents grave concerns for women, minorities, and the disabled, among others. ... We must defend these values with integrity."

The silent protest will not be the first demonstration by members of the senior class against the choice of Alito as the major graduation speaker. On March 8, Meghan Herbst, who is president of the College Democrats, joined Allison Beyer and junior Giuliana Rosato in submitting a formal letter addressed to Mooney with signatures from displeased students.

Alito, who graduated from Princeton University in 1972 and Yale Law School in 1975, is the 11th Catholic to serve on the Supreme Court and the 5th on the current Court.

Herbst said Alito has made many court rulings against women's rights in terms of family and medical leave, violence and sexual harassment.

Herbst thought the College's choice was not in alignment with Saint Mary's mission.

"I couldn't believe we would have someone so polarizing and misrepresenting of our mission at Saint Mary's as our commencement speaker," she said.

"I couldn't believe we would have someone so polarizing and misrepresenting of our mission at Saint Mary's as our commencement speaker."

Meaghan Herbst
president
College Democrats

While many students are pleased that such a prominent speaker will be delivering the address, Beyer said, having a "big name" doesn't guarantee the speaker identifies with the College.

The protest, the participants said, was not to change the speaker; they said they realized that Alito had already con-



Senior Meaghan Herbst collects a signature for her petition against Alito from fellow senior Hannah Starner in the Student Center in March.

firmed the engagement. The goal was to bring their dissatisfaction to the attention of the administration.

Mooney chose not to release a statement about the issue after the protest.

The majority of seniors seem to support Alito as the 2007 commencement speaker, as does Mooney.

Alito was nominated to the Supreme Court by President George W. Bush and was sworn in on January 31, 2006. He previously served as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit as appointed by George H. W. Bush in 1990.

Alito has also served as assistant to Solicitor General Rex E. Lee, deputy assistant to Attorney General Edwin

Meese and as U.S. Attorney for New Jersey.

Mooney recently worked as a committee member with Alito on the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure. They became friends through their work together, Executive Assistant to the President Susan Dampeer said.

Soon thereafter, Alito cordially accepted the invitation to speak at commencement.

Alito will attend the Baccalaureate dinner and reception today before the commencement address at noon in the Court of LeMans Saturday.

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ROTC seniors prepare to take on assignments

Brig. Gen. Michael Brogan, an ND grad, will address cadets; 63 officers will be commissioned at weekend ceremony

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

After four years of dedication to their roles as both Notre Dame students and members of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program, ROTC seniors will prepare for their new assignments soon after Saturday's Commissioning Ceremony at 9 a.m. in the Joyce Center.

Sixty-three officers will be commissioned at the ceremony, with 22 from the Army unit, 20 from the Air Force, 20 from the Navy and one from the Marines.

At the ceremony, Class of 1980 Notre Dame graduate Brig. Gen. Michael M. Brogan, commander of the Marine Corps Systems Command in Quantico, Va., will address the students.

Brogan has earned the Meritorious Service Medal with Gold Star, Navy Commendation Medal with Gold Star, Navy Achievement Medal and Combat Action Ribbon.

Lieutenant Colonel Gary Masapollo said the cadets will be sworn in as a group but recognized individually as well.

Most of the students know where they will be assigned, Masapollo said, and are pleased by their assignments.

"Just about all [who will be commissioned] have an assignment to go to, and that depends of course on their branch," he said. "The Army students know where they're going to, they know when they report in and when they are leaving. The Navy pretty much is sure at this point where they're

going, and there they will be assigned. ... They pretty much got the assignments they wanted — nobody was depressed that they didn't get what they wanted."

ROTC Battalion Operations Officer Chase Gund, part of the Navy unit, will be commissioned an ensign on Saturday. He has been assigned to the Navy Supply Corp and will be heading to the Navy Supply Corp School in Athens, Ga., at the beginning of July.

Fall 2006 Battalion Commander for Navy Erin Smith will also be commissioned as an ensign. She will be going to USS Cowpens — a cruiser out of Yokosuka, Japan — after she completes two weeks of training in Pearl Harbor. While anxious, Smith said she is also excited to begin her assignment, both because of the opportunity to live in Japan and because "this four years of training is about to pay off."

Air Force cadet John-Paul Adrian will be commissioned a second lieutenant and will begin his assignment as a security forces officer at F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyo., in June. Like many graduates, he is excited to start his assignment but unsure of what the future may bring.

"I'm really anxious to get out there and get started," he said. "It's kind of been four years of build up to get to this point. I'm a little nervous because there is a really good chance that I'm going to be deployed as early as this fall."

Midshipman First Class John Harrington, who will be commissioned as an ensign and has been

assigned to the Naval Air Station in Pensacola, Fla., to begin flight training as a naval aviator — something he described as a childhood dream.

"I've wanted to do it since I was seven years old," he said.

Notre Dame's reputation and its ROTC program, Harrington said, help cadets get the assignments they want.

"Coming from Notre Dame, you've got the education that the ROTC programs have and the status of the university," he said. "You have a pretty good chance at getting your first or second assignment choice."

For Harrington, the Pensacola assignment is a chance to start his training and put into practice everything that he has learned in his four years in Notre Dame's Navy ROTC program, which he called "the best in the nation — it's either the [Naval] Academy or Notre Dame."

Harrington said the "strong Catholic background and professional education background that Notre Dame provides" allows the University to produce well-rounded officers who are morally and professionally capable of carrying out tough jobs.

Since Notre Dame strives to maintain a Catholic identity, Smith said there is a focus on just war theory and leadership ethics in ROTC classes, although she acknowledged that non-Catholic university ROTC programs probably address these topics as well.

"I think we really have a good background in ethical and moral leadership," she said.

Optional ROTC Emmaus meet-

ings and freshman and senior retreats helped Adrian develop his faith within his role as a cadet.

"It's always a culture that you felt comfortable talking about your faith," he said. "It's really been good because you can talk about just war theory, how your Catholic beliefs might factor into hard decisions that you make at one point."

Those ideas of leadership and decision-making aren't just applicable to roles in the military, Gund said, but throughout life as well — a lesson he took away from Notre Dame's ROTC program.

"A lot of what I learned was just basically how to transition — the change from being just a normal civilian, like a college student, and the difference between that and actually being a member of the military and what different values you need to hold and what's expected of you. ... You're held to a higher standard," he said. "[The ROTC program] helped me to realize that being an officer in the military, you have a different place on the college campus, really."

For Smith, this different place means that she has to evaluate the examples that she sets.

"I think one of the strengths of ROTC is that you can be at a regular university and be a well-rounded officer ... but I do think that our college experience is different," she said. "You have to think about what you're doing in your social life and what example you are setting for underclassmen ... I think there are different considerations and a different mindset than the average college kid."

That different mindset is evident in how ROTC students view the

war on terrorism. Since Sept. 11 occurred before Harrington was accepted into the ROTC program, he and his fellow graduating cadets saw the reality of U.S. involvement in Iraq and the Middle East.

"We've known ever since we came that we were at war and that we'd probably still be at war at the time we graduated," he said. "... It's kind of a motivating factor that we will be able to use our skill set in defense of the country. We're not just going to be trained for when we go to war, because we are at war."

For Gund, the political situation in the U.S. does not increase or lessen his desire to serve his country.

"I kind of separate the politics from the actual serving the United States Military," he said. "It's the job, it's what I do. I'll do it willingly whether or not the politics behind it I would agree with or not."

Adrian said the war and possibility for deployment did not affect his decision to join ROTC. While he said he will continue military service past his commitment if he still enjoys it as much as now, he acknowledged that active duty will be different from ROTC.

Smith said she plans to determine whether to make military service her career after she completed her commitment.

"Most of us are thinking we'll evaluate when our commitment is over with. ... The majority of us don't know if we're going to make a career out of it," she said.

Contact Emma Driscoll at edriscol@nd.edu

McCartan presides over last Board of Trustees meeting

3 Notre Dame graduates elected to body, nine members receive new 3-year terms during spring meeting on campus

By KAITLYNN RIELY
Assistant News Editor

Three Notre Dame graduates were elected to the Board of Trustees (BOT) and nine board members were re-elected to new three-year terms when the group convened on campus May 4-5 for its spring meeting.

The BOT's Student Affairs Committee also listened to a presentation on the creation of the student union endowment by former student body president Lizzi Shappell, former vice president Bill Andrichik and outgoing Student Union Board manager Patrick Vassel. Liz Brown, who was Shappell's chief executive assistant and is now student body president, also attended the meeting, along with vice president Maris Braun.

The spring meeting was the last time the Trustees, which now number 56, met on campus under the leadership of chair Patrick F. McCartan. Richard Notebaert, the chairman and chief executive officer of Qwest Communications International, was elected chair in February and will assume this position July 1.

At the meeting, the University Fellows — six lay members and six priests of the Congregation of the Holy Cross who make up Notre Dame's ultimate governing body — re-elected nine trustees to serve new terms. The re-elected trustees were McCartan, Robert F. Biolchini, Cathleen P. Black, José E.

Fernández Sr., W. Douglas Ford, Douglas Tong Hsu, Philip J. Purcell III, William F. Reilly and Phyllis W. Stone.

The Fellows also elected two new Fellows and re-elected another one.

Shirley W. Ryan and McCartan were elected as Fellows.

McCartan, as the board chairman, was an ex officio Fellow for the past seven years.

Notebaert is a Fellow already and will hold this position in the ex officio capacity once he becomes Board chairman in July.

Rev. E. William Beauchamp, the president of the University of Portland, was re-elected as Fellow.

The Board announced at the conclusion of its meetings that three graduates — Stephen J. Brogan, Jay Flaherty and John W. Glynn Jr. — had been elected to serve on the BOT.

Brogan graduated from Notre Dame Law School in 1977 and is now managing partner of Jones Day, an international law firm. Brogan deals with cases involving complex litigation, including securities, banking, corporate criminal investigations and product liability issues.

Brogan received his bache-

lor's degree from Boston College. At Notre Dame, he was the executive editor of the Law Review. He took a job at Jones Day after graduation from Notre Dame, took two years off to serve as a deputy assistant attorney general in the Department of Justice, and then

returned to the firm. Brogan succeeded McCartan in 2003 to become managing partner of Jones Day.

Brogan and Jones Day are benefactors of the Law School. Brogan served for seven years as a member of the Law School's advisory council.

Brogan has one daughter who has graduated from Notre Dame and another one who is a student at Notre Dame.

Flaherty attended Notre Dame as an undergraduate, earning a bachelor's degree in accountancy in 1979. Since 2002, he has been the chairman and chief executive officer of Health Care Property Investors (HCP), based in Long Beach, Calif. Before taking up this position, he worked at Merrill Lynch and Co. for 19 years and was elected managing director of the company in 1991. In that position, he was responsible for overseeing several investment banking industry groups at the

firm.

Flaherty has a master of business administration degree (MBA) from the Graduate School of Management at the University of California, Los Angeles. Between undergraduate and graduate school, he worked for two years as a certified public accountant in Ernst and Whinney in Boston.

Flaherty sits on the board of directors of Quest Diagnostics Inc. and on the board of governors of the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts. Since 1999, he has served on an advisory council for the College of Arts and Letters at Notre Dame.

Glynn graduated from Notre Dame in 1962 with a bachelor's degree in history and is the founder and general partner of Glynn Capital Management and Glynn Ventures in Menlo Park, Calif. Glynn has been a venture capital investor in private companies since 1970, with a focus on hardware, software, networking communications, medical devices, biotechnology and medical service companies. He is an advisor to New Enterprise Associates, a venture firm with more than \$3.5 billion under management.

Glynn has a law degree from the University of Virginia Law School and an MBA from Stanford University. Since 1998, Glynn has served on the advisory council for Notre Dame's College of Arts and Letters and since 2000 has sat on the advisory board of the University's Gigot Center for

Entrepreneurial Studies.

Last year he and his wife, Barbara, contributed \$10 million to expand and fortify the Glynn Family Honors Program, a joint initiative of the College of Arts and Letters and the College of Science.

Notre Dame student government leaders gave a 30-minute presentation to the BOT Student Affairs Committee on May 3. The endowment — announced to the student body at the end of Shappell and Andrichik's term this spring — is a fund composed of money from "The Shirt" project royalty fund and from the student government's carry-forward account. Shappell said the endowment would provide funding for events for future student bodies.

Shappell said the trustees' reaction to the endowment was "very positive."

"They indicated that this is a positive step in assuring fiscal responsibility and potentially better programming on our campus," Shappell said.

Board members also had positive comments about her administration, she said.

"They were extremely flattering of our work this past year," Shappell said "It was an honor to receive such positive feedback from the Board."

Leaders of the student government make three presentations to the BOT throughout the year.

Contact Kaitlynn Riely at kriely@nd.edu

"They were extremely flattering of our work this past year. It was an honor to receive such positive feedback from the Board."

Lizzi Shappell
former student body president

Commencement Weekend 2007

Dear Graduates,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my prayers and best wishes to the members of the Class of 2007. 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 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,

Mark Poorman, C.S.C.

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



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Graduate School holds first separate ceremony

University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman will speak at exercises designed to highlight students' accomplishments

By MARCELA BERRIOS
Associate News Editor

For the first time in its 90-year existence, the Graduate School will hand out master's degrees and doctorates Saturday in a graduation ceremony separate from the undergraduate commencement exercises — a change organizers said would give the University more time to recognize its graduate students individually.

In previous years, graduates students received their diplomas alongside undergraduate seniors. But as a result of the large numbers of combined degree recipients and time constraints, only outstanding doctoral students were recognized during the ceremony.

"I wanted to create an event that would focus attention on our graduate students' accomplishments and degrees," University President Father John Jenkins said in a letter to graduate students. "With a separate Graduate School ceremony, all doctoral and master's degree recipients will be recognized in a special way."

The new, separate ceremony will include the presentation of the Shaheen Awards, the Graduate School's highest student distinction, as well as awards for outstanding professors and graduate alumni. In the past, the winners were merely listed on the main com-

mencement program.

"A separate ceremony is, in fact, the norm at many of our peer institutions," Jenkins wrote. "At Notre Dame, while law and MBA graduates participate in the main commencement, the Law School and MBA program recognize their graduates with a separate ceremony. We, too, want to distinguish — certainly not hide — our graduates because they deserve this special attention."

Approximately 800 students will receive advanced degrees in engineering, architecture, science, humanities or social sciences Saturday in the Leighton Concert Hall of the DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts, according to the Graduate School's Web site. The Law School and the MBA Program in the Mendoza College of Business will continue to host their separate ceremonies for their degree recipients.

The Dean of the Graduate School, Don Pope-Davis, will preside over Saturday's ceremony, which will feature University of Michigan President Mary Sue Coleman as its keynote speaker.

A distinguished biochemist,

Coleman has served as Michigan's 13th president since 2002, investing millions of dollars in affirmative action and health care initiatives during her tenure.

Jenkins said he expected Coleman's address to directly target the postgraduate students' feelings — something that had not been possible at the combined graduation exercises.

"Typically, the keynote speaker for the main commencement tends to direct his or her remarks to the graduating senior class," Jenkins wrote. "While these remarks may also be useful for Master's and

Ph.D. recipients, they tend not to speak directly to graduate students' experiences, aspirations and responsibilities, which are indeed markedly different from those of graduating seniors."

Jenkins, Pope-Davis and Provost Thomas Burish decided together to hold a separate ceremony "based upon the suggestions of several faculty members and in consultation with the deans of the various colleges," Jenkins wrote.

Despite their rationale, there were some complaints among

the graduate student population after Jenkins announced the decision to hold a separate, smaller ceremony in the Leighton Concert Hall, which can seat as many as 1,000 people. Patty Bueso, who will receive her Master of Science in Accountancy (MSA) degree Saturday, said many of her classmates didn't understand Jenkins' reasoning.

"I graduated from Notre Dame last year, and I remember sitting there many hours waiting for all the seniors, master's and Ph.D. students. Everyone was tired and restless," Bueso said. "Some of the graduate students I know complained when they heard they were having a separate ceremony, but they don't understand this is a move that will make them and their families more comfortable."

Jenkins and Burish will be in attendance Saturday, as well as the University's vice presidents

and associate provosts — Dennis Jacobs, Jean Ann Linney and Christine Maziar — and deans Michael Lykoudis from the School of Architecture, Joseph Marino from the College of Science, James Merz from the College of Engineering and Mark Roche from the College of Arts and Letters.

Contact Marcela Berrios at
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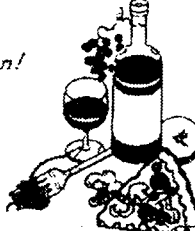
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Prestigious awards given to graduates

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

Several seniors have received fellowships and scholarships that will assist them in pursuing their passions and future careers as they embark on the next stage of their lives.

Senior Zach Stewart, an architecture and medieval studies major, was one of the eight recipients of the prestigious Fulbright research grant, out of a pool of 500 applicants.

Stewart will spend a year studying medieval architecture at the University of London's Courtauld Institute of Art.

"The [grant] is useful because I plan to pursue a Ph.D. in the history of medieval architecture," Stewart said. "It will give me the chance to spend the year studying the buildings themselves."

Stewart said his study abroad experience in Rome impacted both his leaning and his passion for architecture.

"Studying abroad for a year with the Rome program was important to exposing me to different educational methods," he said. "Part of the reason I applied for the Fulbright [grant] in first place is because it is so independent and research-based — so you really get to dig into the material."

Although Stewart said he had not considered looking into fellowship until the end of his junior year, he said there were a number of faculty members who were instrumental in helping him pursue this grant.

Stewart explained that whether he pursues a career in academia or architecture, "rigorous historical background regarding buildings" is essential to his future goals.

Marshall Scholarship recipient Meg Towle plans to obtain a master's degree in Humanitarian Studies at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine. The Marshall Scholarship enables her to obtain a master's degree after one year of study in the United Kingdom, and then pursue her research in international health management more extensively in her second year.

Towle said applying for the scholarship was a last-minute decision, which proved to have successful results and will be a stepping-stone for her to pursue a career in international health.

"I think this will have everything to do with my career," she said. "I want to work in international health management, particularly with displaced women and refugees."

An anthropology and peace studies major, Towle said her experiences at Notre Dame with community-based learning, international studies and research have helped her discern her interests and obtain the Marshall Scholarship. She also said the anthropology department, the Kroc Institute

and the Center for Social Concerns were essential to her success.

"This will be a fantastic educational experience and will help me to [study] in areas that I hope to work in," Towle said.

Other scholarships will assist students financially for post-graduate school.

Senior Ted Brown received \$7,500 toward his medical school education at the Indiana School of Medicine from the NCAA Scholarship, which is awarded to successful student-athletes.

As a swimmer at Notre Dame, Brown said both his professors and coaches were instrumental in helping him to obtain the scholarship.

"I think the most important thing I learned at Notre Dame was the importance of time management," Brown said. "Because I was able to handle rigorous academics and the swimming requirement, I think I can achieve my goals because of the foundation I had at Notre Dame."

Brown hopes to specialize in oncology, but said he is keeping his options open to other fields of medicine as well.

Many also use fellowships and scholarships to explore fields of study of particular interest to them.

This September, senior Juan Gastelum will

teach middle school English and American Studies in Spain as part of the Fulbright Teaching Assistantship.

Gastelum said the program fosters cultural exchange between the United States and Spain.

"The Romance Language component [of my studies] gave me a good background in Spanish and Italian literature and also helped me to learn Spanish culture," Gastelum said.

A pre-professional studies and romance languages major, Gastelum said the nine-month assistantship will help him decide whether he wants to continue to pursue a career in medicine.

"This might give me a new direction, and it is a way to give myself time. ... It is also an amazing opportunity," Gastelum said.

While in Spain, Gastelum will also have the opportunity to conduct research on the portrayal of immigrant cultures in film.

Other awards won by members of the class of 2007 include Austrian Teaching Assistantships (Adam Snider and Stephen Zakas), French Teaching Assistantships (Samantha Alarie-Leca, Michael P. Barrett, Danielle Danaher, Andrea Nolet), the Humanity in Action Fellowship (Naomi Hansen) and National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowships (Jonathan Bischof, Rebecca Ladewski, Elizabeth Rollins).

Contact Becky Hogan at rhogan2@nd.edu

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Five rectors choose to leave at end of academic year

By EMMA DRISCOLL
News Writer

As graduating seniors move on to jobs and volunteer placements, five rectors will leave their current positions to pursue other opportunities.

Keough rector Mark DeMott, Welsh Family rector Candace Carson, Howard rector Jenni Oliva, Zahm rector Father Dan Parrish and University Village rector Molly O'Neill will either be pursuing ministry, working elsewhere at the University, or leaving for family purposes.

After working as a rector for one year, DeMott will be a candidate at Moreau Seminary and also plans to work at St. Joseph Parish in South Bend.

"It's been a decision that I've thought about for several years and one that my work as rector has helped to confirm," he said. "The rector role is one that a lot of Holy Cross priests do. I guess it just helped me to see myself in that role."

Parrish said he will stay on campus next year and move to Morrissey as an in-resident priest. He will also work as a financial consultant in the budget office and will take time next year to apply to doctorate programs in hopes of attending doctorate school

the following year.

"I'm also really excited about the next step ... I need that degree to serve Notre Dame as well as possible," he said.

Before her two years as rector, Oliva worked as a director of youth ministry in Milwaukee. She plans to return to parish ministry, applied to several parishes and is now in the "waiting game" to hear where she may be accepted.

O'Neill said in an e-mail that she will be moving out of University Village at the end of the summer once her husband attains a doctorate in chemical engineering from Notre Dame.

Carson is also leaving for family reasons, as she will be getting married in three weeks. The Welsh Family rector, who served in the position for five years, said the relationships that she has built with the women in her dorm and living in community with students is what she will miss the most about her job.

"I'll miss the interactions and the joys and the hopes, as well as the 'Oh, Candace, this is what I do now,'" she said. "There are always the not so good things, but those are only about two percent of my job. The other 98 percent is joyous and fulfilling ... I feel like the proud aunt of a lot of them."

For DeMott and the other rectors, what stood out the most were the students that the job brought into their lives.

"The thing I enjoyed most was the interaction with the students and getting the chance to walk a little bit of their college journey with them, getting to hear what they were concerned about, excited about ... just getting a chance to journey with them a little bit," DeMott said.

Oliva said she would miss being involved not only in the "day-to-day regular things, but also in the really important parts of life — sometimes being invited into those instances and sometimes getting involved because that was my job."

Along with building relationships with students comes the chance to learn about their different backgrounds. The diversity of the University Village community had a great impact on O'Neill's life, she said.

"With the rector position, I was given such a unique opportunity to interact regularly with people from all over the world," she said. "Furthermore, realizing that the fundamental commonalities between all of the

people in our community are appreciation for life and genuine compassion for one another has been truly inspiring."

Parrish said "easily the most rewarding" part of being rector was "the privilege of

being involved in so many men's lives."

That opportunity to be so involved — "just getting to serve and coming to know the 240 men of Zahm" — is what

Parrish will miss most about the position.

"I'm going to miss knowing that I have an impact on a community," he said. "I walk around the halls here and I know that I know all these guys, at least somewhat,

and I'll never be that close to so many people in a community like this again."

While the rectors have all enjoyed the opportunity to establish relationships within their dorm communities, some said that managing and finding time was one of the most challenging aspects of their job.

DeMott was balancing a full time graduate student course load with his role as rector and said that, at times, it became difficult.

Parrish said "adapting to the lifestyle of young men" was challenging.

"They don't sleep much, and I'm a morning person," he said. "Staying up late every night is always a challenge."

Rectors often have to help students deal with tough situations, including personal or family problems or disciplinary issues. Leading those students to accept personal

responsibility for behavior could be challenging, Oliva said, and teaching some of the women "how to be adult women" and about "not relying on outside forces to always take care of things" makes the job tougher.

For Carson, the problems that students encountered also made her job challenging.

"In ministry, it's not always hugs and 'Oh it will be OK,'" she said. "Sometimes there are the difficult things that you need to talk to somebody about — a behavior, or a death of someone ... maybe help them discern the hard things in life."

Just as Carson said she was "willing to step up to the plate to do that," she hopes the students in Welsh Family will step up to help whoever takes her place as rector.

"I have such a great community of women and they're always willing to step up and help," she said. "We've talked

"As is true of all our rectors, these rectors have served the students of Notre Dame with extraordinary generosity, modeling lives of faith and working to build Christian community."

Ann Firth
associate vice president
Student Affairs

a lot about how they are going to show the same kind of caring and help that they've showed to me for five years to the new rector."

Associate Vice President of Student Affairs Ann Firth said in an e-mail that Student Affairs is very grateful for the contributions of the five rectors.

"As is true of all of our rectors, these rectors have served the students of Notre Dame with extraordinary generosity, modeling lives of faith and working to build Christian community," she said.

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Administrative changes shape College's future

Fleming named to replace Vihtelic as Saint Mary's vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty

By KATIE KOHLER
Saint Mary's Editor

After a nearly yearlong search, Saint Mary's named Patricia Fleming vice president for academic affairs and dean of faculty on Feb. 20.

Fleming will replace interim Vice President and Dean of Faculty Jill Vihtelic and will begin her duties July 1.

"In addition to being a gifted administrator, Dr. Fleming is nationally and internationally known for her research on the ethical implications of nuclear waste proposal," College President Carol Ann Mooney said in a statement shortly after the announcement. "Her extensive involvement in Catholic higher education, her scholarly standing and her administrative skills make her a perfect fit for leading the faculty at Saint Mary's, and I am excited about working with her."

Fleming has taught philosophy at Creighton University in Omaha since 1977. There, she

focused on environmental and medical ethics and the philosophies of social science.

In 2001, she was appointed to senior associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Fleming also recently served on a National Academy of Science committee and currently maintains a White House approved appointment on the Veterans Board on Dose Reconstruction.

Now Fleming said she is looking forward to working at a women's college and hopes her experiences at Creighton prepared her for the task.

"There is an abundance of research that proves the value of a single-gender education for women, especially in the greater access it gives women to develop their talents," she said in a statement. "I have met many impressive students and alumnae who demonstrate Saint Mary's extraordinary success in that area."

Fleming said she is ready to take on her new administrative position.

"It is clear to me, when stand-

ing outside Saint Mary's, that it is the number one Catholic residential college for women in the nation today," she said. "I am humbled by Saint Mary's choice in my candidacy and am proud,

at the same time, to help the College continue to do its important work."

Vihtelic, who held Fleming's position for one year, was chosen by Mooney and the recruitment search committee last spring to fill the vacancy left by previous dean, Patrick White, who accepted a position at Wabash College last year. Vihtelic will return to the department of business administration and economics as a full-time member of the faculty in the fall.

Fleming earned her bachelor's degree in philosophy and sociol-

ogy from Marygrove College in Detroit. She earned her master's and doctorate degrees in philosophy from Washington University in St. Louis, Mo.

Saint Mary's on Tuesday named Larisa Olin Ortiz director of multicultural affairs. Previously, Ortiz served as assistant director.

"She leads the campus office established to advance the understanding of diversity at all levels by providing educational programs, services, support systems, networks and the review and implementation of policies and procedures on diversity initiatives," College spokeswoman Melanie McDonald said in a press release.

"It is clear to me, when standing outside Saint Mary's, that it is the number one Catholic residential college for women in the nation today."

Patricia Fleming
vice president for academic
affairs and dean of faculty

Ortiz is a native of Monterrey, Mexico and lived in Munich, Germany before coming to Saint Mary's in 2005.

Last spring, Saint Mary's also named professors Joseph Incandela and Deborah McCarthy associate deans of faculty and academic strategies, respectively. Each will serve for three years.

Karen Johnson was also named as vice president of student affairs last spring. Johnson replaced Linda Timm, who accepted a head role at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee.

Fleming hopes to identify with the students of Saint Mary's during her tenure as Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty.

"Aside from aesthetics, I found Saint Mary's to be a warm, welcoming and very spirited place," she said. "I loved the way the students identified themselves as 'Saint Mary's women.'"

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Seniors participate in post-graduate service

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

While Notre Dame has an established tradition of undergraduate service to those in need, a new trend is emerging with many graduating seniors who choose to participate in postgraduate service programs in Africa.

In the past, many students have traveled to Latin America for service opportunities. Recently, however, some students have chosen to focus their efforts in Africa due to the University's involvement in Uganda, as well as an increased campus awareness of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals.

"Many students are intrigued by the culture in Africa, and want to experience it more fully," said Liz Mackenzie, director of senior transition programs at the Center for Social Concerns.

Approximately 160 seniors plan to participate in postgraduate service, Mackenzie said, and that number is likely to increase to about 210 participants by the fall — meaning that 10 percent of the Class of 2007 will participate in various service programs around the globe.

"We are on target this year for

the 10 percent," Mackenzie said. "This number has stayed constant for the past several years."

Former student body president Lizzi Shappell will travel to Uganda at the end of August to work for the Holy Cross missionary program. She and four other graduating seniors will teach there for 16 months.

Shappell said she was attracted to the program because of its "strong emphasis on community."

While Shappell said she knew she wanted to participate in international service after graduation, it was not until she traveled to Uganda last spring that she realized she wanted to be more involved in service there.

"There is a lot of flexibility [in Uganda] to work with women's groups or HIV/AIDS," she said. "I will be able to make the program my own."

Shappell hopes to pursue a career in international relations or public policy after serving in Uganda.

Mackenzie said the teaching service programs are the most competitive due to their popularity among graduating seniors. Teaching service programs include Teach for America (TFA), Notre Dame's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE), the Puerto Rico Center for Social Concerns, and various magnet

schools — including Crystal Ray and Nativity Prep.

Other postgraduate service opportunities include work with Notre Dame's Campus Ministry, the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps and service work with the children or elderly.

"A few more women [participate in postgraduate service] than men, but I think a lot of the programs now are marketing towards men," Mackenzie said.

"I don't know if the numbers will even out, but [service organizations] are definitely aiming to get more men involved."

Mackenzie explained that many seniors find service activities to be an attractive post-graduation option because it allows them to "give back to the community."

"Others have been fascinated by a previous service experience and want to learn more," she said.

Shappell said Notre Dame has helped her to prepare for service work.

"The one thing that I love about Notre Dame is its emphasis on social justice and service learning," Shappell said.

Many seniors participating in postgraduate service have previous service experiences, particularly service projects through the Center for Social Concerns (CSC).

"The CSC has so many great resources, and the popularity of all of these programs ... speaks for the culture of service that the CSC helps to build up," senior Bradley Jenkins said.

Jenkins credits Notre Dame for "fostering" the idea of doing a year of service after graduation and for providing resources to pursue several service opportunities throughout his undergraduate career.

Jenkins participated in service in Kampala, Uganda, and worked at the Shalom Catholic Worker House in Kansas City, Mo. He now plans to perform his service work in Washington, D.C. for the Capital Area Immigrants' Rights Coalition. Mennonite Voluntary Service sponsors this program.

"I'm going to be working on an asylum law project ... helping refugees with legal immigration service," Jenkins said.

Jenkins said he decided to participate in this program because he is interested in immigration issues, particularly human rights for refugees. Coincidentally for Jenkins, after the 2006 Notre Dame focused on global health care issues, including those in Africa, the 2007 forum will focus on immigration issues.

After a year of service, Jenkins plans to either work in non-profit

administration or attend graduate school to study theological ethics.

Some teaching programs, including ACE, offer participants master's degrees upon completion of the programs.

Senior Matthew Hughes will teach fourth graders in Rio Grande City, Texas as part of the ACE program.

"I know that about half my students come across the border with Mexican visas everyday," Hughes said.

Hughes said he decided he wanted to dedicate two years of service to the program after his friend participated in it.

"It seemed like a good opportunity to support a different type of community that I haven't experienced yet," Hughes said. "I am very excited about the opportunity to learn more about what is going on here."

Although he is not sure what his future holds, Hughes is considering teaching and will use his two years of service as a time to discern.

"I think the CSC has really been formative in my interest in social concerns and social outreach," he said.

Graduating seniors participating in service will be honored at the Senior Service Send-Off ceremony Saturday at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center's Leighton Hall. University President Father John Jenkins and Lithuanian President Valdas Adamkus will address seniors and their families.

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"The CSC has so many great resources, and the popularity of all these programs ... speaks for the culture of service that the CSC helps to build up."

Bradley Jenkins
senior

Dean Roche announces resignation

By KEN FOWLER
News Writer

College of Arts and Letters Dean Mark Roche announced May 1 he will resign from his administrative position at the end of the 2007-08 school year, ending 11 years of leading the college. He will continue his work as a professor and scholar at Notre Dame.

A nationwide search headed by Provost

Thomas Burish for Roche's successor will begin after a College Council election seats five members on the search committee. Roche told The Observer it would be unusual for the outgoing dean to participate on the committee, and he does not foresee himself acting in that role.

"In many ways, it's even more appealing," Roche said, comparing the position of Arts and Letters dean today to the job 10 years ago. "I would hope they would be able to attract someone far superior to me. And I'm confident they will."

Praising the staff in the dean's office, Roche said whoever succeeds him will inherit a "well-oiled machine."

"We have in a dean's office a support staff, beginning with my senior administrative assistant [Carmen L. Leichty], that's absolutely superb," Roche said.

Roche joined the Notre Dame faculty as the Rev. Edmund P. Joyce, C.S.C., Professor of German Language and Literature in 1996 and was selected to

replace Harold W. Attridge as Arts and Letters dean in 1997.

"It was not my original intention to serve as long as I have, but I stayed in the role because I fell in love early on with Notre Dame's distinctive vision and ethos and with the community and aspirations of the College of Arts and Letters," Roche wrote in a letter sent to faculty members May 1.

Roche, who graduated magna cum laude from Williams College in 1978, currently teaches a college seminar on faith, doubt and reason. He said he would like to continue teaching in the college seminar format and may also resume teaching duties in German literature courses.

"By the end of next year I will have been tenured for eighteen years and will have served as an administrator for seventeen years," Roche wrote. "Any additional years would have moved me, perhaps irrevocably, into a career as an administrator. I have always preferred the somewhat antiquated model, which I admired already as an undergraduate at Williams College, whereby an administrator is an active scholar-teacher who serves for a period of time and then passes the baton, returning to full-time teaching and scholarship."

After publishing four books during his time as dean — including three whose research and scholarship had large portions conducted either before his tenure began or during a partial leave he took in his third year as dean — Roche is preparing two new scholarly books. One will be in German, intended for a German audience, comparing the American university system, including Catholic universities, to

the German system. The other, The Three-fold Value of a Liberal Arts Education, draws from his time as dean, he said.

In 2003, Roche published The Intellectual Appeal of Catholicism and the Idea of a Catholic University, a book that came "after having interviewed hundreds of job candidates who really didn't understand what Notre Dame's Catholic mission was all about," he said.

Roche said one of his major goals of the past five years has been promoting Notre Dame's triadic identity as a "residential liberal arts college," an "ambitious and dynamic research university," and "a Catholic institution of international standing."

"The last juncture where I had to reflect on continuing was after five years," Roche said. "At the time, I was aware of some challenges that had not been met."

"I think the college is in very good shape. ... I would also say the new leadership is well in place, and I have stayed perhaps a little bit longer to help the transition," Roche said, referring to University President Father John Jenkins' inauguration in September 2005.

Roche was awarded the Kaneb Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching in 2006.

Since 1997, Roche has served as associate editor for Film and Philosophy, an annual journal published by the Society for the Philosophic Study of the Contemporary Visual Arts.

The College of Arts and Letters includes 21 departments and 30 majors for approximately 2,500 undergraduate students and another 750 graduate students.

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O'Connor, Burke to lead College BOT

By LIZ HARTER
News Writer

The Saint Mary's Board of Trustees (BOT) unanimously elected John J. O'Connor as chair and Mary Burke as vice chair at the group's April 18-20 meeting.

O'Connor and Burke will assume their new positions June 1.

O'Connor, a 1976 Notre Dame alum, is currently a vice chancellor and secretary of the 64-campus State University of New York (SUNY) system.

Burke, a 1985 Saint Mary's alumna, was elected to the Board in 2005. She is a Chicago banking executive and involved in The Food Partners, an investment-banking firm for the food industry.

"I look forward to the leadership of John J. O'Connor and Mary Burke," College President Carol Ann Mooney said in a statement. "John's experience in higher education and Mary's financial background will ensure that the Board of Trustees will continue to move the College forward. Both are seasoned professionals with a deep commitment to Saint Mary's."

O'Connor will have a three-year term and will succeed Deborah Johnson Schwiebert, a 1974 Saint Mary's alumna. Burke's term lasts two years.

"I was honored to be elected by my colleagues to serve as

chair," O'Connor said. "I am delighted to have the opportunity to play a particular role in support of President Carol Mooney and her colleagues over the next three years of my term."

O'Connor is also president and chief executive officer of the State University's Research Foundation, where he is responsible for the support of research, technology transfer and university-government-corporate partnerships involved in scientific innovation and discovery.

O'Connor first joined the BOT in 1998 at the invitation of Phil Faccenda, Notre Dame's general counsel and a Saint Mary's board member. Having worked with senior administrators at both SUNY and New York University, he said he took the position because he "felt that his experience might be beneficial to the campus."

O'Connor also served as the vice chair of the Board of Trustees, a position which will be filled by Burke.

Burke was also chair of the board and interim chief executive officer at Associated Grocers, Inc., of Seattle, a billion-dollar cooperative grocery wholesaler. She is the former chief financial officer for Imperial Sugar Company and also worked as Vice President for Harris Trust and Savings Bank in Chicago.

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Roche

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Special talents and friends named Reggie

Looking through old boxes in my closet this week as I began organizing myself for my trip home, I stumbled upon a picture that I'd placed in my dorm during freshman orientation four years ago.

Huddled in a tight cluster were me and eight of my closest friends from high school enjoying ourselves on a late summer night before we'd all head our separate ways. The picture was a reminder of a time when I thought that I'd never be able to match those friendships.

Boy was I wrong.

Over four years at Notre Dame I've collected a number of great memories from my time as a student and editor at the campus newspaper. I've taken great classes, met intelligent professors and received an excellent education. At the newspaper I learned valuable lessons that I will carry with me as I begin my professional career. Listening to Charlie Weis and Mike Brey talk sports wasn't bad either.

But the number of these memories don't come close to the ones I've collected while spending time with my friends. Let's start with some of the first weekends in Keough freshman year when we began realizing that Mac had a special talent. To this day, I laugh every time he runs down the

stairs in our off-campus house.

Smiles aside, Mike probably still cringes when he remembers the time he wanted to give a friend some help at that off-campus party sophomore year. Hopefully that same generosity will be useful in helping with surgeries some day.

How about the junior year trip to Ann Arbor for the Michigan game when we got sidetracked along the highway? I might have won "Least Valuable Player" for that weekend, but I didn't discourage Byrnes from introducing everyone to our new friend Reggie.

There's also the senior year trip to Las Vegas when The Coach had to call it an early night — at 6 p.m. Donnelly, Dan and I made it home later that night after we made a few "standard" inquiries in the cab ride from Mandalay Bay.

Finally, I'm not sure it was a good idea to spend that much money in the airport with Dave before our spring break even began, but I'll never forget the priceless look on that waitress' face.

The stories don't end there but the point is clear. Everyone says college is about growing as a person and maturing as an adult. And at least for me, I don't think I'd be the person I am today without my buddies from Notre Dame. I feel lucky to have made so many close friends, and I credit the University for making all these great times possible.

Friends outside Notre Dame criticize the school, wondering why we have single-sex dorms and, more so, why

we don't complain about our living situations. Granted I did grow out of it, but making close friends is easy when you're not always worried about chasing girls.

And those friendships forged over the course of college only grew thicker when we encountered our more difficult moments. Life isn't always easy but with good relationships those incidents are easier to get through.

Over the next several years the times we see each other will go from daily to monthly as we settle into our jobs and lives. Football Saturdays will invariably become times to look back at how much fun we had while continuing to wonder when the hell Notre Dame will win its next National Championship.

But at a point where a lot of people are upset about college being over, I feel somewhat satisfied. I've had a great time at Notre Dame, and I will take these memories — and lessons — with me for the rest of my life.

Because like leaving my friends from home and beginning college, we are all about to embark on a new journey. But that doesn't mean we can't smile about how great the last four years really were. Thanks guys.

Bobby Griffin is a senior graduating with a degree in American Studies. He'll be moving back to New York and although he doesn't plan to be drafted, he'll still be a free agent for any NBA team who wants to sign him. You can contact Bobby at rgriffi3@nd.edu

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



Bobby Griffin

*Assistant
Managing
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Emeritus*

QUOTES OF THE DAY

"You can have all the talent in the world, but if the pumper's not there, it doesn't matter."

Glen Sather
Professional hockey coach

"Just about a month from now I'm set adrift, with a diploma for a sail and lots of nerve for oars."

Richard Halliburton
American writer

Family in Bookstore and beyond

In fourth grade, I went out for the school basketball team. I played mostly forward for the St. Leo's Lions "C" team for the next two years, and managed to play on the "B" team in sixth grade.

Of course, I use the term "play" loosely. Even in fourth grade, it is possible to tell the natural basketball players from those perhaps more suited to soccer or swimming or field hockey, and I fell into the latter group.

But my three years of basketball experience made me the most experienced player on 2006's "You Think We're Bad, But You Have No Idea" Bookstore Basketball team. As such, I assumed the role of point guard and power forward.

It is not surprising that my team was shut out 21-0 in our debut last year, and managed to score just one legitimate point this year (although we managed to convince our freshman opponents to allow us to score a few toward the end of the game to lessen our margin of loss). My former coaches and teammates would probably say that I have actually gotten worse since my days of grade-school basketball, although my court vision has significantly improved now that I no longer wear glasses.

But in many ways, my experience with Bookstore Basketball brings together the

things I love about Notre Dame — my friends, the athletic atmosphere, and family tradition. The English major in me sees this experience as a symbol for the past four years. Perhaps that's a stretch, but my Bookstore experience has mirrored the most important parts of my college experience in three important ways.

They say college is what you make of it, and I credit my friends for making the little everyday things into memories I will always cherish. Whether it is being one of Bookstore Basketball's least talented teams, putting together outfits for every possible SYR theme, planning parties, going grocery shopping or just laying around on the couch watching Friends and talking (it might surprise you how much time we can spend doing this), these people have shaped the contours of the past four years. We were brought together by fate and the freshman housing system and held together by a love for Finnegan's, TV on DVD and Notre Dame football.

Notre Dame football brings me to the next reason that Bookstore Basketball is, in a microcosm, my Notre Dame experience. Sports are crucial to being a part of campus life at Notre Dame. I trace back some of my strongest friendships to walking onto the Cavanaugh interhall football team at the beginning of freshman year. Although I never cracked the two-deep (honestly, I'm not as unathletic as the column is making me sound), my time on the sidelines gave me time to solidify friendships, particularly with other non-starting defensive players. Our social lives in the fall are dominated by

the football schedule, with the occasional road trips to games that prove to be among the most memorable ones of college (see: Michigan 2005 and my national TV debut, or Michigan State 2006 and the most horrible rainstorm in the history of the world). I also felt that tailgating brought me closer to my friends' families and, in turn, helped them get to know mine better.

This, of course, leads to the last part of Bookstore Basketball as a metaphor for the past four years: family. One of the accomplishments of which my father (Charlie Gales '82) is most proud is graduating from college with a winning record in Bookstore Basketball. Although I went 0-3, I was proud to be a part of the tradition of both my school and my family. After the upsetting shutout loss in 2006, Dad comforted me by sending me pictures of his teams in the old Bookstore tournaments. I don't know if they were intended to cheer me up, but the belted sweatpants he was wearing significantly dulled the pain of my defeat.

But family is, for me, the most important part of my college experience. Although I have been hundreds of miles away from them for the past four years, I have learned so much from my parents especially. When you introduce your family to your college friends for the first time, you can sometimes see them in a different light. As my friends got to know my parents, I saw them in a different way, as more than just the people who raised, disciplined and supported me for 22 years. They are the most freely giving, welcoming and loving people I have ever been privileged to know. I am so

proud to have them watch me graduate this weekend and I hope that they have always been proud of me (if not my prowess, or lack thereof, on the Bookstore courts).

My sister will enter Notre Dame in August as a freshman. I have such faith that she will carry on the Wentling/Gales tradition even better than I have (she tends to outdo me in things). I don't think she really needs my advice. But there is one thing that I have learned over the past four years. At Notre Dame, you will probably never be the "best" at anything. You will be surrounded by some of the best and brightest young people in the country and in the world. But no one else will bring what you do to Notre Dame. And that is what makes every person so important to this University, in creating "the Notre Dame family."

I try to avoid Notre Dame clichés like that one. But for me, the Notre Dame family is forever intertwined with my own family. Since my parents likely would never have met if not for attending Notre Dame and Saint Mary's, I give Notre Dame a certain amount of credit for the fact that I exist at all. I am so honored to be a part of both of these families. Although my basketball skills may not be a credit to them, I hope that the person I have become always gives back to them both.

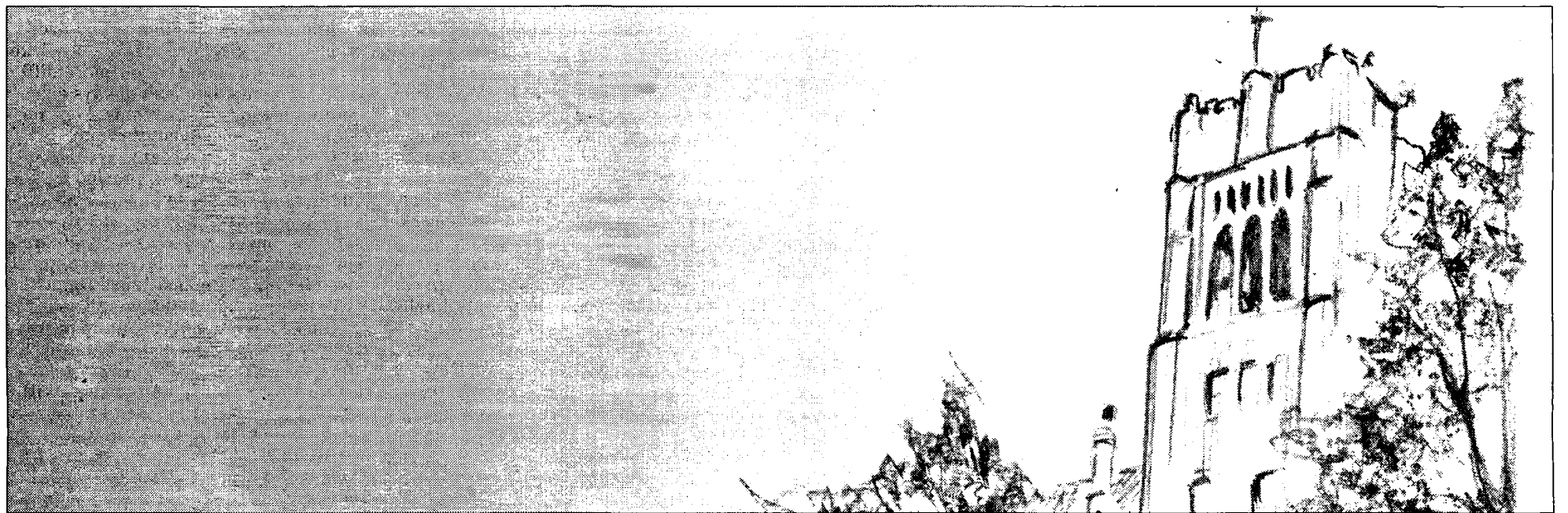
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The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.



Kate Gales

*Associate
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The good in bad days

Remember that really bad day? The day you thought you couldn't cut it here.

The day you uttered the words, "I can't wait to get out of this place."

The day you yearned for a parietal-free, co-ed, home-work-free world where winters didn't last for six months.

Yeah, we have all been there. Do we want to admit it today? Never.

While anxiously preparing for the future, I anticipate that the echoes of your time here will ring in your ears when you least expect it.

Six months from now you might want to trade in your Lincoln Park abode to spend one night cramped up in your freshman year bunk

bed — solely to relive the late night conversations exchanged with hall mate strangers who quickly became your second family.

In few years you might be taking a walk through Central Park on a crisp fall morning only to be reminded of towering trees that lined the Avenue, welcoming you to your home away from home.

And chances are you might not realize exactly what you will miss during this weekend, this month or maybe even this summer.

In fact, you will probably remember what you do not miss.

It will be a relief not to live in Hesburgh Library for nine hours on a Sunday, worry about finding a cute date to the dance or even finding a half-decent parking spot when you leave your apartment five minutes before class begins.

The funny thing about life is how immune you become to the simple beauty that is all around you.

I think there is part of you that will

miss the sarcastic comments of the professor you love to hate, the quirky way your roommate left her coffee-stained mugs in the kitchen sink and maybe even the odd ham-sandwich like odor that fills the South Bend air without warning.

I doubt that seeing a nun stroll casually down the street or wearing pajamas in public will be common during the next phase of your life, and these idiosyncrasies are the little things that have made the past four years of your life so unforgettable.

You would not be receiving your diploma this weekend if you did not pull some all-nighters, spend hours pouring over text books that cost you over a grand and spend so much time with your professors that you call them by their first name.

But you also would not have been able to walk across the stage without spending lazy Sunday afternoons laying on the quad or dancing with your friends at Finney's on Friday nights.

You have seen the good, the bad and

the bizarre, but you have made it.

Friends at state schools, or even co-ed schools, might have questioned your choice to become a Belle, but the answer is something you cannot quite pinpoint.

So as the trees of the Avenue fly by our car windows on our final trip off Saint Mary's campus, realize what we have learned is not limited by the boundaries of bad days.

In the past four years Kelly Meehan has dined in a Roman piazza, played a wicked game of volleyball in her backyard, climbed the Eiffel Tower and schmoozed in South Beach. She is graduating with a degree in communications and will be moving to New York City this summer but will never forget some of the best days in her life spent at Saint Mary's and all the friends she has made along the way. She can be contacted at kmeeha01@saintmarys.edu

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



Kelly Meehan

*Saint Mary's
Editor
Emeritus*

EXCERPTS FROM PAST ISSUES

Brokeback country

During a recent address at Kansas State University in which President George W. Bush offered audience members the rare opportunity to ask him questions that had not been scripted in advance by his public image Gestapo, one individual jokingly (or perhaps boldly) inquired as to whether or not the president had seen the film "Brokeback Mountain."

"I haven't seen it," Bush responded with a grin that sent waves of laughter rolling throughout the auditorium. "I'd be glad to talk about ranching, but I haven't seen the movie."

The fact is, the president was probably lucky that he hadn't seen Ang Lee's Oscar-nominated western that brought a whole new meaning to the phrase "ride 'em, cowboy." After all, the over-politicization of American life has reached such a sickening level that even one of our most cherished national pastimes — the motion picture industry — has become a political hotbed rife with opportunities for Democrats and Republicans to tear at each other's throats.

For instance, conversations about "Brokeback Mountain" (which, as everyone knows, depicts the tragic love affair between two cowboys) have become so taboo and politicized that a true debate over the merits of the film itself is

downright impossible. Most socially conservative Republicans would not even step into a theater to see it because of the thought that America's manliest profession could be "homosexualized" by the likes of Heath Ledger and Jake Gyllenhaal. Most liberal Democrats, on the other hand, have been raving non-stop about its open-minded brilliance and envelope-pushing edginess — even if they have never even seen the movie.

If you love the movie, you're a "gay-lover." If you hate it, you're a homophobic. Ironically, this movie that was supposed to be mind-opening has only proven how close-minded and judgmental Americans can be (on both sides of the political spectrum).

To be honest, I thought that "Brokeback Mountain" was one of the most boring, tedious, cheesy films I have seen all year. The love story, while unconventional and at times awkwardly hilarious, seemed forced and unrealistic, and the dialogue made George Lucas sound like Charlie Kaufman.

Nevertheless, posting this opinion on a liberal blog or newspaper message board like the Daily Kos or the Village Voice would have probably resulted in my being labeled a backstabbing, Bush-loving bigot with as much party loyalty as Joe Lieberman.

But that's the reality of political life in modern America. It's as if everywhere you go and everything you do — grocery shopping, church-going, football playing, movie watching — someone is reading you your political Miranda rights and "anything that you say can and will be used against you" in the public forum. Even worse, the possibilities for

moderation and personal decision in life — such as being a practicing Catholic who supports a woman's right to choose or perhaps hating "Brokeback Mountain" while supporting policies like the legalization of gay marriage — are all but nonexistent. After all, that would involve conciliation, free thought, personal decision, and, worst of all, flip-flopping.

As a result of this depressing and stressful situation, even a simple trip to the movies has become a metaphoric vote for Democrat or Republican. Case in point: The five films nominated for Best Picture at this year's Academy Awards are all in some way politically motivated and in most cases expressions of liberal political thought. "Brokeback Mountain," as already discussed, is a clear outcry for social tolerance of homosexuality. "Capote," a biographical tale of the flamboyant author Truman Capote, also dabbles into the subject of homosexuality in middle America. "Crash," which in my opinion blows its four other competitors out of the water, is a brilliantly weaved story of racial tension and intolerance in one of America's most diverse cities — Los Angeles. Stephen Spielberg's annual contribution to the awards, "Munich," is a dramatic depiction of the violent aftermath of the murder of 11 Israeli athletes at the 1972 Olympics. Finally, "Good Night, and Good Luck," the story of journalist Edward R. Murrow's bold challenge to McCarthyism during the Red Scare, was deliberately written by George Clooney to encourage the media to "ask tough questions of anyone in power."

And there you have it: the gay vote, the minority vote, the Jewish vote, and the "liberal media" vote. No matter who wins the Oscar at this year's ceremony, the Democratic Party will certainly come out on top. (If only our presidential candidates could have this kind of success rate.)

Beyond a reiteration of the cliché that Hollywood preaches to the liberal choir, though, this politicization of the film industry and one of our most cherished forms of mindless entertainment is only something that will further divide an America that is already starting to resemble a blue Oreo stuffed with way too much red cream. As George Washington warned in his legendary farewell address, "The alternate domination of one faction over another, sharpened by the spirit of revenge, natural to party dissension ... is in itself a frightful despotism."

And the first step toward ending this factionalized despotism? Nominating a film for Best Picture that all of America can appreciate and enjoy — like "Walk the Line."

Or, at the very least, "Miss Congeniality 2: Armed and Fabulous."

Joey Falco is a graduating American Studies major. This column originally appeared in the February 6, 2006 edition of The Observer. It was recognized by the Indiana Collegiate Press Association as the second best editorial piece of the year. He can be contacted at jfalco@nd.edu

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



Joey Falco

Forty Ounces

What we're like

Sex kills. So come to Notre Dame and live forever.

Student-made T-shirts are ubiquitous on this campus, and four years ago, one of them proclaimed just that. Or at least, that's what Ed Cohen wrote in his 2003 Notre Dame Magazine article entitled, "Notre Dame Students Today: What They're Like."

At the time, the article was a noble attempt to describe the then-ND students, written by "someone nearly as old as some of their parents" — or so Cohen described himself.

He wrote about alumni who "dream of seeing their children follow in their footsteps up the Main Building's stairs." Hence the article's biggest problem — it wasn't written by a student. If Cohen were a student, he'd surely know the legend — undergrads don't walk up the Main Building steps. If they do, they won't graduate.

Four years later, Cohen's article is as obsolete as landline phones in the dorms. Heck, he wrote it back when Club Fever was still Heartland, when only one campus building bore the DeBartolo family name and when Tyrone Willingham was the one commissioned to resurrect the Notre Dame football program. And unless there are any sixth-year seniors out there, no current undergraduates were around when the administration banned in-hall dances, the loss of which Cohen reflected upon.

So what are the typical non-Main-

Building-step-climbing Notre Dame students of the two-DeBartolo-buildings era like?

I'm a student. I can tell you.

As typical Notre Dame students, we enter the Irish aura gushing with arrogance about our intelligence. We reckon no remorse in reporting our ACT scores to everyone sitting within earshot at the Jesus Table in South Dining Hall. Most self-important of all are those of us who are not so-called "legacies." We suppose we're smarter because we garnered an acceptance letter without having had a Domer mom or dad.

As typical smarty-pants Notre Dame students, we spend our daytimes with required reading and our nighttimes with required singing — Jon Bon Jovi's "Living on a Prayer" as the dorm party primer. By senior year, we'll spend our daytimes falling asleep on a CoMo couch while attempting to read Tolstoy, and we'll spend our Finnegan's nighttimes belting out "Rocky Top" with an over-priced and over-filled-with-ice pitcher of Red Bull and vodka in hand.

As average Notre Dame students, however, many of us weren't consumers of cocktails before arriving in the 46556. And sharp though we profess to be, as typical freshmen we fail to realize that by putting up incoherent away messages, we've just confessed to our entire family — disapproving little brothers and sisters included — our newfound fondness of the bottle.

Yet while Cohen cited fake ID carrying as the "principal blot on the collective

student body's record," most underagers don't use fake IDs. By and large, most of us won't "catch the Feve" at Michiana's hottest nightclub until we are, in fact, 21.

While at some other colleges, freshmen secure their fakes on their first day of freshman year, as Notre Dame freshmen, on the other hand, we're too busy worrying about who's standing next to us in the football ticket lottery line. We

were then unaware of the fact that nobody actually does the jig in his real row anyway.

Some — like the wearers of the student-made sex T-shirt — are unaware of the sex that occurs at Notre Dame. But in truth, if sex does kill, a number of us have indeed sworn away our immortality.

Nevertheless, there are still a preponderance of prudes on this campus. Yet even the prudes are not what Cohen makes us out to be. In his piece, Cohen quoted one student who said that after a night out, "even when one of the parties has a genuine romantic interest in the other (it happens), the evening typically ends not with an awkward goodnight kiss at the door, but a 'see ya' and a wave."

What? No awkward goodnight kiss at the door? Clearly, the quoted student went to bed early every night and never had to sidestep the post-parietals lip-lockers while trying to swipe his or her ID card at the quad-side door of Breen-Phillips Hall.

While some of us are playing tonsil hockey in the vestibule (or in our rooms, breaking parietals — gasp), others of us

can be found at one of Notre Dame's late-night campus feeding holes. The lucky ones of us who live on the South end of campus indulge in scrumptious brick-oven pizzas at Reckers, while those of us in the Stonehenge vicinity select our slice of Sbarro based on which piece looks as though it hasn't been sitting out for more than seven hours.

Late-night pizza eaters though we may be, according to Cohen we are also "industrious, articulate, respectful, generous, neat, fit, even buff, not to mention tech-savvy."

What he doesn't mention is the number of us who are typically too drunk to make it from our tailgates to the football games. Or that during our four years here, most of us learn more about procrastination than politics. And in 2003, Cohen couldn't have known what an impact the advent of text messaging would have on our communication skills.

But as Cohen wrote, ND students are "goal-setters, goal-reachers." And you know what? After graduation, we'll probably save the world.

But — graduation? What? To leave this parietals-full paradise under the Dome?

That's incomprehensible. If you should know one thing about typical Notre Dame students, it's that we don't want to leave.

We'd prefer a 2 a.m. slice of Sbarro over the outside world any day.

Liz Coffey is a graduating American Studies major and Journalism, Ethics and Democracy minor. This column originally appeared in the February 22, 2007 edition of The Observer. She can be contacted at ecoffey@nd.edu

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



Liz Coffey

The Coffey Grind

So what are the typical non-Main-Building-step-climbing Notre Dame students of the two-DeBartolo-buildings era like?

EXCERPTS FROM PAST ISSUES

Four years in review

Defending logic of 'Loyal Daughters'

I would like to make a few points with regards to Jon Buttaci's Feb. 20 Letter to the Editor ("Loyal Daughters' humor detracts from true dialogue"). Buttaci complains of a skit in which a logic professor implements Modus Ponens as a means for equating rape with premarital sex. Buttaci declares that the professor utilizes "false logic to try to point out a contradiction in University policy that does not exist."

However, he failed to include some very important information. The skit, for example, ends with the professor asking his class to take into consideration the following question: "If rape leads to suspension and expulsion, and, consensual sex leads to suspension or expulsion, does it follow that rape is equivalent to consensual sex? Is this valid? Anyone?"

I don't know about Buttaci, but more than once in my life, I have had professors specifically ask questions that may not elicit clear and definite answers. Sometimes, I have even had professors ask my class questions that they knew were not valid or logical. They did so to provoke careful thought.

Nowhere in the skit does the professor state that he is making a good argument. Instead, he poses a question which leaves the audience thinking. Buttaci claims that the play's "humor and seemingly innocuous content is much more effective in keeping viewers from any intellectual consideration of the issues than 'The Vagina Monologues' was, and therefore is much more dangerous." Mr. Buttaci leads me to believe that he has not seen the subject matter which he so vehemently denounces.

Several of the skits in "The Vagina Monologues" have left me laughing hysterically; "The Woman Who Liked to Make Vaginas Happy," which details various orgasm sounds, is just one of them. To claim that it has less humor than "Loyal Daughters" is a serious oversight. Buttaci additionally failed to mention that the skit ends on a completely serious, non-humorous note. He claims that "viewers are too busy laughing to actually think, 'Wait a second: this is terrible logic!'" once again causing me to think he didn't even see the performance. Personally, I did not find the ending of the skit to be funny at all. Neither did the other 359 viewers packed with me in the Decio theatre this past fall. In fact, I clearly remember a dead silence falling across the audience at the end of the skit. To me, this skit was one of the more prominent parts of the play. As I lay in bed that night, I considered and reconsidered the argument, because its possible implications were incredibly stunning.

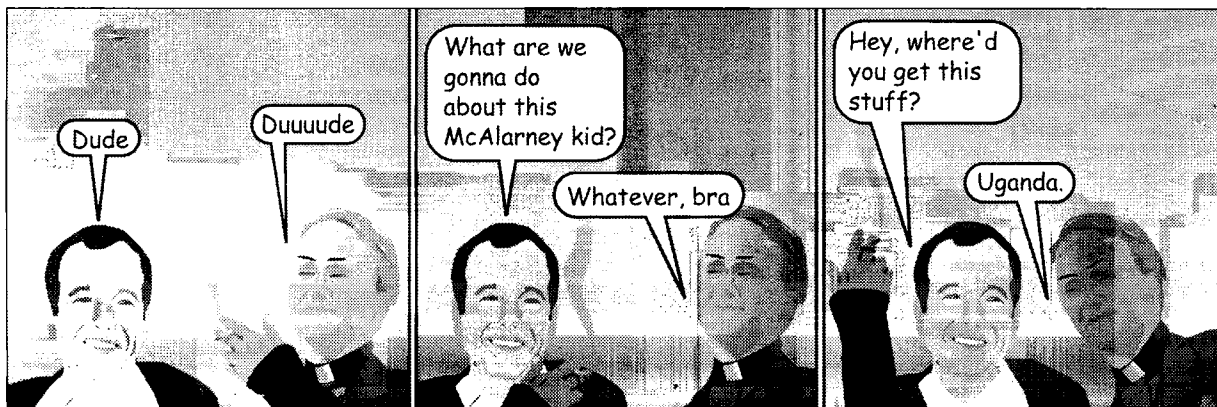
My final point is this. Attempting to defame those involved with "Loyal Daughters" and "The Vagina Monologues" through exaggerations and oversights of the material is cowardly.

If Buttaci is going to attack us, he should attack us for something that we have actually done that is out of line with the Catholic character that he so readily defends.

Erin Weedon
senior
Lyons Hall
Feb. 21, 2007

KALEIDOSCOPE McDANIELS

LIAM MORAN



Homosexuals excluded once again

It should come as no surprise that Bishop John D'Arcy is once again condemning an attempt to bring a sense of inclusion to homosexuals at Notre Dame. In a Feb. 10 letter to the South Bend Tribune, the bishop blasted the Notre Dame Queer Film Festival, calling it "an abuse of academic freedom" and claiming that by sponsoring the festival, "the rights of others are violated." This response exhibits a lack of understanding of the film festival's purpose. The aim is to unite people of different orientations in dialogue to promote a sense of tolerance and acceptance between all people, regardless of their differences.

D'Arcy's past comments concerning homosexuals and the Church have reflected similar exclusionary views. This is the same man who has long lobbied for the exclusion of homosexual men from the priesthood. In 1979 D'Arcy chaired a committee and personally wrote the majority of a pastoral letter on priestly formation by the New England bishops in which the bishops state, in regard to the admission of seminarians, "Young men who are truly homosexual should not be admitted ... Young men who are excessively effeminate should not be admitted." This was also D'Arcy's response in the wake of the sexual abuse scandal that rocked the Church, and even as late as this past summer D'Arcy was once again calling for a ban on homosexual priests. He has continued to make this call for a ban despite having produced no

evidence the abuse scandal has any link to the sexual orientation of the abusers.

In his letter, D'Arcy claims homosexuals "belong in the mainstream of our Catholic life, not shunned." After his continual efforts to keep homosexuals from the priesthood and his current condemnation of the Queer Film Festival, this call for inclusion is most certainly a hollow one. While D'Arcy, in his role as defender of the Church's teaching, has focused on the opposition to homosexual acts, he has remained largely silent on the issue of respect and understanding toward homosexuals.

He has offered superficial words of acceptance to homosexuals but has neglected to support in a meaningful way the importance of Church teaching on respect, compassion and sensitivity toward them. We only wish D'Arcy would have the same zeal in accepting homosexuality according to Church teaching as he does in condemning it. Ours is a faith marked by Christ's love, and we must show that love in our acceptance and caring for all people, regardless of sexual orientation.

Joseph Wysocki
Brad Tucker
sophomores
Old College
Feb. 14, 2005

Academic freedom: problem?

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

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

I have yet to hear a strong

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

Edward Manier
professor
department of philosophy
March 9, 2006

Belles — lighten up

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

We've all seen The Simpsons, Family Guy or South Park. During every episode, they target a different aspect of daily life to laugh at, sometimes even things dear to us. But do we take offense? No. Those of us who can recognize and appreciate satire just laugh and turn up the volume. That's exactly what I'm calling all Belles to do: laugh and turn up the volume.

Don't take it personally that Saint Mary's is this week's target of satire, because that's all it is — a little sarcastic fun.

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

Maggie Yancy
Andrea Beres
freshmen
Saint Mary's
April 12, 2006

An acronym you can get behind

This week is supposed to be LGBTQ awareness week, but developing awareness is going to prove difficult with such a haphazard acronym. This contorted array of letters makes every article seem as if a drunken reporter continually passed out on the keyboard.

All of the great acronyms in our society have been catchy or unique enough to hold water with the American public. Without a good acronym, any group is going to suffer the fate of NKOTB. Acronyms derive their strength from being pronounceable as a word, like NAFTA or UNICEF, or having a multiple letter, think N "Double A" CP.

If the leaders of this body

are tied to letters like Q, giving gay rights a powerful acronym may prove to be a game of Scrabble that Milton Bradley wouldn't be able to finish. For those open to changing the acronym, there is always "HATS" (Homosexuals Asking for Tolerance and Sensitivity), but perhaps a more pragmatic solution is a simple rearrangement of the difficult letters: "GQ.BLT" Now that sounds fashionable and delicious.

The writer is a former cartoonist for The Observer.

Alec White
senior
off campus
April 16, 2007

What has been most memorable about living in South Bend?



Anne Siebels
Pasquerilla West

"The weather."



Chris Lee
off campus

"It's so small, you see everyone you know from ND at places like Chipotle and Club Fever."



Elizabeth Reed
Howard

"Notre Dame home football games."



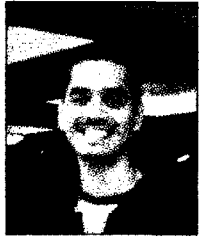
Laura Navarre
Howard

"My friends."



Brad Tucker
off campus

"Making out with trees."



Alfredo Tuesta
Alumni

"Having a pachanga with my friends at Palacio and Salsa nights at Legends."

Describe your time here in three words or less.



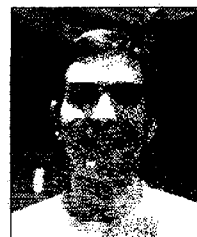
Jesse Goliath
O'Neill

"Fabulous."



Caitlin Mahan
Breen Phillips

"Absolutely fabulous."



Michael Suso
Morrissey

"Blessed."



Carolin Hubscher
Howard

"Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious."



George Dzurisko
off campus

"Frustrated, poor and edumacated."



Alicia Davis
Cavanaugh

"All the snow (I'm from Texas)."



What is your favorite memory from the past four years?



Amanda Meyer

off campus

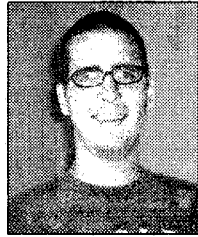
"Oooh man. I wish I could remember."



Beth Jollivette

off campus

"The nights I don't remember with the people I forgot."



Packy Cain

off campus

"5 letters: D-U-S-T-Y. (He's my favorite pizza guy!)"



Kevin Wolff

off campus

"Sharing a house with that guy."



Dave Viken

off campus

"Sitting next to Ray McCarthy during a test."



Maggie Wickstrom

off campus

"Navarre Street. Period."

What are your plans for after graduation?



David Saucedo

Carroll

"Travel to Mexico and become a luchador! El Tigre del Norte!"



Joseph Blondin

off campus

"Dental School. ... Four years of college were not enough!"



Maggie Wehmer

off campus

"Living vicariously through 8-year-olds while teaching in Chicago."



Ray McCarthy

off campus

"Work on getting my G.E.D."



Tim Loh

Keough

"I plan to give my liver a much deserved rest ... wait, that's not true."

MEN'S LACROSSE

Irish finish undefeated against conference foes

By PAT O'BRIEN
Sports Writer

After completing an eight-game winning streak by beating league foe Quinnipiac 14-9 on May 5, Notre Dame dropped its first-round game of the NCAA Tournament to No. 5 Johns Hopkins 11-10 in overtime May 12.

Notre Dame 14, Quinnipiac 9

The victory over Quinnipiac (6-7, 1-4) gave Notre Dame an unblemished 5-0 record in the Great Western Lacrosse League. In a game that featured a 39-24 Irish advantage in shots, sophomore attack Ryan Hoff netted six goals.

Notre Dame senior attack Brian Hubschmann added three goals and two assists while freshman attack Will Yeatman had one score and two helpers.

Junior goaltender Joey Kemp picked up his 11th win of the season and played the entire 60 minutes. He made 10 saves and gave up nine goals.

"It should be one of our top goals to finish well in our league every season," Kemp said.

Quinnipiac, which kept it relatively close in the second half, was led by sophomore attack Mike Annunziata and senior midfielder Mike Stottler. Both players scored hat tricks, and Annunziata added an assist. Sophomore midfielder Todd Kaiser aided with two scores of his own. Freshman goaltender Jamie Prudden picked up the loss in 59 minutes of work. He made 13 stops and let in 14 goals.

After the game, which ended Notre Dame's regular season, Yeatman was named GWLL newcomer of the year. He led the Irish with 44 regular season points and 23 assists.

Coach Kevin Corrigan won coach of the year for the fourth time, and Kemp was named player of the year. He finished the season with a .630 save percentage and a 6.47 goals-against average. Among Division 1 goalies, the marks place him third and fifth, respectively.

Four Irish members were selected to the GWLL first-team, and four were placed on the second team.

"I felt I played a little bit better this season," Kemp said. "I had different attitudes to help the team, and I learned new leadership skills."

Johns Hopkins 11, Notre Dame 10 (OT)

No. 9 Notre Dame (11-4, 5-0) took on Johns Hopkins May 12 to begin the 16-team tournament in a thrilling game that the Blue Jays won in overtime after two 40-minute weather delays.

With the Irish down 10-8 with less than half of the fourth quarter to go, Hoff netted two goals to force the game into overtime. He was fed by Yeatman and Hubschmann, respectively, for the two scores — the second one coming with nine seconds left in regulation.

"I was really proud of the team at that time," Kemp said of the late Irish surge. "[Johns Hopkins] had the ball in the last two minutes, and we were able to put it on the ground 3-4 times."

But the Blue Jays of Johns Hopkins (10-4) kept their winning streak alive. Freshman midfielder Michael Kimmel netted his only goal, and it was the most important one of the game. He found the back of the net a minute into overtime to score the unassisted game winner.

"I'm disappointed that the seniors left Notre Dame lacrosse with a loss in the first round of the

playoffs," Kemp said.

Irish junior midfielder Michael Podgajny led both teams with four goals. Hubschmann added three goals and an assist while Yeatman had two helpers. Freshman midfielder Brett Vecchio netted a goal, and sophomore midfielder Davey Leach had an assist. Kemp made eight saves and gave up eleven goals. The Irish outshot the Blue Jays 43-36.

The Blue Jays, who won 17 out of 24 face-offs, were led by senior attack Jake Byrne's three goals. Junior midfielder Paul Rabil added two goals and two assists and junior attack Kevin Huntley had three helpers. Sophomore midfielder Brian Christopher netted two goals as well. Senior goalie Jesse Schwartzman anchored the defensive end with 14 stops in a complete-game win.

Contact Pat O'Brien at
pobrien2@nd.edu

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Laxers go 11-6 against a competitive slate of competition

By MICHAEL BRYAN
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame women's lacrosse team fell just short of its lofty goals for the 2007 season, losing in the semifinals of the the Big East tournament and failing to qualify for the NCAA Tournament. The Irish, however, posted an impressive 11-6 record against top competition in another strong year.

"Our goals are to win the first Big East championship and the NCAA Tournament," Irish coach Tracy Coyne said before the season.

The Irish set out in February to achieve those goals in early tests against three top tier teams — James Madison, Stanford and Northwestern. The laxers showed their mental toughness and ability in the clutch during the first two matches, a 10-9 overtime victory

over James Madison and a 12-11 double-overtime win over Stanford.

Notre Dame suffered its first loss of the year against Northwestern, dropping an 18-10 match against the top-ranked and defending NCAA champion Wildcats. A road trip to the northeast quickly cleared all memories of the loss, however, as the Irish pulled out big wins over ranked opponents Yale and Cornell and romped over Canisius 18-8.

After facing five ranked non-conference opponents, the Irish began Big East play prepared for the toughest competition. Notre Dame dropped its first conference matchup against Syracuse, the eventual Big East champion, in a close 16-13 match.

The Irish quickly recovered from the loss, winning their next four games. The highlight of the streak came against Big East rival Loyola, when Erin Goodman and the Irish

defense set a team record for least goals allowed in an 11-1 victory.

The Irish continued their homestand with a split against non-conference foes Duke and California.

Notre Dame suffered its worst loss of the season against the No. 3 Blue Devils 20-10, but rebounded just two days later with a 13-9 win over the Golden Bears.

The highlight of the season for the Irish came at home April 14 in a historic 13-8 win over Big East rival Georgetown. The win was the first ever against the Hoyas in Big East play — Georgetown had a 37-game conference win streak covering seven years entering the match.

"It was an awesome win, probably the biggest in the history of our program," Coyne said.

After the upset win over the Hoyas, the Irish finished the season in disappointing fashion. Notre Dame dropped a close match against No. 12 Vanderbilt on the

road, and then finished with another tough loss against Rutgers to end the regular season.

The Irish advanced to the inaugural Big East tournament in Syracuse as the No. 4 seed, and faced a rematch against Georgetown in the semifinals. The Hoyas avenged their earlier loss against the Irish with a 12-10 win, holding off a furious Notre Dame rally to close the game.

Notre Dame's final record was 11-6, with 12 of its 17 matches against ranked opponents. All six losses on the season came against ranked teams, and the Irish also tallied six wins over ranked teams.

Sophomore Jillian Byers and junior Caitlin McKinney led the Irish offensively all season, and were named unanimous selections to the All-Big East first team. Byers tallied 58 goals and eight assists on the year, and McKinney netted 44 goals and 21 assists.

Defensively the team was led by

seniors Kristin Hopson and Meaghan Fitzpatrick, another first team All-Big East selection. After her first season as starting goalkeeper, sophomore Erin Goodman should leave the Irish in good hands for next season.

A trio of seniors also held the Irish together with their leadership and contributions on the field. Meghan Murphy battled injuries to score 18 goals and 17 assists, and Lena Zentgraf was third on the team in scoring with 39 points. Kaki Orr also was among the team's leaders in scoring and set an Irish record for draw controls in her final year.

"We want to win and show we belong with many of the other Notre Dame teams with histories of Big East titles and championships," Coyne said. "We want to make a history of our own."

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mbryan@nd.edu

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.

NOTICES

GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK TO ALL MY FRIENDS FROM THE OBSERVER. LOVE, SHIRLEY

WANTED

SUMMER WORK - \$15.50 base-appt. flexible schedules, no exp. needed, customer sales/service, conditions apply, all ages 17+, positions throughout the US, apply now, start after finals, www.workforstudents.com

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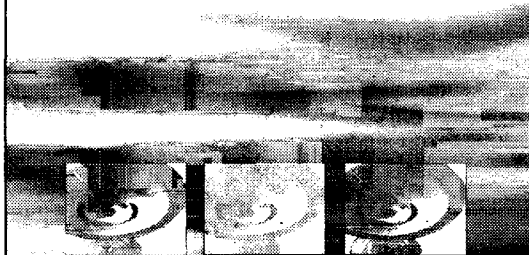
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MEN'S TENNIS

Doubles teams lead charge

*New pairs help Irish
take conference title
4-0 over Louisville*

By JAY WADE
Sports Writer

The No. 5 Irish had quite the journey to the NCAA Tournament round of 16.

The Irish (26-3) played one of the nation's toughest schedules — littered with top-20 opponents — but they battled through it all, starting the season outside of the top 10 and advancing to the fifth-overall seed in the Tournament.

This impressive run by the Irish began on a sour note in January, when they lost their first team match 4-1 to Virginia. But the Irish won 17 of their next 18 matches, before they fell to No. 3 Ohio State March 30.

After the Ohio State match, Notre Dame evaluated its situation, and decided to mix up its doubles the next weekend against Ball State, a position that had been weak for the team all season. The switch paired seniors Stephen Bass and Ryan Keckley, junior Andrew Roth with senior Barry King and sophomore Brett Helgeson with

junior Sheeva Parbhu.

All three pairings had not played with each other prior to the match, but the Irish rode this lineup to eight straight wins to date, including the Big East tournament and two opening rounds of the NCAA Tournament.

Prior to this switch, the Irish had won only four out of eight doubles points — the team has won every doubles point since, and Bass/Keckley have yet to lose, going 8-0.

Tournament season for the Irish has gone just as well.

Notre Dame easily handled the best the Big East had to offer and won the conference tournament championship by beating Villanova, St. John's and Louisville all by 4-0 shutouts. It was the second league championship for the Irish in the last three years.

The team will now face No. 12 Southern California to try to advance to the NCAA Tournament quarterfinals after defeating Butler and Wisconsin in the first two rounds by scores of 4-0.

Individually, the Irish have

excelled as well. Senior leader and No. 8-ranked Bass has accumulated a 35-9 overall record and is a finalist in the National Senior Player of the Year Award. Roth earned a record of 26-11, Helgeson went 30-7, and Parbhu had 22 dual-match wins.

"As far as the season goes, we had a number of goals, and so far we have met all of them," Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. "I am as proud of these guys as much as any group, because they push one another to greater heights than we have seen. Team-wise we have been one of the two or three consistent teams in tennis, we've played and learned from some great opponents."

The Irish do not plan on stopping now, however.

"We're excited to be here. We beat a very good Wisconsin team," Bayliss said. "Everyone has risen to the occasion at the appropriate time. We're very excited about playing Southern California and keep moving forward."

Contact Jay Wade at
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*"[We had a
number of goals,
and so far we have
met all of them.]"*

Bobby Bayliss
Irish coach

ND WOMEN'S TENNIS

Tar Heels up next in round of 16

*Team dominates first
two showdowns in
NCAA Tournament*

By DAN MALOOF
Sports Writer

The No. 6 seed Irish will take their 27-3 overall record to Athens, Ga., when they take on No. 11 North Carolina in the NCAA Tournament round of 16 today.

Having easily defeated Illinois-Chicago and No. 23 Michigan by scores of 4-0, Notre Dame will try to keep the momentum going against the Tar Heels, whom the Irish defeated 5-2 Feb. 16.

Notre Dame head coach Jay Louderback understands, however, that the matches are only going to get tougher the deeper the team goes into the tournament.

"We knew we'd have a tough match in the second round with Michigan but we played well," Louderback said. "Especially once the first round is over, from

then on you know you're going to play someone good the rest of the time, so you just have to be prepared.

"Each match now gets tougher as you go."

Notre Dame, who finished the regular season ranked No. 2 overall, also earned the one-seed in last month's Big East tournament for the 11th time in 12 years.

The Irish were able to cruise through the first few rounds of the Big East with convincing victories over Connecticut and Marquette, but in the finals they were upset by second-seeded South Florida 4-3.

Bouncing back strong from tough losses has been characteristic of Notre Dame's season. The Irish have lost only three matches overall and never dropped two in a row.

The senior leadership of twins Christian and Catrina Thompson has been instrumental in the team's success and ability to overcome any adversity it's faced this season, Louderback said.

"They've done a great job, especially here at the end," he said. "Once the Big East got over, they've really done a great job of keeping everyone together and forgetting about that last match in the Big East tournament and getting ready for the NCAA Tournament. They do a lot of it by example too by working hard in practice and putting in extra time there as well."

Perhaps most importantly, the success and notoriety of the All-America doubles pairing ranked 12th overall in the country will also help the Irish later they have graduated.

"I think the biggest difference with them has been in recruiting," Louderback said. "They were two of the best kids in the country and decided to come

here to school, and since they've been here, I think our recruiting has improved. This will help us down the line as well."

Headlined by rising senior Brook Buck, the Irish will return eight players next season and look to continue their Big East dominance. Coming back for Notre Dame will be rising senior Bailey Louderback, rising juniors Katie Potts and Kelcy Tefft, as well as rising sophomores Cosmina Ciobanu, Kali Krisik, Colleen Rielley and Kellie O'Flynn.

At this point in the season, Louderback said he is not concerned about the youth of his team during the NCAA Tournament because age isn't as important.

"The freshman class is a great class," Louderback said. "They've done a good job and won a lot of doubles and singles matches. By this time of year we feel like we really don't have any freshmen, we've been through a lot of big matches and played a lot. Even though it's their first year, they really aren't freshmen anymore this time of year."

Aside from the three scattered losses during the season, the Irish cruised through the regular season, highlighted by a 16-match winning streak that spanned nearly two months.

In addition to the success of the team, the Irish have also captured their share of individual accolades throughout the year.

The Thompsons, Buck and Tefft were each selected to the NCAA Individual Tennis Championships, where Catrina Thompson will be competing in singles and doubles for the third consecutive year.

Contact Dan Maloof at
dmaloof@nd.edu

MEN'S SOCCER

Irish breaking new ground on ascent



JENNIFER KANG/The Observer
Junior forward Joey Lapira drives toward the net during a 4-0 win over Marquette Sept. 27. Lapira scored twice in the game.

By GREG ARBOGAST
Sports Writer

Heading into the 2006 season, the Notre Dame posters described the Irish program as "ascendant."

After the program secured its NCAA quarterfinal berth as well as its first Hermann Trophy winner in 2006, it's safe to say that Notre Dame is on the rise.

The Irish finished the regular season with a record of 15-6-2. Earning a first-round bye in the NCAA Tournament, Notre Dame went on to defeat Illinois-Chicago 1-0 at home in its first game before knocking off defending champion Maryland 1-0 in overtime in the round of 16.

It marked the second consecutive year that the Irish ousted the reigning national champions out of the NCAA tournament. Notre Dame bounced defending champion Indiana in 2005.

The win over the Terrapins also ended a streak of three consecutive Sweet 16 exits for coach Bobby Clark and his squad, who went on to face 4th-seeded Virginia in the program's first ever quarterfinal berth.

Against the Cavaliers, Notre Dame twice cut two-goal deficits in half, but the Irish were unable to find the elusive tying goal. The eventually fell to Virginia 3-2. While Clark called 2006 a "very good season," he said his team stopped short of its potential.

"I would like to have that game over again," Clark said, referring to the Virginia game. "We didn't quite play to our potential in that game, and it was a game where you came off the field saying I wish we could play them again tomorrow. I felt the season stopped a little too short because I felt we had a team that was good enough to go to a Final Four."

While the Irish were stopped one game short of the semifinals, their season included many memorable moments, such as an instant classic against cross-state rival Indiana. Notre Dame defeated the Hoosiers 5-4 in

overtime Sept. 3 in the Adidas/IU Credit Union Classic. The Irish also ran off an eight-game unbeaten streak from Sep. 20 to Oct. 18 in which they outscored their opponents by a combined total of 21-2.

Clark pointed to senior leadership as the main reason for his team's success.

"[Senior co-captains] Greg Dalby and Dale Rellas provided fantastic leadership," Clark said. "Any team that's going to be successful needs good leadership, and the whole senior class was terrific. It also wasn't bad having the top scorer in the country, but the leadership was the catalyst to the season."

By top scorer, Clark was referring to junior forward Joseph Lapira, who led the nation in both goals (22) and points (50). Those statistics helped Lapira win the program's first ever Hermann Trophy — the collegiate soccer player of the year award. Even more impressively, Lapira did it all playing with a torn left meniscus, which he injured in the first game of the season against UAB.

"It was a special year," Clark said. "[Lapira] has a terrific appetite to shoot, and that's a great attribute for a striker. He loves to shoot and he loves to go to goal, but he was also a pretty good team player this year as well. He had a great energy and great work ethic all season."

After its impressive 2006 campaign, Notre Dame hopes it will continue ascending to the top of the collegiate soccer world. Despite losing Dalby and Rellas, Notre Dame will return seven starters, including Lapira, in 2007 to go along with a bevy of younger talent.

"If you're a good program, you're going to graduate some good players," Clark said. "If you're going to continue to be a good program new good players are going to have to step up and fill the void, and I think we have a group of young players who are more than ready to come in and pick up where we left off."

Contact Greg Arbogast at
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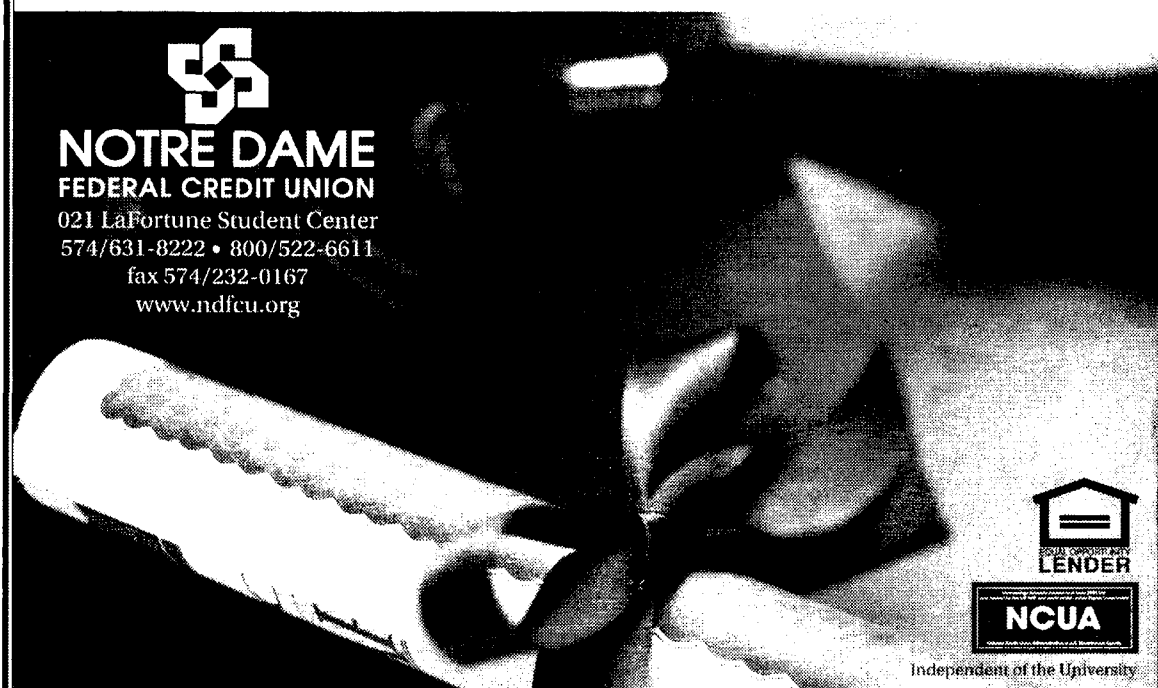
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FOOTBALL

High hopes

The Irish began the season with national title aspirations, but instead received a rude awakening from nation's top programs

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer

For Charlie Weis, 9-3 wasn't going to be good enough in 2006. But a year after reinvigorating the program and cracking into the BCS before a blowout loss to Ohio State, Weis' squad with talent-laden seniors on offense finished with only one more win and suffered just as many losses in the coach's second season with the Irish.

The season began with expectations higher than they had been in more than a decade for a program looking to reclaim its place among the perennial elite — a status lost since 1993 to schools like Michigan, Southern California and Louisiana State. But those three schools stood in the way of Notre Dame's dream season, delivering crippling blows to a team whose vaunted offense sputtered badly at times and whose vulnerable defense could not nearly make up for scoring deficiencies.

But that wasn't how the season started.

Indeed, the Irish offense looked sluggish and rusty on a muggy Atlanta night against Georgia Tech to start the season. Notre Dame scored only 14 points, but a second-half defensive shutout led to an emotional 14-10 win in hostile Bobby Dodd Stadium.

After a highly efficient 41-17 victory over Penn State in the home opener, the Irish were devastated in Notre Dame Stadium by Michigan. Senior quarterback Brady Quinn, widely considered the preseason front-runner for the Heisman Trophy, threw three interceptions while completing just 50 percent of his passes for fewer than five yards per attempt. In the ensuing romp, the Wolverines took a 34-7 lead with 2:30 left in the first half before closing out the Irish 47-21.

A week later, with the season seeming to unravel for the Irish, Quinn led the team's largest fourth-quarter comeback in nearly 25 years during a downpour in East Lansing, Mich., against the always unpredictable Michigan State Spartans.

Down 17-0 at the end of the first period and 37-21 after three quarters, Notre Dame fought back and avenged its overtime loss to the Spartans a year earlier. Quinn threw for 319 yards and five touchdowns, and junior cornerback Terrail Lambert returned an interception 27 yards with 2:53 remain-

ing to give Notre Dame a 40-37 lead.

Lambert sealed the win with a second interception at the Notre Dame 27-yard line with 14 remaining.

After easy wins over Purdue and Stanford, Notre Dame once again created fourth-quarter magic, this time against UCLA. Down by four points with 1:02 remaining, the Irish forced a Bruins punt and took over at the 20 after a touchback.

The steely Quinn made the 80-yard drive look simple.

Quinn found senior receiver Jeff Samardzija along the right sideline for a gain of 21 yards on the first play. The senior quarterback with nearly a half-dozen fourth-quarter comebacks in his career then found Irish sophomore David Grimes — who had a career-high eight catches for 79 yards — on the same side of the field for 14 more at the UCLA 45.

A play later, Quinn pumped once, rolled right, and threw to his favorite receiver, once again. The lanky Samardzija contorted his legs away from UCLA safety Dennis Keyes 20 yards from the goal line, sprinted to the end zone and reached across the plane for the win with 27 seconds left in the contest.

Notre Dame's slim hopes at a national title were still alive.

They would remain that way for weeks, as Notre Dame captured four more easy wins — over Navy, North Carolina, Air Force and Army.

"I don't think we would be content to end up 10 and 3," Weis said after Notre Dame's win over Army put the Irish at 10-1 with Southern California and the bowl game to come. "I don't think we would be content now. I know we're one game better, but we still have two more big games."

Those two big games became two big losses.

In each of Notre Dame's final two games, the offense struggled early and the defense failed to keep the game close.

The Trojans took a 21-3 lead less than four minutes into the second quarter after USC quarterback John David Booty took a quarterback sneak 1 yard for an easy score. Booty threw two touchdowns to senior standout Dwayne Jarrett, who torched the Irish for a second straight season.

Notre Dame's late comeback attempt fell short, but the Irish, then 10-2, earned a spot in the Sugar Bowl against Louisiana State, which had an identical record, with losses to eventual

national champion Florida and Auburn — who each finished 11-2.

The matchup proved too much for the Irish.

Behind the strong arm of quarterback JaMarcus Russell, Louisiana State rolled all over the Irish.

After a competitive first half, LSU pounded Notre Dame in the second with suffocating defense and a persistent, efficient offense. The Irish trailed just 21-14 after two periods, but the Tigers defense bore down in the third and fourth quarters, and a flat Notre Dame team never showed signs of coming back. The result was a 33-30 advantage in second-half yards for the Tigers and a second straight BCS blowout loss for the Irish.

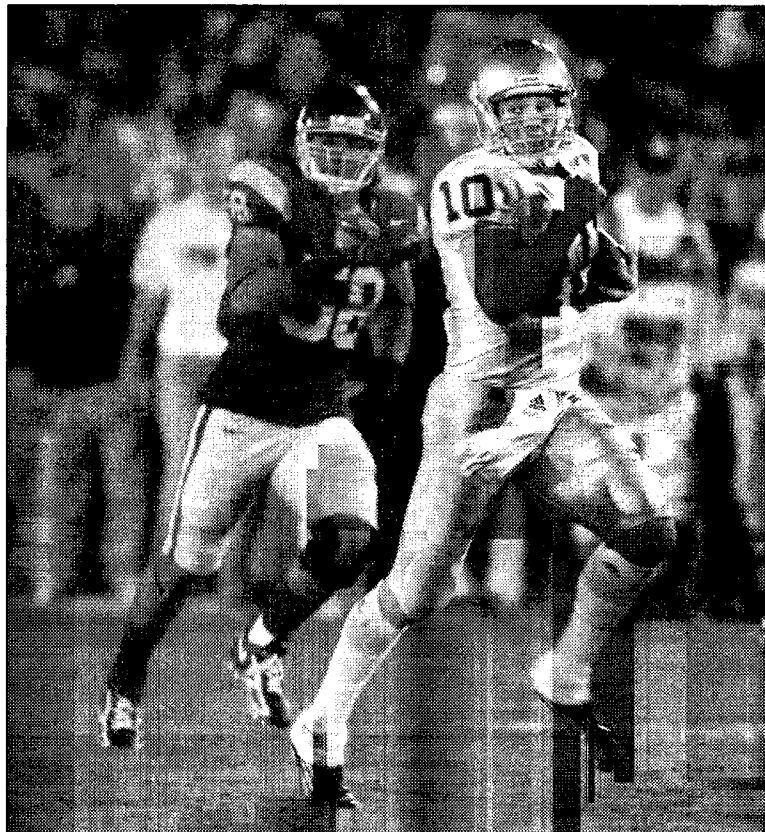
"Obviously, it was a team effort," Irish quarterback Brady Quinn said after his final collegiate game. "We really weren't converting on third down, making plays when we had the opportunity, and really, when you look at it, we weren't productive."

In the days after the game, Weis announced defensive coordinator Rick Minter would not be retained, and neither would quarterbacks coach Peter Vaas. He replaced Minter with Corwin Brown, a young secondary coach for the New York Jets, and Vaas with former Irish signal-caller Ron Powlus.

Despite the loss, the Irish have remained productive on the recruiting front. Notre Dame signed a top-10 class, headlined by coveted quarterback Jimmy Clausen on national signing day in February. Clausen, who enrolled as an early-entrant in January, was the only quarterback to finish April's Blue-Gold Game without a fumble or an interception, and with Weis' emphasis on limiting mistakes, he has a strong chance at earning one of two spots to compete for the 2007 starting job come August.

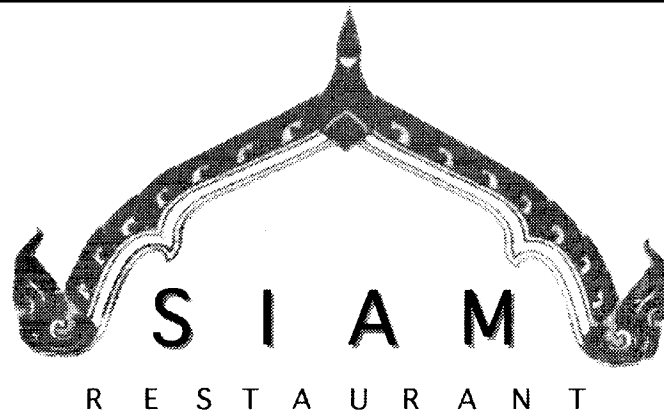
Recruiting for the class to sign next February has taken an even quicker pace. The Irish have landed verbal commitments from a dozen players nationwide, most prominently on the defensive side of the ball.

Contact Ken Fowler at
kfowler1@nd.edu



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Brady Quinn scrambles away from Southern Cal linebacker Rey Mauluga in Notre Dame's 44-24 loss to the Trojans Nov. 25.



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ND WOMEN'S SOCCER

Undefeated streak ends with loss in title game



Irish forward Kerri Hanks battles for possession with North Carolina's Arile Harris in the Tar Heels' 2-1 National Championship victory.

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

For most squads, a season that included just one loss and a trip to the National Championship game would be considered a success.

But for Notre Dame, which finished the year 25-1-1 after falling to North Carolina in the title game, that one loss still stings.

"We didn't show the country how good we were," senior defender Kim Lorenzen said. "We didn't play how we had played in the tournament up to that point."

After finishing the regular season 20-0-1 and winning the Big East tournament, the Irish tore through the NCAA tournament, outscoring their first five opponents — Oakland, Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Colorado, Penn State and Florida State — 17-2.

"The run through the tournament was probably the best soccer we played all year," Lorenzen said.

But then Notre Dame ran into the Tar Heels juggernaut.

North Carolina has won 18 National Championships in the 25-year history of the Women's College Cup, and the confidence of the 2006 squad was evident as it took a 2-0 lead over the shell-shocked Irish and held on for a 2-1 victory.

"For about seventy minutes, they clearly were the better

team," Notre Dame coach Randy Waldrum said.

The Irish made a comeback late, getting a goal from sophomore Brittany Bock and threatening to score several other times, but couldn't equalize.

"We showed the pride we have in our program and made a game of it," Waldrum said. "Maybe if we had ten more minutes in the game, we could have pulled back even."

Waldrum said both the Tar Heels' mystique and style of play frustrated his team — even the seniors, who had never faced North Carolina.

"They put you on your heels and they put so much pressure on the ball," Waldrum said. "We don't see that a lot."

Waldrum said he has worked to get the Tar Heels on Notre Dame's schedule in the future, to try to get experience against the nation's top program. Next season, the Irish will play North Carolina in an exhibition game, and after that the Tar Heels will appear on Notre Dame's regular season schedule.

The Irish began the 2006 campaign with 13 straight victories, including a 3-1 win over then-No. 1 Santa Clara Sept. 3. Notre Dame held the

nation's top spot in at least one poll for the entire season until the North Carolina game.

The only blemish for the Irish in the regular season was a scoreless tie at Connecticut Oct. 13. The Huskies, generally a Big East power, struggled in 2006 and were just 7-7-1 when they played Notre Dame.

But Waldrum said his team should have treated them like any other Connecticut squad.

"UConn is always a tough team to play," he said. "I felt like we weren't nearly as sharp for that kind of a game as we needed to be. I still felt we were the better team on the night, but we just couldn't find the goal."

The Irish responded to the setback with 12 more victories in a row, including tearing through the Big East tournament and topping Rutgers 4-2 in the conference championship game, before falling to North Carolina in the national title game.

Sophomore Kerri Hanks led the Irish offensively all year, scoring 22 goals and tallying 22 assists, while freshman Michele Weissenhofer scored 18 goals and added 17 assists of her own.

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Seniors lead way to league title, record season



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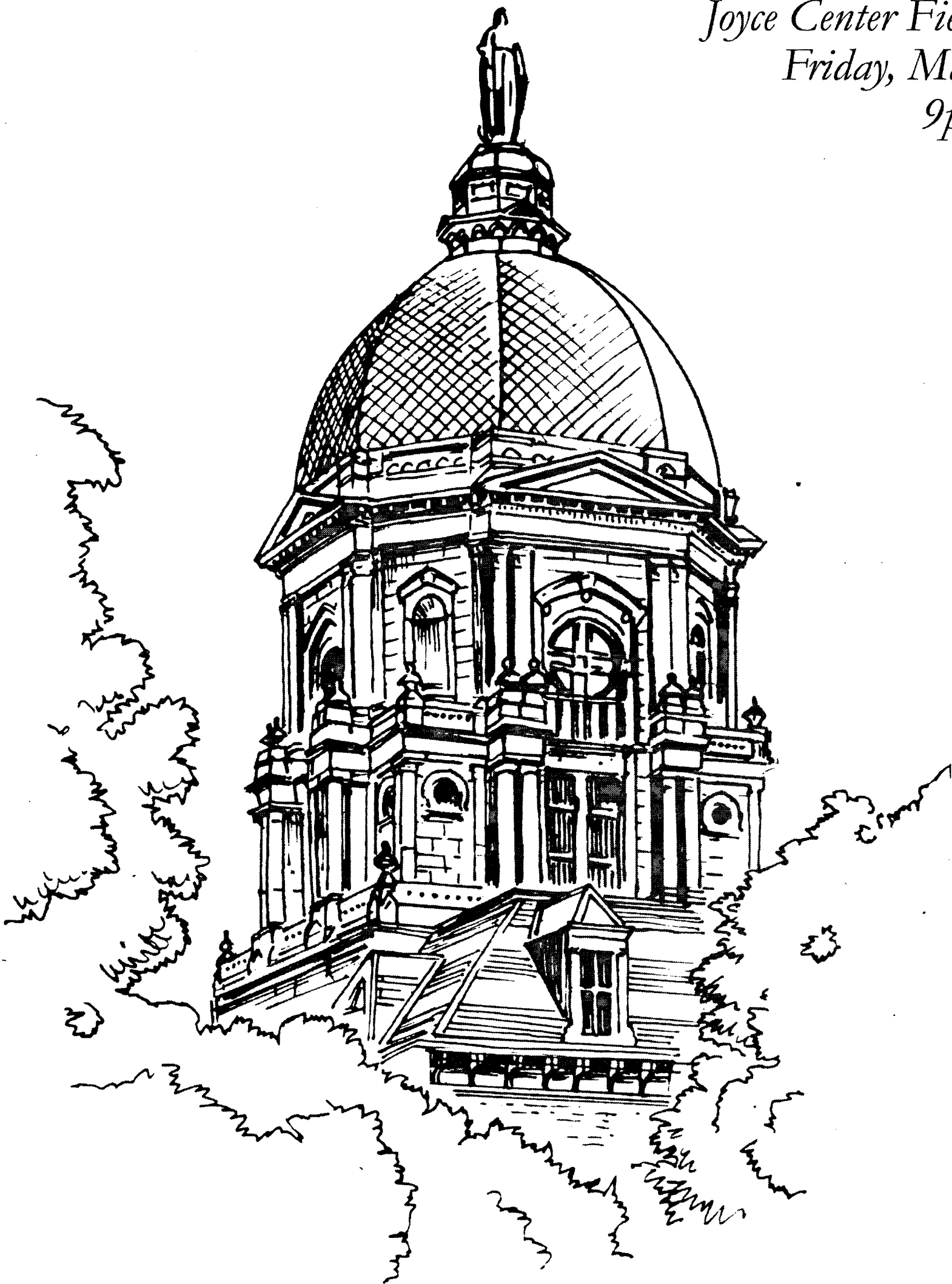
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ND SOFTBALL

Irish will face Redbirds in NCAA Regionals

ND heads to Evanston after losing in Big East tourney to Louisville

By DAN MURPHY
Associate Sports Editor

Notre Dame begins its ninth consecutive NCAA Tournament this afternoon when it takes on No. 21 Illinois State in Evanston, Ill.

The Redbirds finished their season with a record of 42-15-1 and lost in the semi-finals of the Missouri Valley Conference tournament. They have put up big numbers on offense all year long, with 321 runs scored on the year compared to 160 given up.

Freshman Kara Nelson scored 57 of those runs while hitting .409 from her lead-off spot in her rookie season. Sophomores Amber Smith and Jessie Buker provided the power for Illinois State, with 15 and 16 home runs, respectively.

The Irish lineup will be facing off against senior pitcher Shannon Nicholson, who had a 20-6 record and 1.51 ERA.

"Nicholson has a good change-up. She keeps hitters off balance," head coach Deanna Gumpf said. "So we just need to stay back and hit the ball up the middle — not try to crush it."

Notre Dame was only five outs away from defending last year's Big East title last Saturday, but Louisville sophomore Brooke McCrain singled in a run in the bottom of the sixth to give the Cardinals a 3-2 win and the conference championship.

McCrain's RBI was the first run the Cardinals scored since a two-run homer in the first inning. Sophomore pitcher Brittney Bargar threw all six innings for the Irish, striking out six while allowing only three earned runs. Bargar ended her second collegiate season with 224 strikeouts and a 2.12 ERA.

"Bargar has been doing a great job of controlling the big hitters, especially recently," Gumpf said.

The Notre Dame offense did all of its damage in the top half of the sixth. Junior Sarah Smith and senior Stephanie Brown both singled to start the inning. They were followed by senior Jessica Hufnagle, who reached on a bad throw from the Louisville third baseman. The throw allowed Smith to come around and score. Brown would plate the second Irish run two batters later thanks to a Heather Johnson single, tying the game at two.

Notre Dame threatened to tie the game again in the seventh when freshman Christine Lux led off with a double to left-center, but she was stranded at third as Louisville relief pitcher Catherine Bishop struck out the last two batters to end the game.

"We knew we were going to do well. They were all loose and ready to fight," Gumpf said. "I thought we played really well."

The loss to put an end to a seven-game win streak for the Irish. After dropping six straight conference games, Notre Dame caught fire, winning the last five of the regular

season. The team finished with a 31-22 record (13-7 in the Big East), good enough for the No. 4 seed in the conference tournament.

In order to reach the finals, Notre Dame had to get through Connecticut and No. 12 DePaul. The Irish cruised past the Huskies with a 6-0 win to start the tournament. With momentum on its side, the offense kept things going in an 8-2 win over the Blue Demons.

"We played well as a team. They responded to one another and built momentum off of each other," Gumpf said.

After scratching across one in the second inning, Notre Dame went on a five-run tear in the third. Sophomore Linda Kohan drove a ball off of the left field wall with the bases loaded, bringing around two runners to start the scoring. The very next batter, Lux, ripped her third round-tripper of the season to give her team a 6-0 lead early

in the game.

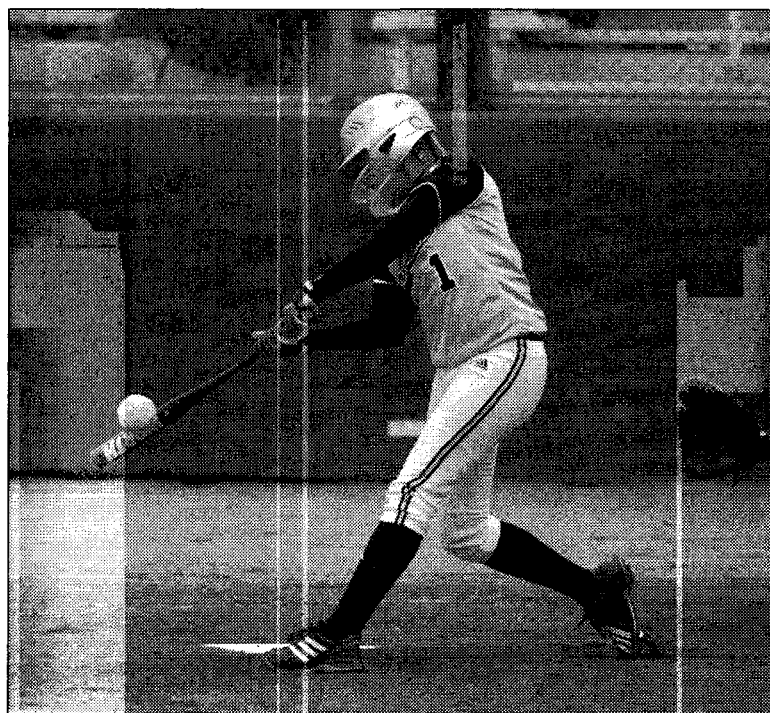
Bargar pitched her second complete game in as many days, hanging on to a perfect game until the sixth inning. Junior Marcy Wilus drove in the two Blue Demon runs with a bases-loaded single later in the frame.

Notes:

♦ Notre Dame will be losing four seniors to graduation this season — pitcher Kenya Fuemmeler, catcher Jessica Hufnagle, outfielder Carissa Jaquish, and Brown.

♦ Brown is a finalist for the Lowe's Senior CLASS Award for her performance on and off the field over the past four years. If she wins, she will become the first ever softball player to receive the honor.

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TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

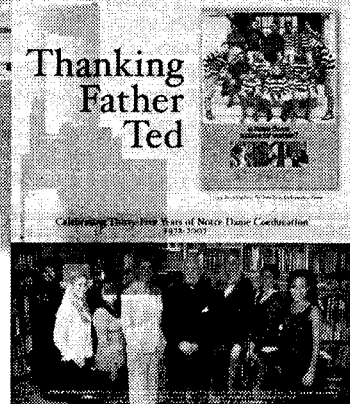
Irish shortstop Katie Laing drives a pitch during Notre Dame's 5-0 win over Valparaiso April 19. The junior was 1-for-3 in the game.

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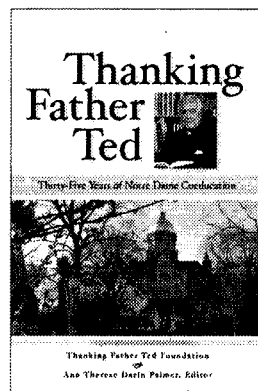
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Notre Dame Women - Connect

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Seniors lead Irish back to NCAA Tournament

Carter, Falls headline team's return to national prominence

By CHRIS HINE
Sports Editor

Russell Carter sat with his head down, reluctantly answering questions in the locker room after Notre Dame's 74-64 loss to Winthrop in the first round of the NCAA Tournament March 16. The anger of what could have been resounded in Carter's dejected voice.

"My season is over. My career is over. We're done," Carter said.

Colin Falls sat next to Carter, his head also down, and his own disappointment evident in his sullen gaze. Though the sting of defeat dug deep at that moment, the two all-Big East first team selections had a lot to be proud of during their final season in a Notre Dame uniform.

At the beginning of the year, not a lot of people expected much from the Irish.

They were picked to finish 11th in the preseason Big East polls — barely good enough to make the conference tournament, much less the NCAA Tournament. Even less was expected when Notre Dame's starting point guard, Kyle McAlarney, was suspended at the advent of Big East play.

But the Irish, behind their two leading scorers, Falls (15.3 points per game) and Carter (17.1 points per game), refused to dwell on their shortcomings and earned an undefeated record at home, a fourth-place finish in conference play and Notre Dame's first NCAA

Tournament berth in four years.

In December, Notre Dame caught the attention of the college basketball world with a pair of victories over then No. 21/22 Maryland and an upset of then No. 4/5 Alabama at the Joyce Center, earning the Irish a top-25 ranking in both the media and coaches polls. But the celebration did not last long.

On Dec. 29, McAlarney was charged with possession of marijuana by South Bend police and suspended indefinitely from the team pending a formal decision by the University. Notre Dame now had to adjust to life without McAlarney. The University eventually suspended the sophomore Jan. 24 for the rest of the spring semester.

"I think our two seniors weren't going to let [McAlarney's suspension] derail them from having a chance to play in the NCAA Tournament," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "So, they did a good job of keeping the group moving forward and not feeling sorry for itself."

Brey said his team turned the corner soon after McAlarney's arrest when the Irish knocked off Louisville 83-72 Jan. 3 in Notre Dame's first Big East game of the season. The victory featured a 14-point, five-rebound, four-assist performance from freshman point guard Tory Jackson, who took over McAlarney's starting spot.

"It was only the second game without (McAlarney) and Tory played so well and we beat a good team here," Brey said. "I think that was a confidence builder for Tory, our guys, and for everybody involved to feel like, 'You know what, we still got a great shot at doing the

things we've dreamed about doing.'"

Jackson matured with each game during the season and became a potent offensive threat off the dribble. Jackson's classmate, Luke Harangody, earned a spot in the starting lineup and became a force in the post. Harangody averaged 11.2 points and 6.2 rebounds per game for the year.

Junior Rob Kurz recovered from an ankle injury that slowed him down in the second half of the season to lead the Irish in rebounds (8.0 per game) and average 12.6 points per game.

Sophomore Zach Hillesland, who Brey frequently referred to as the spark plug for his team, was the sixth man for the Irish. Hillesland's main contributions on the floor came in his ability to do the things that do not necessarily show up in the box score — such as setting good screens, boxing out, or playing effective defense. Sophomore sharp shooter Ryan Ayers had a breakthrough game against Villanova. Ayers hit a clutch three and added a pair of go-ahead free throws late in the game in Notre Dame's 66-63 win over the Wildcats Jan. 27.

Brey expects a lot next season from his returning players, but added they would not have improved this season if it were not for Falls and Carter.

"I'm very proud of how they helped me manage the team," Brey said. "The seniors that I've had here for the most part have helped me manage the young guys and we had a lot of young guys we were relying on and then we had Tory thrust into it. Those two guys more than anything really helped me manage and lead the team."

The Irish started Big East

play 6-3 before losing two in a row on the road at South Florida and DePaul. Luckily, for the Irish, they had a week off to retool before facing Providence back at the Joyce Center. During that week, Brey went into "training camp mode" and practiced twice a day to refocus his team mentally.

"It re-cornered this team. This team was cornered when the year started — picked 11th, maybe an NIT team — the chip was on the shoulder," Brey said. "By that time in the year, they had been told they were really good. They had been ranked, they had done some things. It almost put the chip back on the shoulder for everybody. So, from a mental standpoint, it came at a good time and they reacted well to it."

Notre Dame went on to win its final five regular season games to finish fourth in the Big East with an 11-5 conference record and earn a bye in the first round of the Big East tournament.

In the quarterfinals of the tournament, Notre Dame defeated Syracuse for the second time in the season — ending Syracuse's NCAA Tournament hopes in the process. The Irish then faced conference champion and Final Four participant Georgetown in the semifinals.

Despite opening up a 14-point first-half lead on the Hoyas, Notre Dame could not stave off a Georgetown comeback in the second half. Jeff Green gave the Hoyas an 84-82 lead with 14 seconds remaining. After Green missed the free throw on a possible three-point play, Carter grabbed the rebound and gave the ball to Jackson. Jackson drove down the floor and set up Carter for

an open three. The shot missed with six seconds showing on the clock. Georgetown grabbed the rebound and the berth in the Big East finals.

"People say well you should drive the ball there," Brey said. "But with Russell Carter's percentages and how he was playing and how open a look, you live with that one or die with that one. If that happened ten more times, you take it."

Shortly after the heartbreaking loss, the Irish learned they made the NCAA Tournament as a No. 6 seed in the St. Louis region. Notre Dame faced Winthrop in the first round in Spokane, Wash., in its first NCAA Tournament appearance in four years.

The Irish fell behind by as many as 20 in the second half against the Eagles, then came back to take a 63-62 lead with 2:20 remaining. But Notre Dame would only score one point the rest of the game. Winthrop took over in the closing minutes and sent Notre Dame home with a 74-64 loss.

Against the Eagles, the Irish could not find the shooting touch that made them so dangerous the entire season. From three-point land, the Irish shot just 4-of-22 and only 4-of-13 from the free throw line. Falls and Carter were not their usual selves either — combining to shoot 12-of-31 from the field.

But through a tumultuous season, the two seniors anchored Notre Dame. Even though their careers did not end quite the way they wanted, Falls and Carter led Notre Dame back to national prominence and the NCAA Tournament — hardly a reason to hang their heads.

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Squad quickly rebounds after tough mid-winter stretch

By JAY FITZPATRICK
Sports Writer

The Irish returned from a three-game road trip Jan. 31 with three straight losses to Marquette, Connecticut and Pittsburgh. But in its darkest hour, Notre Dame turned its season around with a string of six conference wins.

The Irish rode the winning streak to the seventh seed in the Big East tournament. This finish, coupled with a win over California in the NCAA Tournament, showed Notre Dame's tenacity this season after the Irish were picked to finish 11th in the Big East in the preseason polls.

"It was just a lot of chemistry and a lot of mental toughness," Irish coach Muffet McGraw said. "An attitude of we've got to prove everybody wrong."

McGraw said her senior starters — forward Crystal Erwin and guard Breona Gray — guided the team through the rocky season.

"Our captains and our seniors, because they really, they got mad when they found out they got picked to finish 11th

and they sort of, really got determined," McGraw said.

Although the win streak propelled the Irish into the post-season, one of Notre Dame's biggest wins came Dec. 6 against No. 6 Purdue at the Joyce Center. The Irish overcame an 11-point deficit to upset the Boilermakers 67-58.

"The Purdue game, that was a huge win because it gave us a lot of confidence early in the season, and so after that, when we looked at playing Connecticut and Rutgers, it prepared us for North Carolina [in the NCAA Tournament]," McGraw said.

The win was part of a trend for the Irish, who played well against every ranked team they faced this season, McGraw said.

"We played well as the underdog," McGraw said. "We ran that role, and I think when teams came in we just had that feeling that we had nothing to lose — we've played big games before."

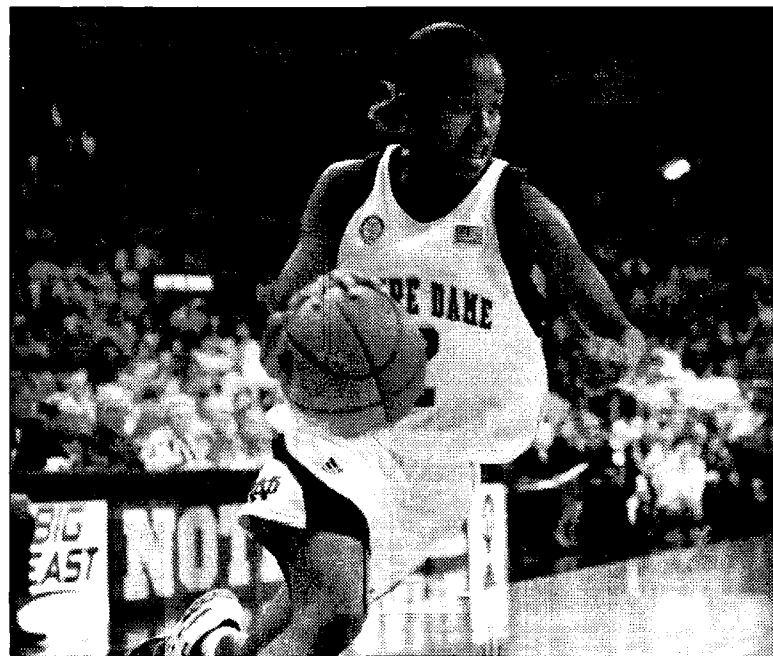
The Irish carried their underdog role into the NCAA Tournament when they faced off against North Carolina in the second round. After downing California in the first

round 62-59 behind clutch play from juniors Tulyah Gaines and Charel Allen, the Irish hung with the Tar Heels for most of the game. Allen got the Irish a 41-33 second half lead, but strong shooting from North Carolina down the stretch overcame that deficit, en route to a 60-51 win.

Allen was a constant presence in the box score — averaging 17 points per game and 19.2 in conference matchups — and was named to the first team All-Big East roster for the first time in her career. On Monday, Allen accepted an invitation to the USA Basketball U-21 Team Trials in Colorado Springs, Colo.

"She hunted her shot a little bit more, she looked for her opportunities a little bit more, and she's still a team player and the whole team was happy that she was scoring," McGraw said. "It was really just the case that she was able to do a little bit more, and that's what we needed her to do."

Notre Dame's freshmen provided the final piece to the puzzle this season, allowing the Irish to succeed. Guards Ashley Barlow and Melissa Lechlitner and center Erica



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Irish junior guard Charel Allen drives to the basket during Notre Dame's 87-66 victory over Richmond Nov. 28.

Williamson were strong forces off the bench all season.

"Ashley Barlow was coming off the bench and able to score and rebound and do a lot of things. Melissa Lechlitner — we expected those two to contribute, but not nearly to the level that they did," McGraw

said.

McGraw also said Williamson was strong as the backup center this season — the reason she won the team's most improved player award.

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SMC BASKETBALL

Belles fall in MIAA semis

By BILL BRINK
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's first-year coach Jennifer Henley can't say whether her Belles lived up to expectations this season. She didn't have any to begin with.

"You know, I didn't know a whole lot about last year. All I could go on was last year's films that I had," she said. "I didn't really know what to expect coming into this year."

Despite the lack of expectations, Henley must have been pleased with the result of the season. After finishing 11-12 (10-6 MIAA) in the regular season, the Belles lost to Hope in the semifinals of the MIAA tournament. Hope went on to defeat regular-season champion Calvin in the finals. Losing to the conference champions has no placating effect on the team, however.

"No one likes to lose," Henley said. "It was apparent after the tournament how strong Hope was, considering they knocked off Calvin, which was a game we thought was going to be a game. I don't know if losing ever gets any easier, but it was nice to see that if we were going to get beat, we knew we lost to the team that won the tournament."

The team was very welcoming and helpful to Henley in

her first year.

"The kids worked incredibly hard for me coming in, which was great for me coming in as a first-year coach not knowing what to expect coming into the season," Henley said. "The girls had it in their mind, and we were lead by a very strong senior class, that this is where they wanted to be, and they worked very hard to get there."

The season looked bleak early on after Saint Mary's started 1-6. The stretch included three losses by four points or less, one coming in overtime.

After losing their fourth straight game — to Carthage on Dec. 4 — the Belles started to turn their season around.

"I think we had a very brutal non-conference schedule, with the teams that we played, and played so early," Henley said. "It prepared us for the conference, prepared us for the Hopes and the Calvins. Being in my first year, inheriting a team not knowing much about them, I think a lot of it is just feeling each other out and trying to find the right chemistry on the floor with the lineups and things of that nature."

The Belles won three of their next four and closed the regular season on a 7-3 run. The strong finish gave them a 3-seed in the conference tournament and the chance to

play a weaker Alma team in the first round. They dealt with Alma fairly easily, but then ran into a Flying Dutch brick wall.

Part of the turnaround came from the play of junior guard Allison Kessler, who averaged 19.9 points per game. During the team's four-game win streak, Kessler scored 25 points in the first contest and 33 in the last.

Losing seniors point guard Bridget Lipke and forward Stefanie Broderick will affect the team both on and off the court next year, Henley said.

"Stef did so many things off the court for us that's never going to show up in any newspaper article," she said. "And Bridget's performance in terms of running the show and being our point guard is going to be a key position for us to replace."

But Henley believes change is a part of every team and is something that the Belles can handle in stride.

"Every year every team is different, just like we're going to be different next year," she said. "We'd like to build upon our success we had this year, but no team's ever the same, year in and year out, in terms of personnel and your style of play and things of that nature."

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BASEBALL

Irish gear up for Big East tourney in NYC

By DEIRDRE KRASULA
Sports Writer

The Big East tournament is still in sight for Notre Dame, but it's unclear where the team will stand when it begins.

The Irish could end up seeded anywhere from fifth to eighth in the conference tournament — or they could end up on the outside looking in.

The Irish, currently No. 7 in the league, enter their final conference series of the year this weekend against Connecticut (No. 9 in the Big East). Just one victory over the Huskies will likely secure a playoff berth for the Irish — but a sweep by Connecticut would knock out Notre Dame completely.

"They're a scrappy team," Irish coach Dave Schrage said of the Huskies. "They get timely hits and they have some good arms."

The Irish struggled last weekend, falling in three straight games to Louisville — 3-1, 4-3 and 7-3. Notre Dame has struggled to stay above the .500 mark in conference play all season, falling to 10-13 after the losses to the Cardinals.

"We've got to drive in runners when we get them in scoring position," Schrage said. "That was something we were doing better prior to the Louisville series."

St. John's and Rutgers top the Big East with 18-6 conference

records. The Irish won their series 2-1 against Rutgers in April and have yet to face off with St. John's. Louisville, the only team to sweep the Irish this season, is No. 3 with a 17-7 Big East record.

The Irish come out on the right side of .500 with an overall record of 27-24 after having to replace most of the starting lineup from the 2006 squad.

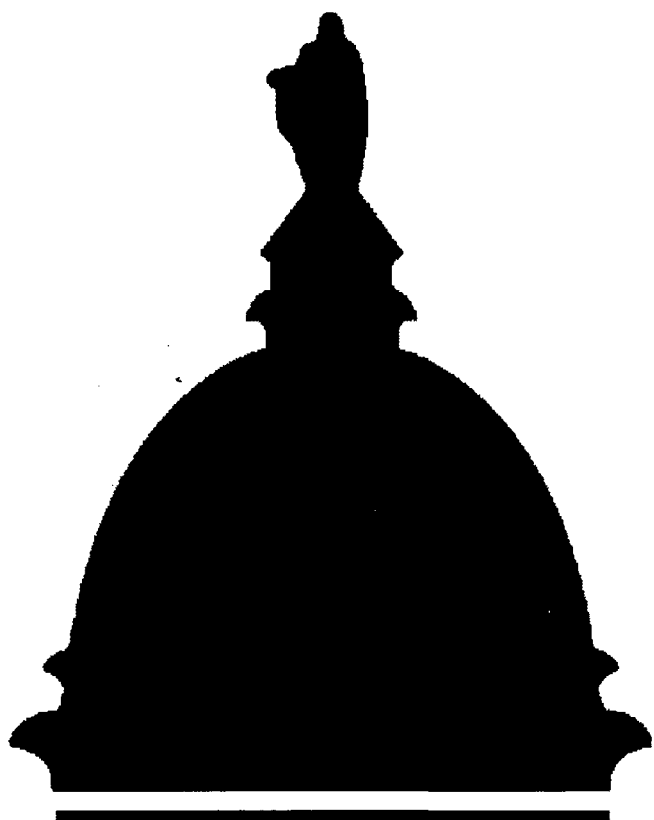
Notre Dame also boasts a 16-7 record at home, including a five-game streak in April. That streak started with an 11-2 win over Georgetown April 15 and ended with a 17-6 win over West Virginia April 21. Notre Dame fell to West Virginia 16-7 the next day.

As the Irish enter their final series before the Big East tournament, the team will likely turn to its seniors, especially captains Mike Dury and Danny Dressman.

Dury, the starting first baseman, saw limited action in the first three years of his career but has stepped into a leading role at both first base and from the pitching mound this season. Dressman, a veteran in the Irish outfield, has helped his younger teammates step into important roles.

The three-game Connecticut series continues this weekend at Frank Eck Stadium. The Big East tournament begins May 22 at KeySpan Park in Brooklyn, N.Y.

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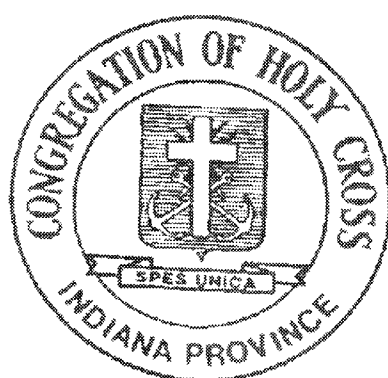


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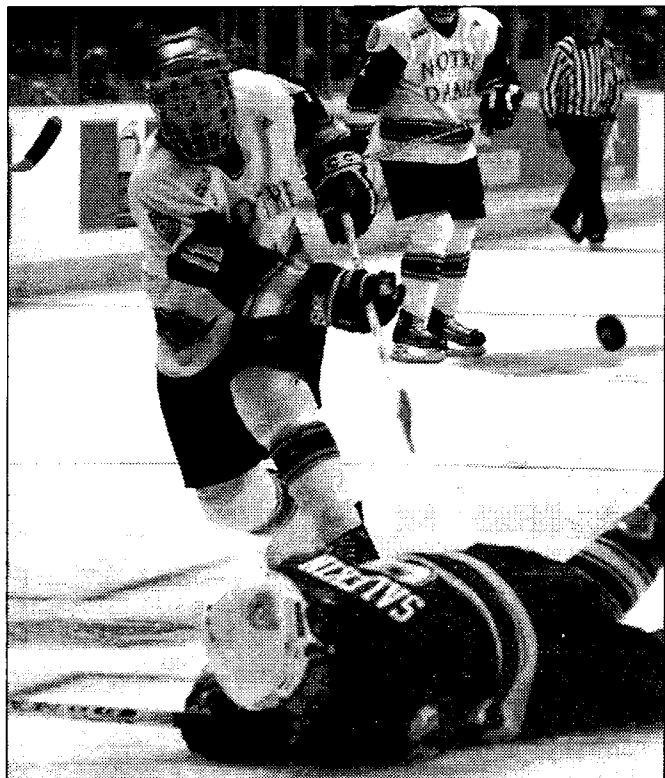


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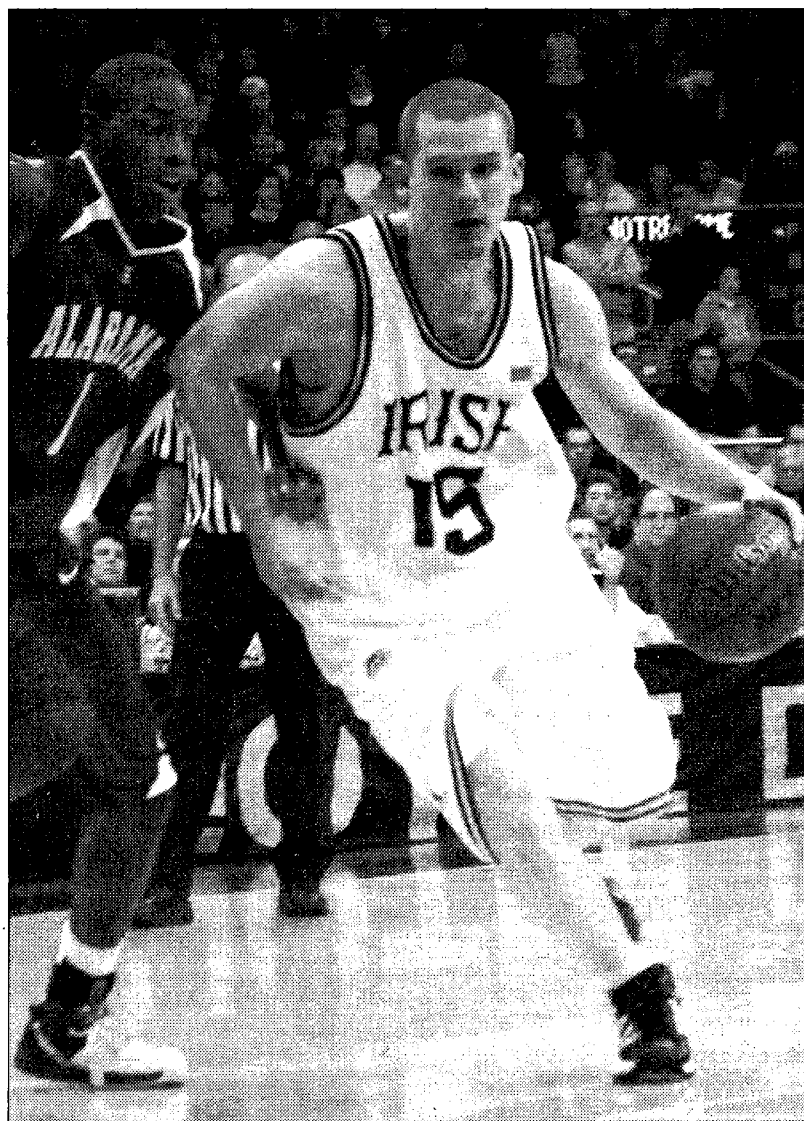
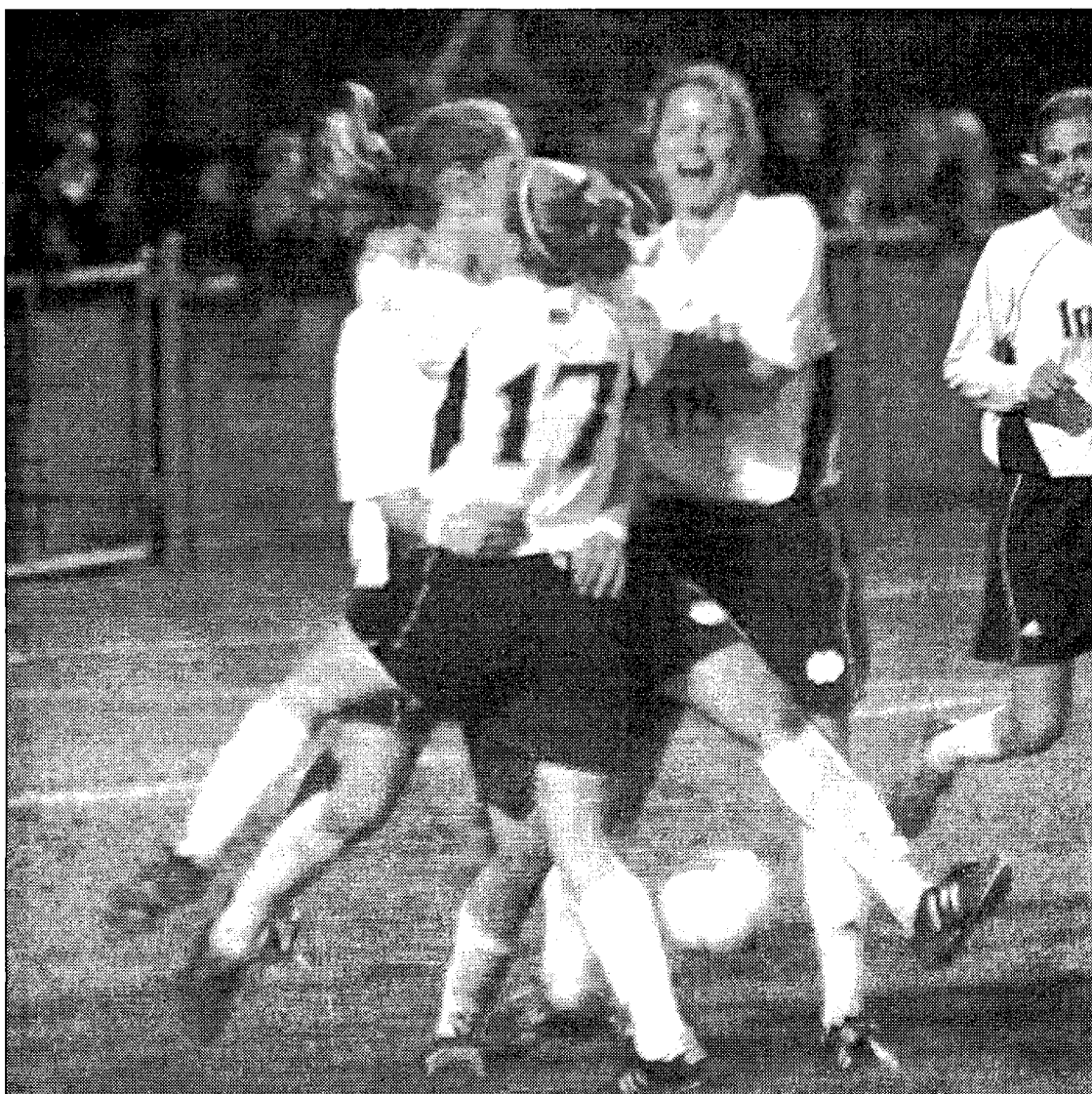


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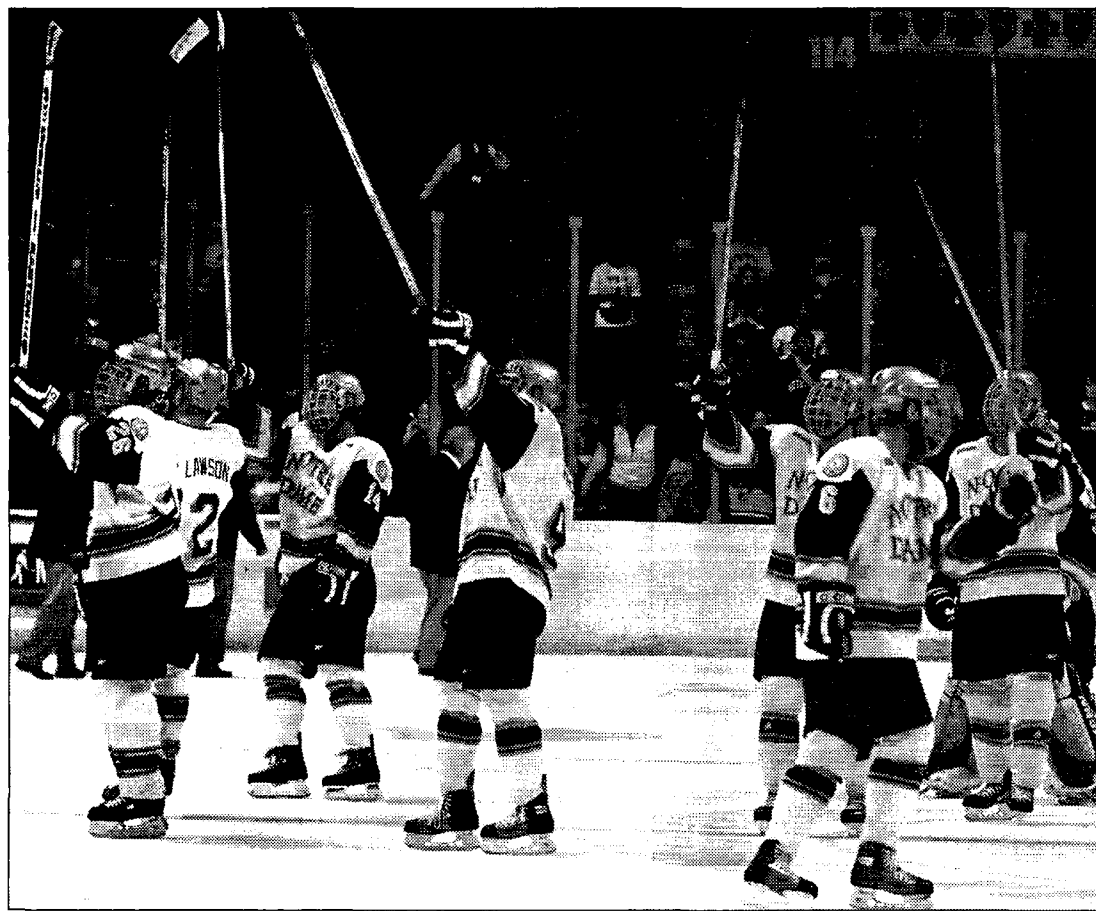


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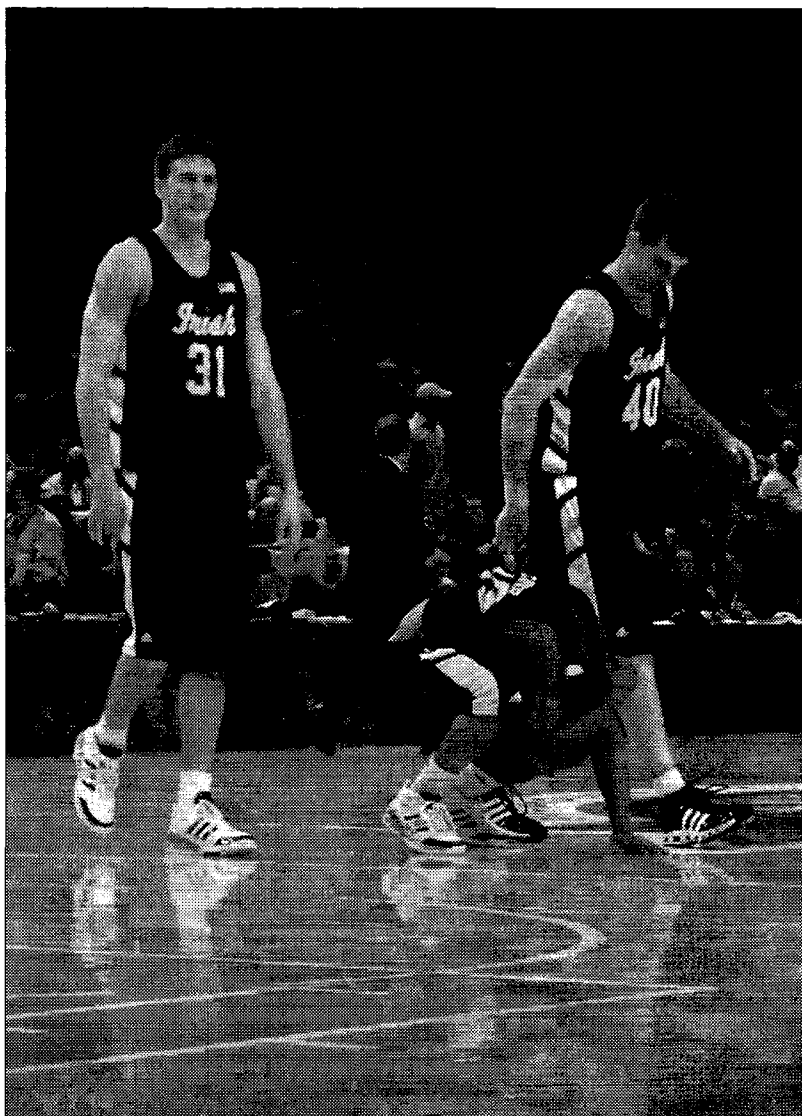
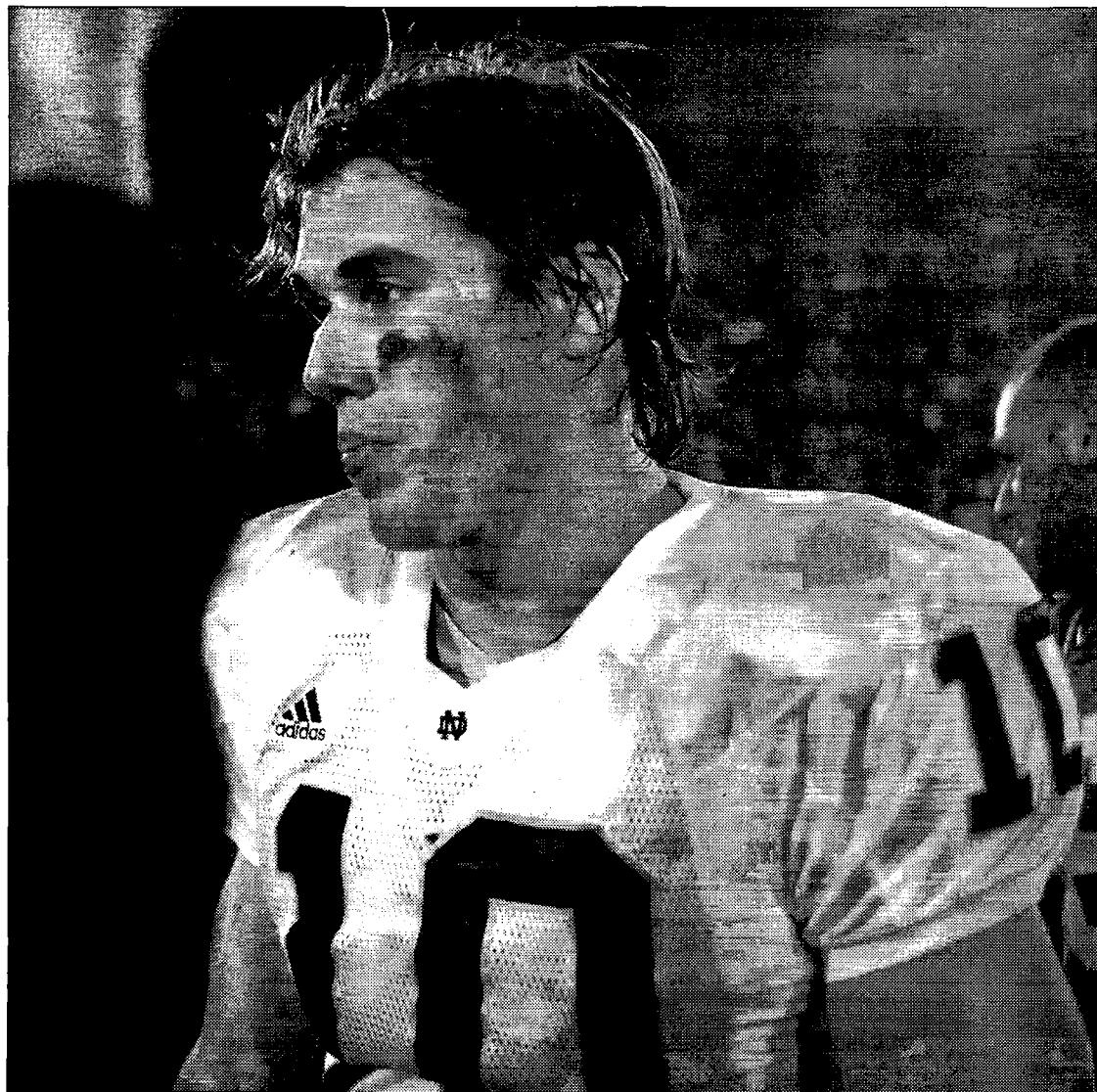


Observer File Photos

Top left, right wing Erik Condra takes a shot against Alabama-Huntsville in a 3-2 NCAA First Round win March 23. Top right, Irish fans cheer on Notre Dame's 40-37 comeback victory over Michigan State at Spartan Stadium Sept. 23. Center, linebacker Maurice Crum, Jr., celebrates a sack in Notre Dame's 20-17 win over UCLA Oct. 21. Bottom left, women's soccer players celebrate their 4-0 national quarterfinal win over Penn State Nov. 24. Bottom right, guard Colin Falls drives in Notre Dame's 99-85 win over Alabama Dec. 7.

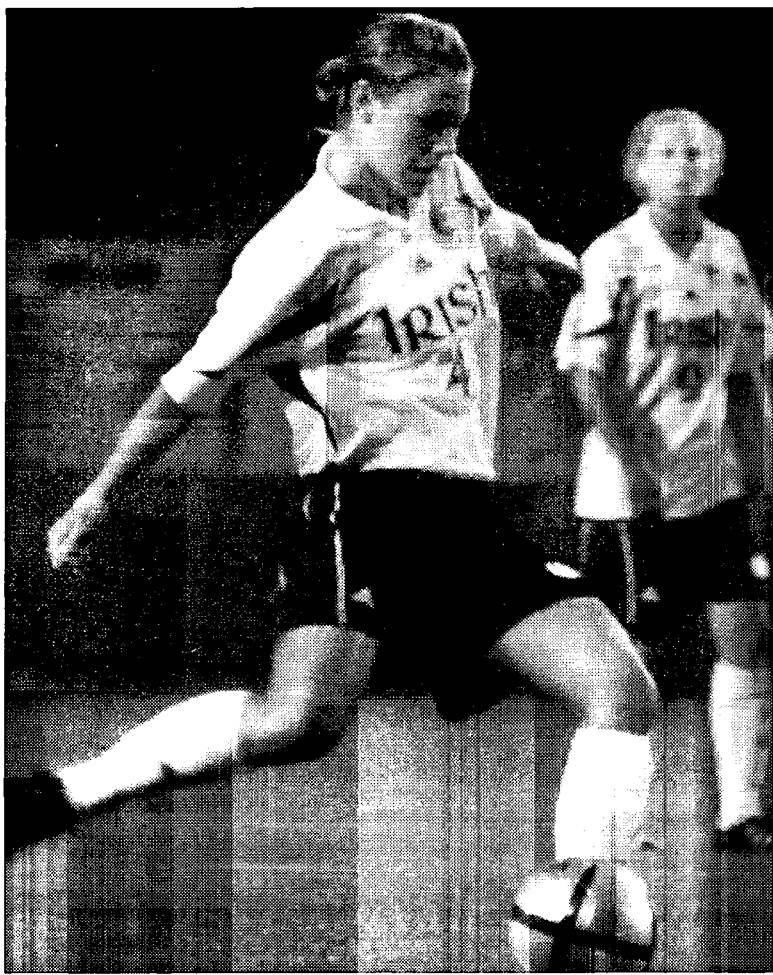


Lows



Observer File Photos

Top left, a fan reacts to a bad call in a Notre Dame's women's basketball game Jan. 20 against Syracuse. Top right, North Carolina scores a goal in the NCAA Championship against the Irish. The Tar Heels went on to win the title 2-1. Center, the hockey team gives one last raise to the crowd following their 2-1 loss to Michigan State in the NCAA Tournament. Bottom left, Brady Quinn reacts after losing 44-24 to USC. Bottom right, Russell Carter collapses after missing the final shot in the 84-82 Big East tournament semifinals loss to Georgetown.



Senior Kim Lorenzen played in 95 games during her career at Notre Dame. The Irish went 92-8-2 during her four years.

Lorenzen

continued from page 44

that went 92-8-2 in its four years in South Bend and won a national championship in 2004.

But the senior said her best memory is a single game along the road to that national title — a 3-1 win over Portland in the quarterfinals that was played in a driving rainstorm.

"The weather was absolutely terrible, but it was the best game I feel like we played that year," Lorenzen said. "I really felt the excitement of winning after the game."

Lorenzen arrived at Notre Dame fresh off another national title — this one by her club team, which also included future Irish players Jill Krivacek, Jill Buczkowski and Brittany Bock.

She found herself in the starting lineup quickly at Notre Dame, appearing in 23 games her freshman season and contributing to a unit that allowed only 53 shots on goal all season.

The next year, Lorenzen was a defensive fixture for the national title squad and scored three goals, including the game winner in a conference

road matchup with West Virginia.

Lorenzen's junior year got off to a rough start. She missed six games due to illness early, and her season ended in frustration as a squad that Irish coach Randy Waldrum called "better than when we one the national title" fell in a quarterfinal rematch with the Pilots.

For her senior year, Lorenzen switched positions and found herself teaching the ropes to the players on either side of her as the Irish rolled into the championship game undefeated before losing to North Carolina.

Lorenzen said the loss to the Tar Heels did not reflect the way her team played all year.

"We didn't show the country how good we were," she said. "We didn't play how we had played in the tournament up to that point."

Lorenzen, a finance major, has a job lined up with J.P. Morgan in Chicago after graduation, but she said soccer will still be a part of her life.

"I'm sure there will be co-rec leagues to play in, and it's a good escape from the real world," she said.

Contact Chris Khorey at ckhorey@nd.edu

"I'm sure there will be co-rec leagues to play in, and it's a good escape from the real world."

Kim Lorenzen
Irish defender

Brown

continued from page 44

hopefully we'll hear something soon," Brown said.

Jackson said the amount of ice time Brown logged this season — he started in 39 out of 42 games — will go a long way for the senior when he heads into the professional ranks, where goalies play upward of 60 games every season.

"I think he has a chance to make it to the National Hockey League," Jackson said.

In the meantime, he has been working out with several of his classmates on the ice and in the weight room. Brown is trying to take his game to the next level on the physical and mental levels. He is working out on a daily basis to stay in shape in the weight room as well as continuing to work with a sports psychologist to keep himself mentally sharp.

"That has been such a huge benefit to me, and it has helped me a lot to be able to recognize that whole other aspect of the game," Brown said.

The extra work Brown has done off the ice in the past four years has been a huge part of his success between the pipes. The training has allowed Brown to cement his name in the record books with the majority of Notre Dame's goaltending records under his belt. The first team All-American also has an impressive resume of awards

including team MVP, 2007 CCHA player of the year, Lowe's Senior CLASS Award and the runner up for college hockey's ultimate prize — the Hobey Baker Award.

Despite all his personal accolades, there is no doubt in his mind that his most memorable achievement during his college career was capturing the CCHA title at Joe Louis Arena in Detroit this March.

"It would have to be winning at the Joe — it was a great experience and a great game against Michigan," he said. "Just being able to raise the Mason Cup was just a phenomenal feeling with all of our fans there."

Notre Dame defeated Michigan 2-1 on a

third period goal from senior Jason Paige to win its first-ever tournament championship.

"I really tried to take everything in, so it was that much more special putting on the jersey for the last time at home."

Dave Brown
Irish goalie

Brown said that he was sad to see his collegiate career come to a close but feels that he was able to take full advantage of the opportunities and successes that he and his teammates enjoyed during their time at Notre Dame.

"I really tried to take everything in, so it was that much more special putting on the jersey for the last time at home. I really tried to absorb everything because I knew what was ahead of us," he said.

It is tough to predict what lies ahead of Brown now, but it is certain that behind him he leaves a strong legacy and a program on the rise.

Contact Dan Murphy at dmurphy6@nd.edu

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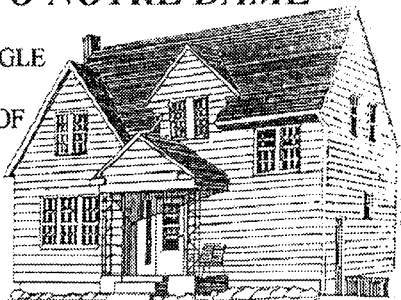
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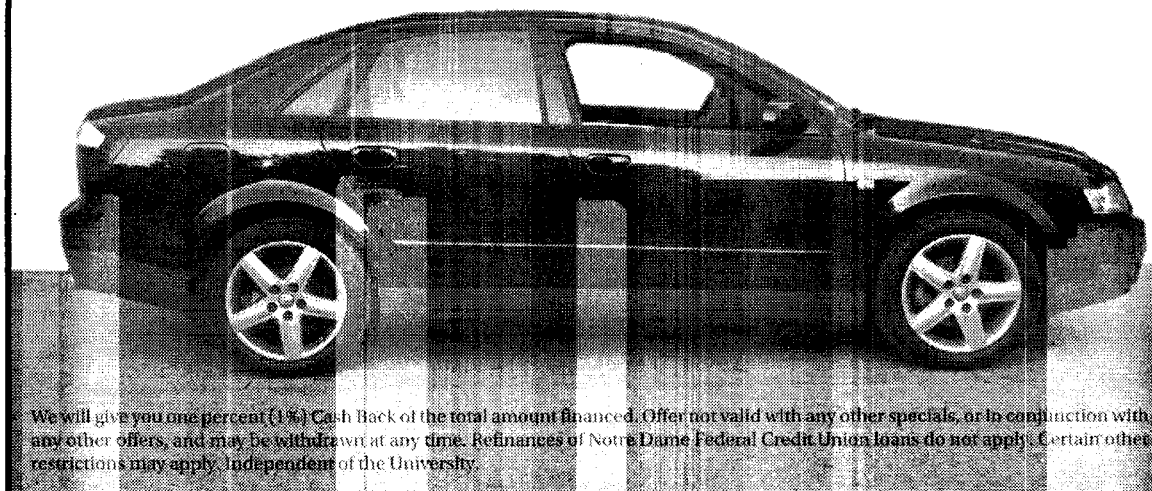
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Belle Epoch

Volleyball posts one of best seasons; Swimming earns landmark win; XC takes fifth in MIAA

Observer Staff Report

Volleyball

Saint Mary's had one of the best seasons in school history this past fall.

The Belles finished the season 17-10 overall, 9-7 in the conference and fifth in the MIAA.

"Our team chemistry was definitely one of our greatest strengths," Belles coach Julie Schroeder-Biek said. "Also this season, our players have really lifted their game and shown so much individual improvement — they really play for each other. ...

"Our seniors have done a nice job on the court all year — they have also been great leaders both on and off the court."

Several Belles players received individual awards at the end of the season. Senior Anne Cusack was honored as the MIAA defensive player of the year. At the libero position, Cusack posted 472 total digs (7.04 digs a game) against league competition, which ranked first in the MIAA. The senior also ranked 10th in the league in services with 0.42 aces per game. She ranked among the top 50 in the nation in digs all season.

In addition to those accolades, Cusack was named to the league's first team while senior outside hitter Kristen Playko earned second-team MIAA honors.

For the second time in her four seasons, Playko was chosen to an MIAA all-conference team after being named to the second team for her efforts at outside hitter. She ranked fourth in the league in kills (3.85 per game) and eighth in digs (4.82)

Swimming

Saint Mary's had an individual swimmer crowned an MIAA champion for the first time in four years and won its first conference dual meet in seven years during a successful year for the program.

"During the 2006-2007 season, the team grew not only in numbers, but also in camaraderie, confidence, and performance," Belles coach Ryan Dombkowski said. "The team has bonded well and supports each other during both practice and during competitions, which

is something I noticed was a bit absent in years past."

The Belles beat Alma 130-103 Jan. 13 for their second dual meet win of the season and their first conference dual meet win in seven years.

In the MIAA championship meet, the Belles finished sixth out of seven, but for only the second time in the program's history claimed an individual title, as Gerbeth took the 1,650 freestyle.

The only senior, Sarah Budd, was a leader in many ways for the team, Dombkowski said.

"Sarah Budd was our lone senior, who not only led by setting a great example of dedication and perseverance, but was also our team leader in the classroom as well," Dombkowski said.

"Sarah truly is a great example of what every student-athlete should strive to become and we'll definitely miss her next year."

With most of the team coming back, Dombkowski said next season has promise for the Belles.

"I believe that this group is ready to help lead the 2007-2008 Saint Mary's swimming and diving team to our best finish ever at conference," Dombkowski said. "I truly believe next year's team should break several school records and even send a few swimmers on to national competition."

Cross Country

Saint Mary's finished fifth in the MIAA in 2006, qualifying for the NCAA Regionals and finishing 20th.

Senior captain Sara Otto and junior Megan Gray led the Belles for most of the season. Gray's best time on the year was an 18:42 at the Manchester Invitational, in which she won the individual title and the Belles finished third.

Otto's best time also came in Manchester, where she crossed the finish line in 19:41 and finished sixth.

Golf

After a successful fall season and a long break from competitive play, Saint Mary's was anxious to once again prove themselves on the course.

Because some fall members studied abroad during the spring semester, the team was forced to change its lineup, but remained confident.

Sophomores Meredith Fantom and Meaghan Fontein, who returned this spring after a semester in Rome, were joined by captain Katie O'Brien, sophomores Perri Hamma and Molly Goldsmith and freshman Theresa Tonyan. Although young, they held their own in

freshman class will booster what we already have," coach Mark Hamilton said. "We're very excited."

Tennis

Saint Mary's finished with an even overall record of 13-13 this season. The Belles finished 5-3 in the MIAA regular season schedule and won two of three games in the conference tournament to finish fifth overall.

After losing its first match of the tournament to Calvin, Saint Mary's went on to defeat Alma and Olivet to secure the fifth-place finish.

The Belles started their MIAA schedule 4-1 before losing two of their next three to finish the regular season in fourth place.

Senior captain Kelly McDavitt said the squad will return a strong sophomore class next year.

"We had many strong freshmen this year," she said. "They learned a lot this season and will take their experience into next season. They will help lead the team next year."

McDavitt, who went 6-2 in the No. 1 singles spot, was named to the MIAA first team.

Softball

The Belles (25-9, 10-6 MIAA) finished the season with an unlikely run up the rankings, which led them to the 4th seed in the MIAA tournament. But their streak of success ended quickly in the postseason as the team was eliminated on the first day of the conference tournament.

"We weren't mentally ready for the tournament," coach Erin Sullivan said. "That and our hitting just wasn't on that day."

The Belles lost to host and eventual tournament co-champion Alma in a 3-0 blanking. MIAA most valuable pitcher in the MIAA Kay McDonald (1.62 ERA) dominated the Belles with nine strikeouts. She allowed only three hits.

Sophomore pitcher Calli Davison, senior shortstop Sarah

Miesle and freshman outfielder Ashley Peterson all had hits, but the Belles failed to drive anyone home. Alma started the low-scoring game off with a run in the first and two more in the third. Three runs were more than enough to win the game and send the Belles to the consolation bracket, where they lost to third-seeded Hope.

Now that the season is over, Sullivan said, the team is looking ahead.

"I think we had another great season. We had some amazing moments again," she said. "I am really looking forward to seeing what the players will do over the summer to come back ready to go next year."

Soccer

Six Saint Mary's seniors saw their collegiate careers come to a heartbreaking end during the MIAA quarterfinal round this year.

The Belles battled through two overtime periods in a scoreless tie with Kalamazoo before losing 4-3 in penalty kicks.

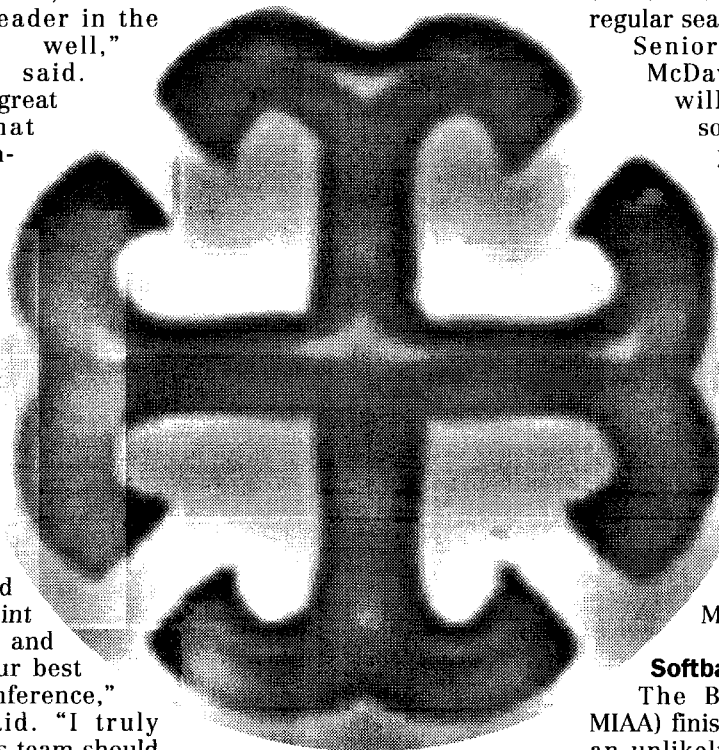
Third-year head coach Caryn Mackenzie steered the team to a 4-3-2 conference record (5-8-2 overall) with help from a strong senior class. Laura Heline finished up her career as the team's goalkeeper with 94 saves on the year. The consistent senior started all but one game between the posts for the Belles in the past four years.

On the offensive end, senior Ashley Hinton buried seven goals and assisted six others to lead the team in scoring. She and her younger sister, sophomore Lauren Hinton, provided most of the team's offense throughout the season. Lauren Hinton also had seven goals this season, most of which were set up by her older sister.

Midfielder Caroline Stancukas was the only player in the MIAA to win the national Arthur Ashe Award.

The award is given to a minority student-athlete who succeeds on and off the field. Stancukas also received the honor for swimming during the winter.

Next season the Belles return nine freshmen as well as a solid base of upperclassmen as they look to return to the top of the MIAA.



○ September 1-2

Volleyball opens the season with four straight victories in two days.

October 13-14

Golf finishes fourth at MIAA Championships in Battle Creek, Mich. ○

October 28

After 120 minutes of scoreless play, soccer bows out of the MIAA tournament with a 4-3 shootout loss to Kalamazoo.

October 31

Volleyball defeats Alma, 3-2, in the first round of the MIAA tournament. ○

January 20-31

Basketball goes on a four-game winning streak to improve to 8-4 in the MIAA.

February 14

Basketball tops Albion 71-63 in overtime to even its overall record at 11-11, recovering from a 1-6 start to the year. ○

March 11-13

Softball opens the season with six straight wins in three days.

April 18 ○

Tennis defeats Tri-State, 8-1, to improve to 5-2 in the MIAA.

April 20-24

Golf finishes sixth at MIAA NCAA Qualifiers.

May 3-4

Softball bows out of the MIAA tournament with back-to-back losses to Alma and Hope. ○

Sept.

Oct.

Nov.

Dec.

Jan.

Feb.

Mar.

Apr.

May

October 24 ○

Cross country finishes fifth at MIAA Conference Meet in Alma, Mich.

October 25 ○

Soccer blasts winless Tri-State 8-0 to finish with a 4-3-1 record in the MIAA.

○ November 11

Cross country finishes 20th at Midwest Regional in Hanover, Ind.

November 3

Volleyball falls to Calvin, 3-0, in the MIAA Semifinals in Grand Rapids, Mich.

February 8-10 ○

Swimming finishes sixth at MIAA Championship meet in Jenison, Mich.

February 22 ○

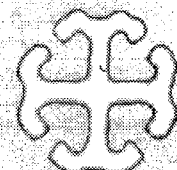
Basketball falls to Hope 71-52 in the second round of the MIAA tournament.

April 27-30 ○

Softball wins its last five MIAA games to finish the conference seasons 10-6.

April 27-28 ○

Tennis defeats Alma and Olivet, but loses to Calvin at the MIAA tournament in Kalamazoo, Mich.



Notre Dame:

Women's Swimming, Crew win Big East titles; Men's Golf barely misses NCAAs;

Observer Staff Report

Swimming

This season the Irish women reiterated the fact that they are the most dominant program in the Big East — etching their names into the history books in the process.

Scoring more than 750 points, the Irish won their 11th consecutive Big East title, becoming the first program in any sport in Big East history to win 11 straight titles. The victory moved Notre Dame ahead of the Pittsburgh men's swimming and diving program, which won 10 consecutive Big East titles from 1983-1992.

"It shows what a dominant force we've been in the Big East for 11 years," Notre Dame coach Carrie Nixon said after the Big East championships. "Dominating the way we did this year really sent a message to the rest of the conference that we're not going away anytime soon."

The Irish sent eight swim-

mers and divers to the NCAA Championships held March 8-10 in Minneapolis, Minn. The total was the second most ever sent to the Championships in program history, and the team managed to compile 25 total points, good enough for a 27th place finish.

A bright spot for the Irish at the Championships was senior Katie Carroll, who earned her second career All-America honor when she finished in seventh place in the 400 IM with a time of 4:12.47. Carroll also earned honorable mention All-America honors in the 200-meter butterfly.

On the men's side, Notre Dame just missed winning its third consecutive Big East title, falling to West Virginia on the final race of the four-day meet.

Entering the 400-meter freestyle relay, the Irish held a 3.5 point lead over the Mountaineers. The Notre Dame quartet of freshman John Lytle, and seniors Louis Cavadini, Ted Brown and Tim Kegelman

touched the wall in a school-record time of 2:59.59, but they were outdone by West Virginia's time of 2:56.21. The Mountaineers received 40 points for the victory while Notre Dame's third-place finish netted the Irish 32 points — 4.5 points less than they needed to maintain their lead over West Virginia.

"It's crushing," Irish coach Time Welsh said after the Big East championships. "But I don't feel like we lost the meet as much as West Virginia won it. We had four guys set a school record in the last event, and it still wasn't enough. What more can you ask of them?"

Overall, the Irish compiled an 11-3 dual meet record to go along with a first-place finish in the Dennis Stark Relays, as well as a third-place finish in the Ohio State Invitational.

Men's Golf

Despite finishing as the runner-up to host Louisville in the Big East tournament April 24, Notre Dame failed to capture a berth in the NCAA Championships. The Irish finished their fall season in solid position to earn one of 81 NCAA regional berths.

"We had a very good fall," Irish coach Jim Kubinski said. "We finished ranked about 40th [nationally]."

But the Irish were unable to maintain their high level of play for the duration of the spring, leaving them on the NCAA bubble heading into the tournament's selection process.

"Unfortunately, we weren't consistent enough during the spring," Kubinski said.

After finishing second in the 16-team Triumph on March 13 in Pauma Valley, Calif., the Irish capped off their spring break trip with a sixth-place result at the high-profile Border Olympics March 17 in Laredo, Tex.

Several weeks later, however, the Irish struggled through harsh weather conditions to finish in a tie for eighth place at Purdue's Boilermaker Invitational.

The team then carded an 11th-place score in the Kepler Invitational on the Ohio State campus April 15.

"The two tournaments at Purdue and Ohio State where

we saw some really bad weather — like everyone else did — really hurt us," Kubinski said. "We were still close [to an NCAA berth] but those two weren't good for us."

But after their second-place finish in the Big East — including a tournament-low, 10-under par score in the final round — the Irish still believed they may have earned a bid to the premier post-season event.

Notre Dame finished ahead of several teams that were selected to the tournament, but it was hurt by the NCAA policy of selecting a limited number of teams from each region. The Irish, who had to compete in a very strong district, were ranked well ahead of several teams from other areas that were given at-large bids.

"I definitely think we should have been there," senior co-captain Cole Isban said. "But there's nothing you can do."

Kubinski said that Isban, too, was snubbed by the NCAA selection committee. In tournaments throughout the year, Isban defeated several of the players that were given individual spots in the tournament. He was even ranked almost 100 spots higher than some of those players, yet he was not deemed worthy of a bid.

"I think, quite honestly, Cole was most deserving of an individual spot," Kubinski said. "I say this without a hint of bias. It was very surprising and very much a disappointment."

The NCAA selection system will change next year to de-emphasize schools' geographical locations.

"[Next year] it will depend a lot less on district allocations," Isban said. "Notre Dame shouldn't have a problem getting in from now on."

For Kubinski, the impending change in the selection system, as well as some of his young team's gutsy performances throughout the year, serve to ease the sting of being left out of the NCAA field.

"I'm not disappointed only because, other than Cole, we didn't have too much experience coming into the season," Kubinski said. "I'm very proud of the heart the guys showed, especially at the final round of the Big East. We actually shot our low round of the year in

our last round."

Fencing

Notre Dame's roller-coaster year ended when the Irish finished fourth in the NCAA Championships at Drew University in Madison, N.J.

Notre Dame endured a season that included a surgery and lengthy absence for head coach Janusz Bednarski, the hiring of a new assistant coach for the foilists and the departure of Olympic gold medalist Mariel Zagunis, a junior who withdrew in pursuit of a non-guaranteed spot on the 2008 Olympic squad.

Still, four Irish fencers garnered first-team All-America status with top-four showings — freshman epeeist Kelley Hurley, sophomore foilist Adi Nott and senior sabreists Patrick Ghattas and Valerie Providenza.

Ghattas became the 25th three-time first-team All-America in Notre Dame history, finishing second to Harvard's Timothy Hagaman by a single touch. Meanwhile, Providenza's first-team All-American showing marked her fourth straight season concluding in All-America honors.

What's more, nine of Notre Dame's 11 qualifiers earned at least honorable mention All-America status with top-12 finishes in their weapon, and seven of those nine will return to the squad next season.

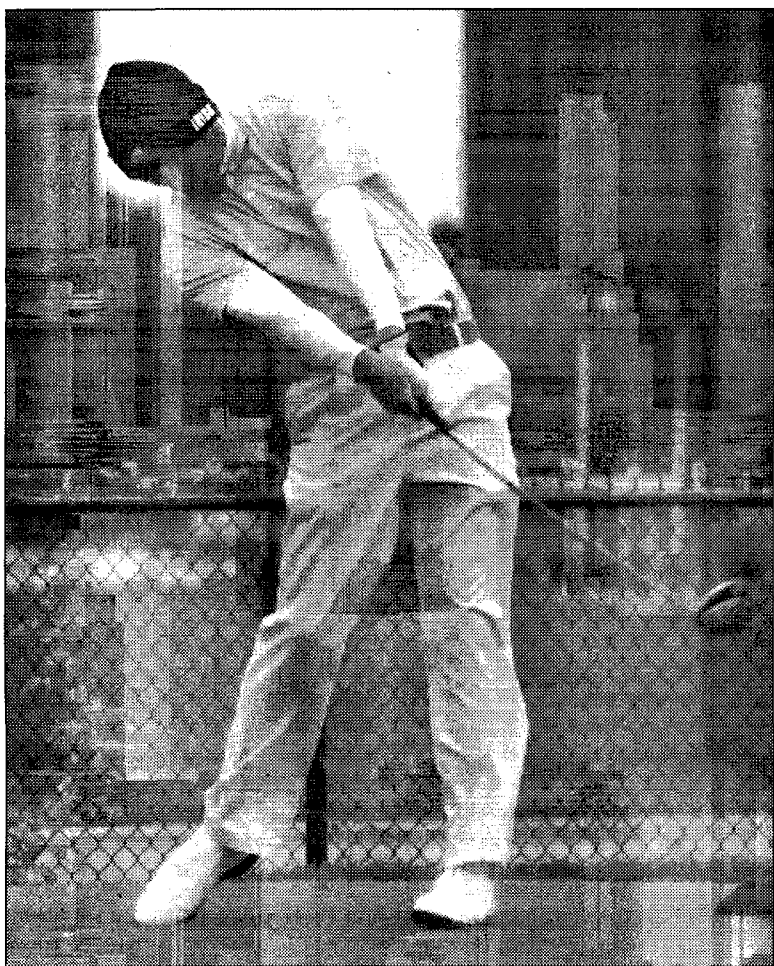
"I am very proud of the kids, who kept going," Bednarski said. "We have new fencers who are showing good skill."

Notre Dame's 2007 slate opened with an 8-0 performance by the women and an 8-1 showing by the men at the Notre Dame Duals. The squads struggled at the next dual meet — the NYU Duals — and finished just 3-3 on the men's side and 4-2 on the women's side.

The Irish stormed back to post undefeated team performances at the Midwest Duals and the Duke Duals before a strong showing at the Northwestern Duals. There, the men went 3-1 and women finished 5-2.

Women's Golf

In her senior year, Noriko Nakazaki led Notre Dame to within one stroke of the Big East championship.



PHIL HUDELSON/The Observer

Notre Dame freshman Doug Fortner launches a drive Oct. 10 at the Gridiron Classic at the Warren Golf Course.

September 1

Women's soccer defeats then-No. 1 Santa Clara 3-1 to take the country's top spot themselves.

September 15

Men's and women's cross country both finish first at the National Catholic Championship.

September 16

Michigan defeats football 47-21 at home, severely hampering Notre Dame's national title hopes.

September 23

Football overcomes 17-point halftime deficit in a driving rainstorm on the road at Michigan State and wins 40-37.

November 19

Volleyball falls to Louisville 3-2 in the Big East championship game in Cincinnati.

November 11

Women's soccer defeats Rutgers to win the Big East championship in Storrs, Conn.

November 24

Men's soccer ends the season with a 3-2 loss to Virginia in the NCAA quarterfinals.

November 25

USC downs football 44-24 at the Coliseum.

September

October

November

December

October 8

Women's soccer defeats Rutgers 2-0 for its 13th straight win to open the season.

October 13

Volleyball defeats DePaul, 3-0, for its sixth straight victory.

October 28

Rutgers defeats men's soccer in 2 OTs 2-1 to advance to the Big East tournament finals.

December 3

Women's soccer falls to North Carolina, 2-1, in the NCAA Championship game in Cary, N.C., the first loss of the season for the Irish.

December 9-10

Hockey sweeps home-and-home series against Michigan.

October 13

Women's soccer ties UConn 0-0 to end a 13-game winning streak.

October 21

Jeff Samardzija scores a touchdown with 27 seconds left as football beats UCLA 20-17.

December 7

Men's basketball defeats No. 4/5 Alabama 99-85 at Joyce Center. Students rush the floor after the game.

December 30

Kyle McAlarney is not in the lineup for men's basketball game against Stony Brook after he was arrested on marijuana possession charges the day before.

Year in Review

Women's Golf loses conference tourney in playoff; Fencing finishes fourth nationally

Nakazaki, who is the all-time leader in stroke average for the Irish, ended the 2006-07 year averaging 74.71 strokes per round and finished 18th in the NCAA Central Regional Individual Championships.

Notre Dame's highest finish during the regular season was second place at the Lady Irish Invitational Sept. 24 at the Warren Golf Course, but the Irish caught fire at the Big East championships April 22-24 and headed into the third round leading by three strokes over second place Louisville.

But on the third day, the Cardinals stormed back, tying the Irish at 891 strokes for the tournament and forcing a playoff.

Louisville took the championship on the first playoff hole.

Cross Country

Although Notre Dame's season ended with a disappointing 19th-place finish at the NCAA Tournament in Terra Haute, Ind., the Irish still had a successful season.

The Irish men and women came out strong in their first two races — the Crusader Invitational and the National Catholic Championship held at Notre Dame. The men's team won both events while the women finished in second at Valparaiso and tied for the win at the NCC.

After the NCC, the squads' seasons started to separate. The men continued their success at the Notre Dame Invitational Sept. 29, spurred on by senior all-American Kurt Benninger's first race of the season. Although Benninger's return was the big news for the Irish before the race, afterward sophomore Patrick Smyth's personal-best time of 23:46 for a third-place finish proved to be crucial to Notre Dame's fourth-place finish.

Smyth and Benninger continued to lead the Irish runners during the conference and national meets. The pair earned all-Big East honors along with junior Jake Watson after earning top-15 finishes during the team's third-place showing in the Big East championship.

Although the team qualified with a second-place finish at the Great Lakes Regional, Notre

Dame faltered at the NCAA's, finishing 19th in the 31-team field.

On the women's side, junior Sunni Olding held pace for the Irish throughout the season. In Notre Dame's 12th-place finish at the Notre Dame Invitational, she finished 18th and placed 19th at the Pre-National Meet. Olding earned all-Big East honors at the conference championships, along with seniors Ann Mazur and Amy Kohlmeier, and then qualified as a solo runner for the NCAA Championships after a sixth-place finish at the regional.

Crew

Notre Dame won its fourth-straight Big East championship in 2007 and will compete in the NCAA Championships later this month.

At the conference title meet, held in Worcester, Mass., the Irish scored 118 points, topping second place Louisville and Syracuse, who each finished with 101.

Notre Dame took first place in three events, with the varsity eight, varsity four and novice four boats all winning gold medals.

The NCAA meet will be held May 25-27 in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

Volleyball

It was supposed to be a rebuilding season, but it ended with a deep and nearly successful run into the conference championship that bore little resemblance to a team that was under construction.

The Irish (18-14, 10-4 Big East) avenged a 3-0 sweep at the hands of No. 24 St. John's in the regular season when they defeated the Red Storm 3-1 in the semifinals of the Big East tournament Nov. 18. The upset win not only put the Irish in the league championship, where they fell 3-2 to rival Louisville, but secured the team's 15th consecutive NCAA Tournament bid — which ended in a 3-0 loss to No. 10 Wisconsin.

Notre Dame entered the season with a lone senior in Danielle Herndon, a year after it advanced to the third round of the NCAA Tournament. After the 2005 Tournament drive, the Irish were forced to replace All-American Lauren Brewster and seniors Lauren Kelbley and



VANESSA GEMPIS/The Observer

Notre Dame sophomore Karol Kostka, left, competes against Ohio State in the Midwest Conference Championships March 4 at the Joyce Center. The Irish finished fourth in the nation.

Meg Henican — a daunting task that Irish head coach Debbie Brown handled by recruiting a six-member freshman class that was ranked in the top five nationally.

The freshmen were up to the challenge, along with Herndon and junior leaders Adrianna Stasiuk and Ashley Tarutis. The team opened Big East play with a six-game win streak, after it started the season with a 5-5 record against some of the nation's top teams.

During the remainder of the conference schedule, Notre Dame bumped along to a 4-4 record and a fifth-place seed in the Big East tournament. But the home stretch of the regular season was an unrecognizable prelude of what was to come — when the Irish were able to win the games that mattered and advance to the Big East championship.

A fresh, yet familiar face will join the Irish coaching staff next season. Former two-time Irish All-American Brewster agreed May 10 to become an assistant coach on Brown's staff, replacing Louella Lovely. Brewster, a 2006 graduate and former middle blocker who owns four program records,

guided the Irish to four NCAA Tournament berths and played in every single match during her career, compiling a 98-28 record (.778 winning percentage).

Track

The Notre Dame women's track and field team made history last weekend.

For the first time since the program became a varsity sport, the Irish women won the Big East championship meet in Storrs, Conn., finishing with 120.5 points. Louisville came in second with 106.5 points.

A large factor in Notre Dame's victory was senior Molly Huddle, who won both the 5,000 and 10,000 meters. Huddle, who won the conference title in the 5,000 for the fourth consecutive year, finished in 15:59.89, 10 seconds ahead of the second-place finisher. She won the 10,000 with a time of 33:20.42.

"They really did a great job," head coach Joe Piane said of his team. "Molly Huddle obviously did a great job, but we had other kids who really stepped up."

Piane, distance coach Tim Donnelly, jumps coach Scott

Windsor, sprints coach John Millar and throwing coach B.J. Linnenbrink were named the Big East Women's Outdoor Coaching Staff of the Year.

"It's obviously a reward for the many hours of hard work they all put in, and it's nice to be recognized by your peers," Piane said.

The men finished in third place at the championship meet.

The Notre Dame men won the 2007 Big East indoor track and field championships with 133.5 points, beating Louisville by just 2.5 points. Senior Thomas Chamney defended his title in the 800 meters, winning with a time of 1:51.76. The 4x800 relay team also took first in 7:31.39. Six runners went to the NCAA Indoor Championships, and Chamney and junior Jake Watson both received All-America status.

Over the course of the outdoor season, more than 25 athletes qualified for the NCAA Midwest Regional meet. Competing in meets from Michigan to California, Notre Dame track and field set numerous personal bests, school records and two Big East-leading times.

January 4

Football loses its ninth straight bowl game, this time to LSU at the Sugar Bowl, 41-14.

January 23

Kyle McAlarney suspended from school and the men's basketball team for remainder of the semester.

March 16

Winthrop ends men's basketball's season in the first round of the NCAA Tournament 74-64.

March 9

Men's basketball falls in final seconds to Georgetown 84-82 in semifinals of Big East tournament.

March 17

Hockey downs Michigan 2-1 and capture CCHA tournament title.

April 14

Women's lacrosse hands No. 9 Georgetown its first ever Big East loss.

April 22

No. 39 South Florida upsets No. 2 women's tennis in Big East tournament finals 4-3.

April 22

No. 4 men's tennis shuts out Louisville 4-0 to win Big East title.

April 24

Men's golf fires a 10-under-par 278 to finish second in the Big East tournament. Women take second after falling in playoff to Louisville.

January

February

March

April

May

February 4

Women's tennis advances to ITA National Indoor Championship for first time in program's history, but falls 4-2 to Georgia Tech in the finals.

February 5

Hockey earns No. 1 ranking for the first time in program's history.

February 18

Men's track captures Big East Indoor title, women finish second.

February 17

West Virginia edges men's swimming to take Big East title. Women's swimming wins its 11th conference crown.

March 21

Women's basketball's upset bid against No. 2 North Carolina falls short 60-51 in second round of NCAA Tournament.

March 28

Fencing finishes fourth at NCAA Tournament.

March 25

Michigan St. ends hockey's season with a 2-1 victory over the Irish, denying them a berth in the Frozen Four.

May 6

Women's track captures Big East outdoor title, men finish third.

May 12

Men's lacrosse loses in overtime in first round of NCAA Tournament 11-10 to Johns Hopkins.

May 12

Softball falls 3-2 to Louisville in the championship game of the Big East tournament.

FOUR YEARS IN REVIEW

page 42

The top 10 Observer sports stories from the 2003-07 academic years

Friday, May 18, 2007

1 After three years, Willingham out, Weis in

November - December 2004



On Nov. 30, 2007, the news that Tyrone Willingham had been fired after three years as Notre Dame head coach sent shockwaves through the university and the nation.

Willingham won his first eight games at the Irish helm, including victories over Michigan and Florida State, but went just 13-15 over the next two-and-a-half seasons, including three straight losses to both Boston College and Southern California. As the team prepared for the

Insight Bowl against Oregon State under interim coach Kent Baer and the media howled over the racial implications of Willingham's dismissal, Athletic Director Kevin White went looking for a replacement.

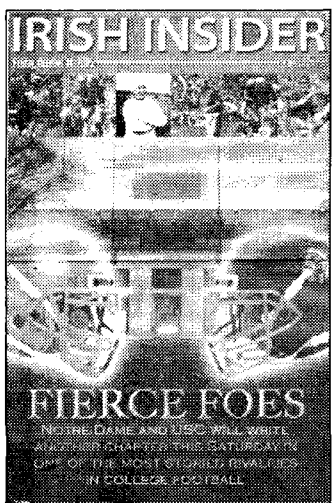
After a brief flirtation with Utah coach Urban Meyer, who ended up at Florida, White settled on New England Patriots offensive coordinator Charlie Weis. Weis was hired on Dec. 12.

The next day, Willingham

accepted the head coaching position at Washington, where his teams have gone 7-16 over the past two seasons.

Weis brought a pro-style offense to Notre Dame that helped quarterback Brady Quinn set more than 30 school records. Under Weis, Notre Dame has gone 19-6, reaching two BCS bowl games but losing them both — 34-20 to Ohio State in the 2006 Fiesta Bowl and 41-14 to LSU in the 2007 Sugar Bowl.

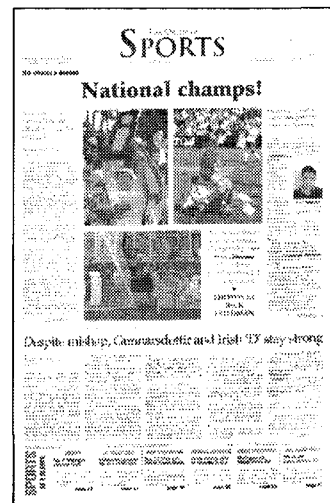
2 ND-USC lives up to pre-game hype



College Gameday came to campus as more than 40,000 fans attended the Friday night pep rally before a matchup between the No. 1 and No. 9 teams in the country. The game, watched by an estimated 30 million people, matched the hype, as Matt Leinart's touchdown gave the Trojan's the win with three seconds left.

October 15, 2005

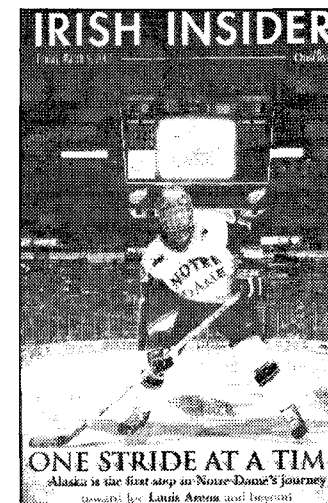
3 Women's soccer wins national title



After an impressive regular season that saw the women's soccer team finish with a 24-1-1 overall record, the Irish won the National Championship in penalty kicks after two scoreless overtimes against UCLA on Dec. 5, 2004. It was the team's first national title since 1995.

December 5, 2004

4 Hockey emerges under Jackson



In coach Jeff Jackson's second season behind the Irish bench, the hockey team ascended to national prominence. It spent eight weeks ranked No. 1 in the country and won the CCHA regular season and tournament championships. The Irish exited the NCAA tournament early, however, falling to Michigan State in the second round.

March 17, 2007

5 Guard suspended for possession



In the early morning hours after the men's basketball team beat Rider on Dec. 28, 2006, point guard Kyle McAlarney was arrested for marijuana possession. McAlarney watched the next eight games from the bench before being suspended from the University for the semester.

January 24, 2007

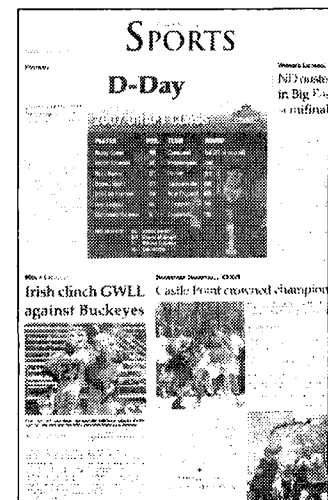
6 Men's hoops gets back to NCAAs



In what was supposed to be a rebuilding year, the men's basketball team exceeded all expectations, going 24-8 and earning its first bid to the NCAA tournament in four years. Unfortunately for the Irish, the season came to an abrupt end as sixth-seeded Notre Dame fell to 11th-seeded Winthrop in the first round.

March 16, 2007

7 Quinn drafted 22nd overall



After setting more than 30 school records at Notre Dame, Brady Quinn was thought to be a surefire top ten pick. But on NFL Draft Day, Quinn was passed on by several teams, falling all the way to 22nd, where he was taken by the Cleveland Browns. Quinn was the first ND player taken in the first round since center Jeff Faine in 2003.

April 28, 2007

8 Fencing wins national title



In 2005, the Irish fencing squad won its second national title in three years, topping second place Ohio State by just two points, 173-171. The Irish also took home the national championship in 2003 — their first title since 1994 — although they finished second or third every year in between.

March 20, 2005

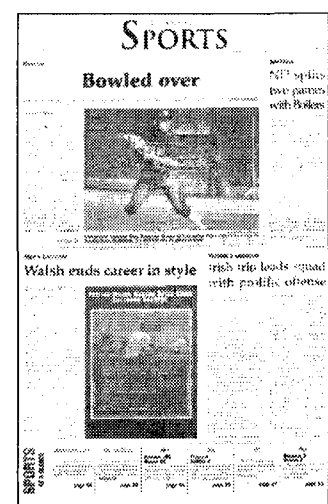
9 University plans JACC renovations



After nearly 40 years as the home of several Notre Dame athletic teams, the Joyce Center will get much-needed renovations in the coming years. The South Dome, used for basketball and volleyball, will be renamed "Purcell Pavilion at the Joyce Center" after lead donor Philip J. Purcell, who gave \$12.5 million.

October 6, 2006

10 Baseball team wins 23 straight



First baseman Craig Cooper had a 21-game hitting streak in the midst of the baseball team's longest winning streak of the modern era. The 23 straight victories pushed the Irish all the way to No. 8 in the country before the streak finally came to an end with an 11-8 loss to Bowling Green April 26.

April 26, 2006

HENRI ARNOLD
MIKE ARGIRION

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

OUTSTANDING SENIOR ATHLETES

The stoppers



LAURIE HUNT/The Observer

Dave Brown was named CCHA player of the year and was a finalist for the Hobey Baker award for his stellar goaltending this season for the Irish.

Brown leads icers to CCHA title in program's best season

By DAN MURPHY
Associate Sports Editor

A 30-6-3 record and a 1.58 goals-against average this year easily put senior goaltender Dave Brown on a short list of the top players to ever skate for the Irish.

Brown's efforts this season played a huge role in Notre Dame's best season in program history. Now, he and the Irish part ways — but both have very bright futures.

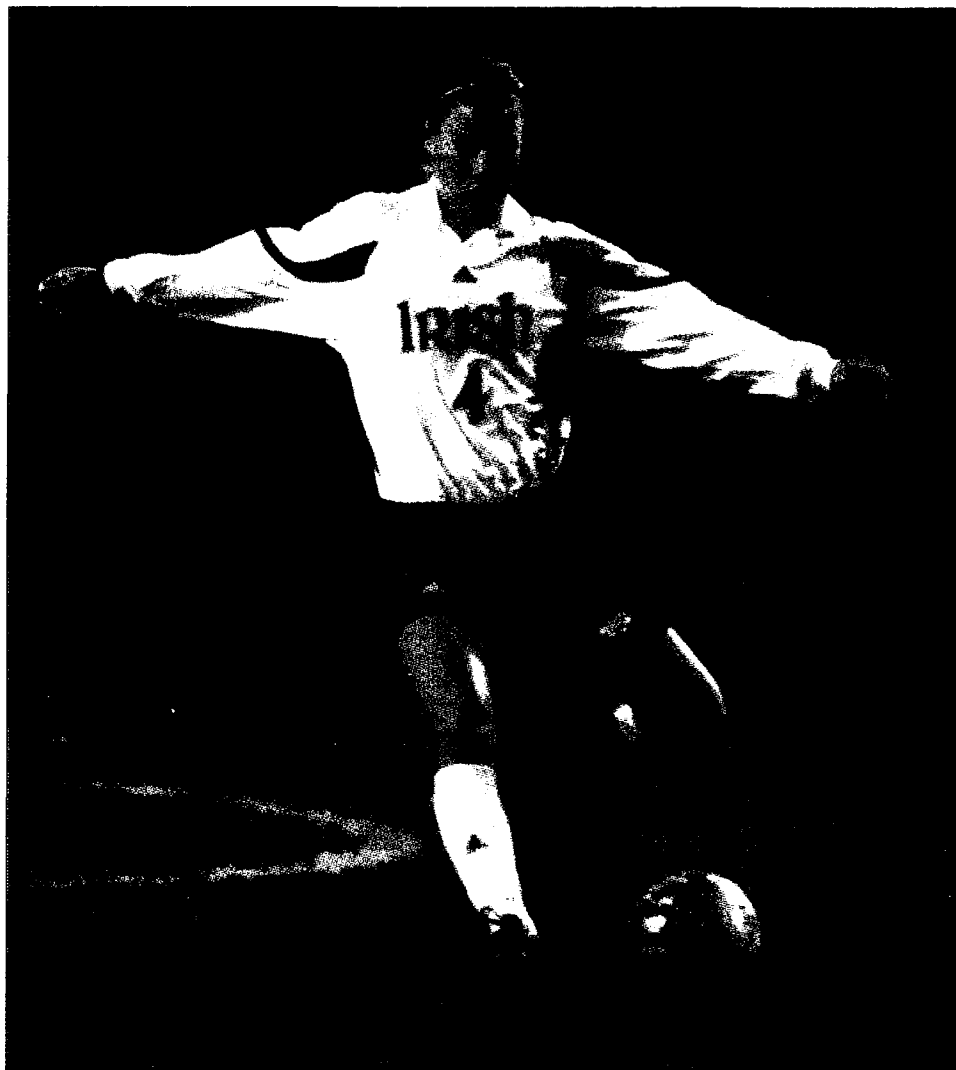
After winning the regular season and tournament CCHA championships — Brown was named the MVP in each — second year head coach Jeff Jackson has brought in a promising recruiting class to take over for the eight seniors graduating this week-

end. Jackson was recently signed through 2013, and the athletic department has made a commitment to keeping the program among the country's best for many years to come.

Brown, on the other hand, is spending his last few weeks on campus preparing for his professional career. The Stoney Creek, Ont., native was drafted by the Pittsburgh Penguins following his freshman season in 2004. The Penguins have until the middle of August to sign Brown, and it's likely they will figure out a deal in time.

"They're saying all the right things, but we are still waiting for the actual offer. We're just waiting, now but

see BROWN/page 38



TIM SULLIVAN/The Observer

Kim Lorenzen anchored the Irish from different defensive positions during their 2004 national title run and 2006 championship game appearance.

Lorenzen's versatility, leadership key to team's success

By CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Editor

Kim Lorenzen knew her senior year would be different than her first three at Notre Dame — but she had no idea how different.

After playing three seasons at outside back for the Irish, Lorenzen moved to center back before the 2006 season.

Then, just as Lorenzen was settling into the new position, fellow defender Carrie Dew went down with an injury, and Lorenzen found herself anchoring a back wall that most of the time included freshmen Haley Ford and Amanda Clark.

"I was an outside back for most of my career, so even though I was a sen-

ior and I was supposed to show these freshmen what was going on, I didn't really know what I was doing either," Lorenzen said.

But the senior quickly figured out the game from her new perspective. With Lorenzen sweeping away opponents' scoring chances, Notre Dame allowed just 0.40 goals per game and went 25-1-1 on the year, falling to North Carolina 2-1 in the National Championship game.

And by the end of the year, Lorenzen's freshman protégés had grown up.

"I felt like Haley and Amanda weren't really freshmen anymore [by the end of the season]," Lorenzen said.

Lorenzen was part of a senior class

see LORENZEN/page 38

Belles softball standout Miesle made remarkable transformation over 4-year career

By REBECCA SLINGER
Sports Writer

Saint Mary's shortstop Sarah Miesle's freshman year on the softball team looked like this: a .045 batting average, one hit and three runs scored in 22 at-bats and no home runs, RBIs or extra-base hits.

Stack those stats up to her senior year performance: a .400 batting average, 44 hits and 38 runs in 110 at-bats, five home runs, a school-record 39 RBIs, eight doubles and three triples.

That's quite the transformation for Saint Mary's top senior athlete.

"There were times where I was frustrated — I think anyone would be," Miesle said. "I knew I could do it if I stuck with it. I had previous success in hitting during high school and travel softball, so I knew that it would just be a matter of time and dedication."

Growing up in a family where everyone played baseball or softball, Miesle stuck to a family friend's motto — "Have fun, play hard"



Miesle

— to work through her first year disappointment and develop into a powerhouse.

Miesle spent the time between her first and second years adjusting her swing and her attitude about success.

"Needless to say, there wasn't much pressure placed on me by my opponents or myself. Not too many teams are intimidated by someone with a .045 batting average and isn't exactly a big person," Miesle said. "Success is contagious, so when I started off my sophomore year with some success, it had a snowball effect on my hitting. Anyone who plays softball knows that each day you play, it is a learning

experience."

Miesle, who plays every game like it's her last and rarely shows her frustration on the field, had a huge impact on the team's winning ways this year.

"She always gave her all on the field," Belles head coach Erin Sullivan said. "She is 'Most Improved' to a tee. She worked hard on her skills and learned to be confident in her abilities. I think there is a great group that will step up and fill her shoes. She has taught the team a lot."

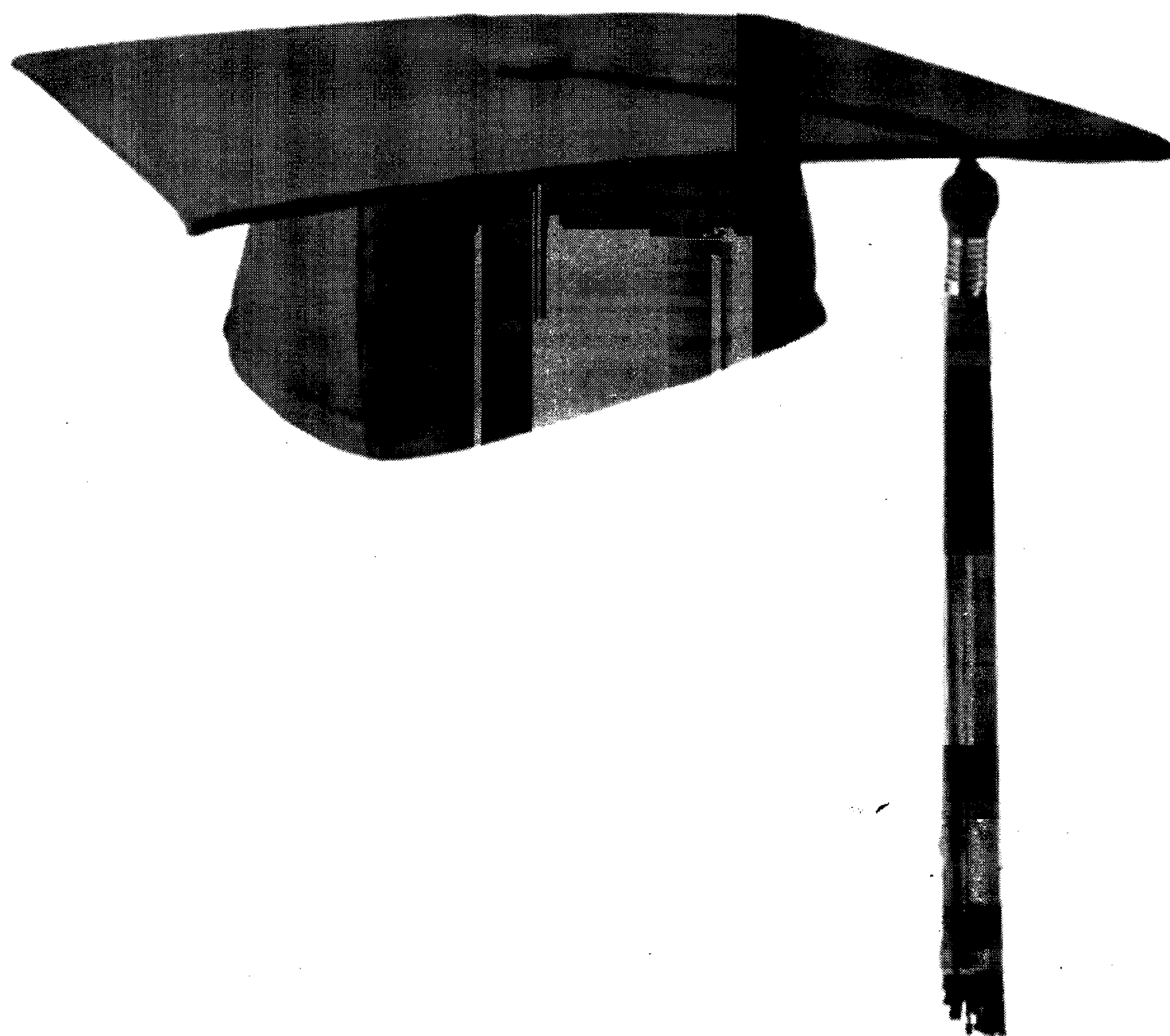
Miesle, who is graduating with a mathematics degree, received many accolades for her outstanding play this season. She was named to the all-MIAA

second team and the 44-school Louisville Slugger/NFCA Division III Central Region team.

Miesle is confident that in her place, the Belles will continue to fight their way to the top of their league.

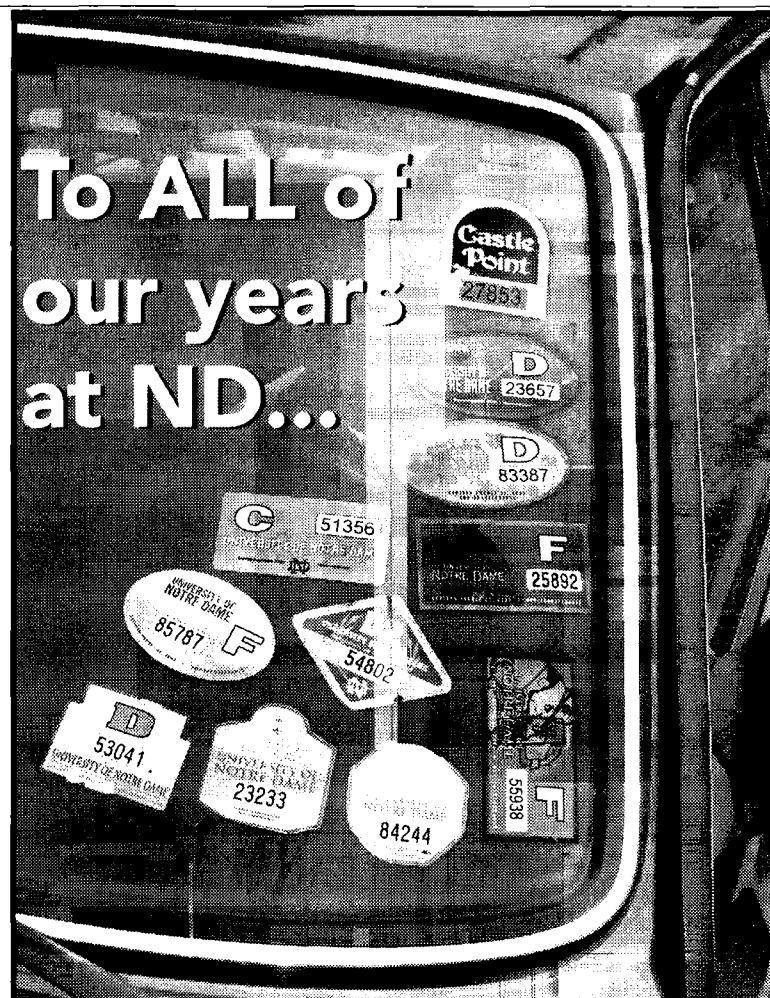
"They will be great. I think the team will be even stronger next year. They return starters in almost every position and will be getting some solid freshmen in to play," she said. "I'm excited to see what kinds of records are broken and milestones are achieved next year."

Contact Rebecca Slinger at
rsling01@saintmarys.edu



Congratulations Class of 2007

Good Luck!

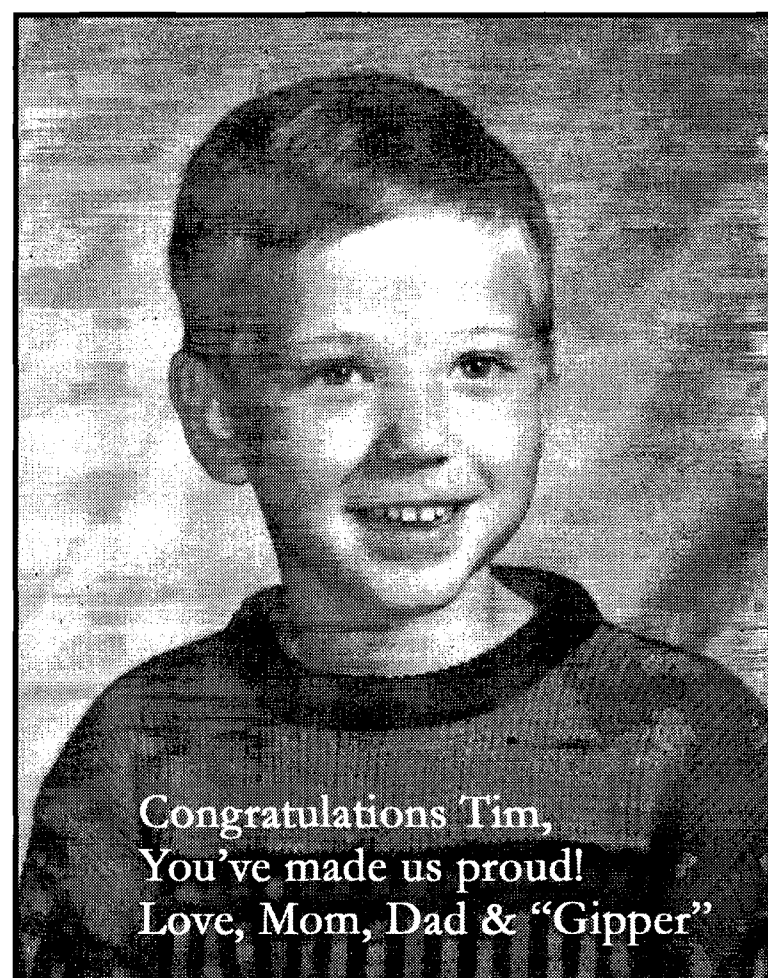


ERIC,

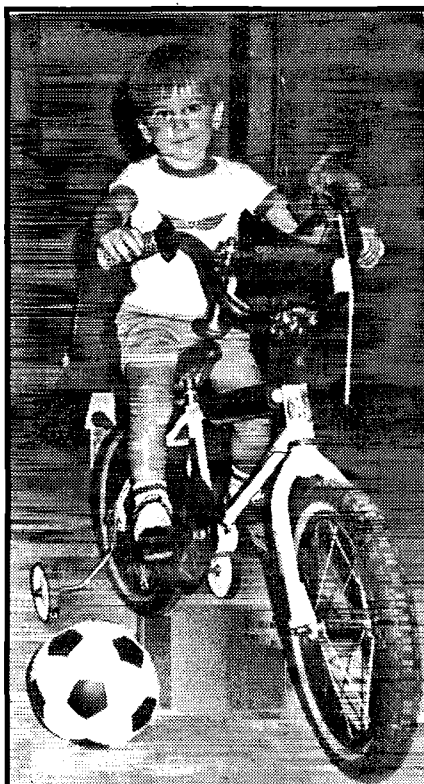
We are all so proud of you! As your life after graduation begins, always remember to take time out to renew your ties to Notre Dame and the friends here that have meant so much to you. The education you received and friendships you made at ND will last a lifetime.

Congratulations!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Gina, Alena and
the whole family



Congratulations Tim,
You've made us proud!
Love, Mom, Dad & "Gipper"

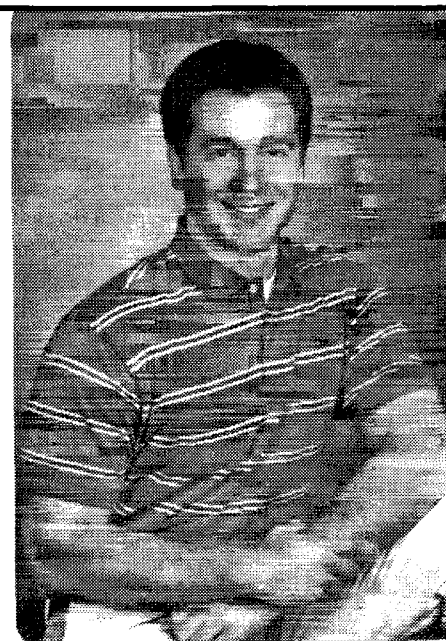


Notre Dame
May 20, 2007



Stephen Anthony Renzi Congratulations 2007!!!

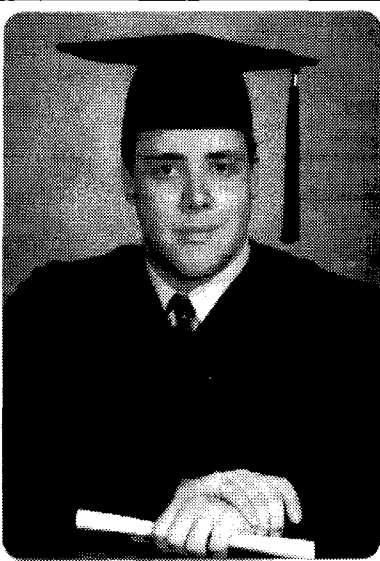
With pride and joy, we've seen you grow into a mature young man. We are so proud of your success and accomplishments, but we celebrate even more the person you are. Always remember how much you are loved. A bright future lies ahead. Good luck!!!
With love, Mom, Dad, and Kristen



May the roads rise to meet you,
May the winds 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.

Sharon Brown, you are an amazing, beautiful, and talented woman. May all of your dreams continue to come true as you embark on the next chapter of your life. We love you and wish you lots of success.

Love Mom, Dad, Terry, John, Joey and Robin



Congratulations Anthony!

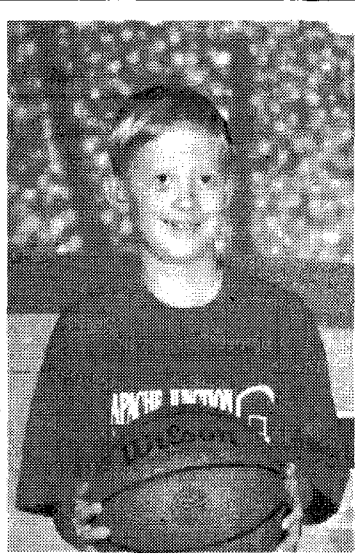
We're very proud of you.

Love,
Mom, Dad
and Jennifer



I catch glimpses of every new facet you share, & the more you do that, the more I can't help but adore what I see.

Love,
Your Big Brother



Books,
Room/Board.....\$\$

Tuition.....\$\$\$\$

Seeing your son
graduate from ND.....Priceless

Showing
Matt's friends what
a dork he was.....More Priceless

With Love and Pride,
Dad, Mom, & Nathaniel



Congratulations
Annie!

So many
memories to
treasure and
friends for life.

Love,
Mom and Dad

Dearest Hillary,

On the day that you were born, the angels got together and decided to create a dream come true...



What a fantastic four years you've enjoyed at dear Notre Dame.
Congratulations on all you've accomplished! We're so proud of you!

Thank you for all the joy you bring to our lives. We love you so much!

Dad, Monica, Tiffany and Mom

Congratulations, Bryn!
We love you and wish you the best, Always!
Love, Mom, Dad, Burke and Reilly



حاجن لا كوربم

Naomi Hansen

on your **Graduation**
from the **University of Notre Dame**
Go Class of 2007!

Love, Mom and Dad



OBIORA IDIGO



Obi Love, (Okolobia Oyibo)

Congratulations on your graduation.
We are very proud of you.

*With love from Chinky, Oli, Nna,
Mum and Dad.*

A Florida girl nicknamed Skate
Ventured north to matriculate.
From her warm, sunny home,
To the cold, snowy dome,
At Notre Dame she cast her fate.

Sometimes a hardheaded lass,
Up late often, and sleeping in class.
She does love to eat,
Especially red meat,
And She'll toast at the tip o' the glass.

Full of ideas - always so clever.
She thinks better late, than never.
A traveler at heart,
Always glad to depart,
She'll arrive where she goes - whenever.

At ND she studied design,
Drawing gadgets and graphics so fine.
But her passion was rowing,
So fast she'd be going,
Winning 4 Big East titles, divine!

As a rower of 8's she was famed,
And captain of crew she was named.
Many friends she will treasure,
Memories without measure,
IRISH she'll always remain.



Congratulations, Sarah Kate!
Love,
Patrick, Mama & Dad



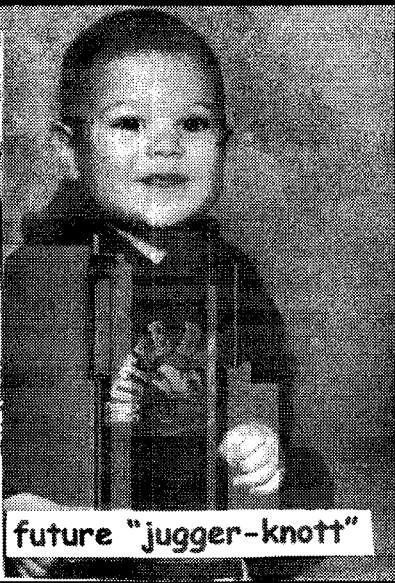
Congratulations Covington.
We know you will
make your goal.

Love - Mom and Dad

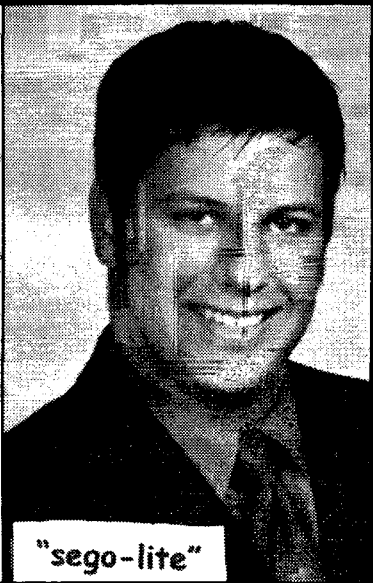
Congratulations
Sego!

We always knew
You'd be a domer!

love,
Mom and Dad



future "jigger-knott"



"sego-lite"



Congratulations,
Katie Baron and
friends, on your
graduation!

Love, Mom, Dad,
and Taylor



Mary Sophia Baumann McVeigh



Congratulations
Bitsy on a job
well done!

Love Mom, Dad,
Jill and Court

**Congratulations
Colleen Day
& the Class of 2007**



*Wherever you go, whatever you do,
May the luck of the Irish
Be always with you!*

Michelle Kurczak .

Hi Sweetie,

The years have gone by so fast.
Our precious little girl will soon
be a graduate of Notre Dame.
Enjoy senior week and make a
glorious Handbell CD.

We are so proud of you!

Love,
Mom & Dad



Mandisa,
Congratulations!!
I love you, Your Mom.

Pause briefly, quietly exhale and
reflect on the passage you've just
completed.

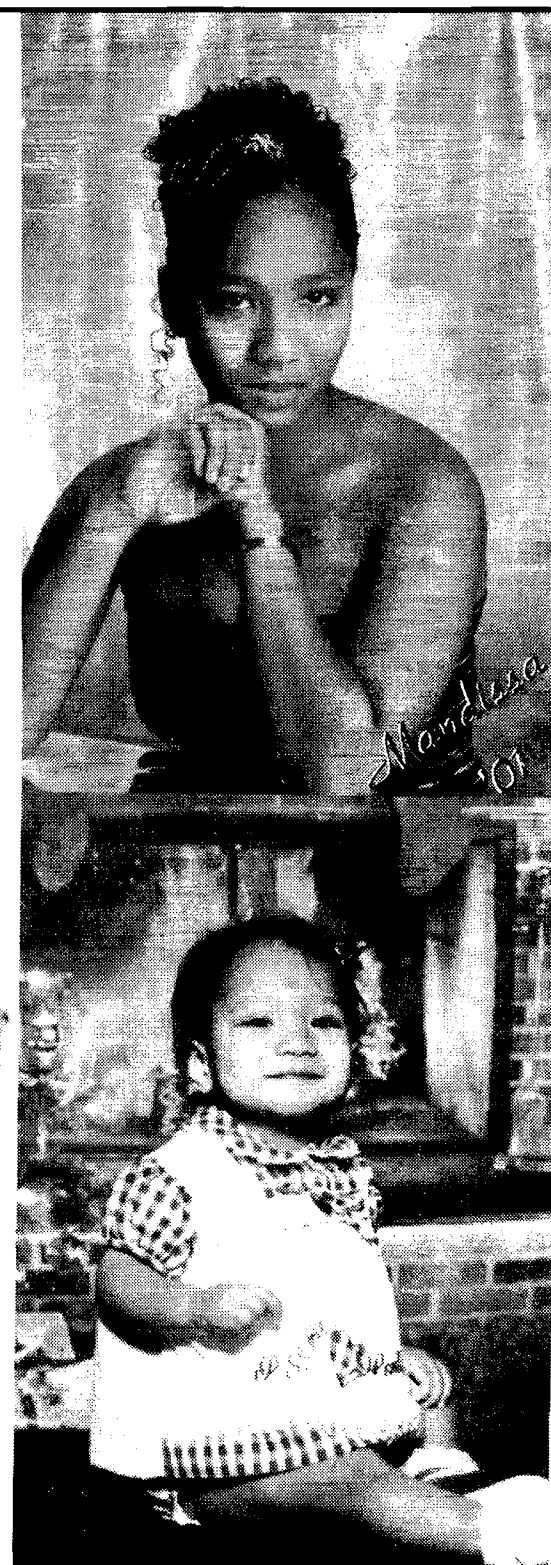
As this door in your life begins to
close, a new door has already begun
to open. Approach this new threshold
with great confidence; hold your
hopes and dreams high.

The world is waiting for you, as you
have so much to offer.

Inhale deeply and savor life for all it
has to offer.

God Bless

Love,
Your Family

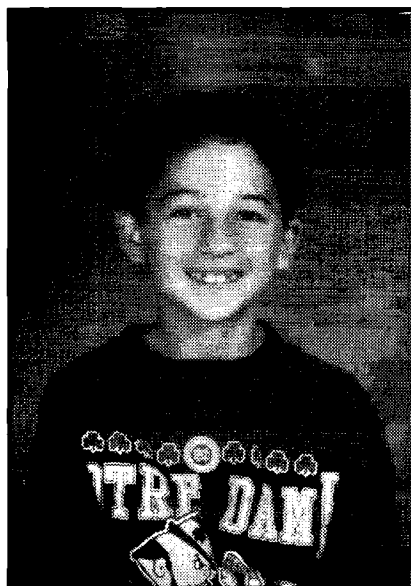


Kelly, At last! After thousands of your words, your picture
finally made it in *The Observer*. What a marvelous four years
it has been! You have created so many fond memories to
carry with you through life. We are looking forward to your
next set of adventures in the Big Apple. We are so proud of
all that you have accomplished.

Love, Mom, Dad, & Jim

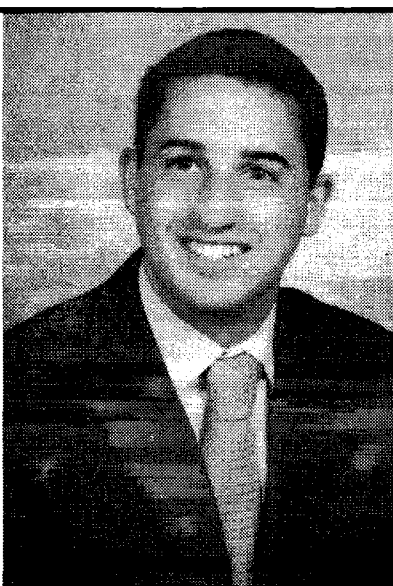


Patrick-
Cheer, Cheer!
Your dream is fulfilled.
We are so proud -
Congratulations!
Love you forever,
Mom, Dad, Kyle and Dennis



Patrick López...
Son
Brother
Student
Friend
Athlete
Traveler

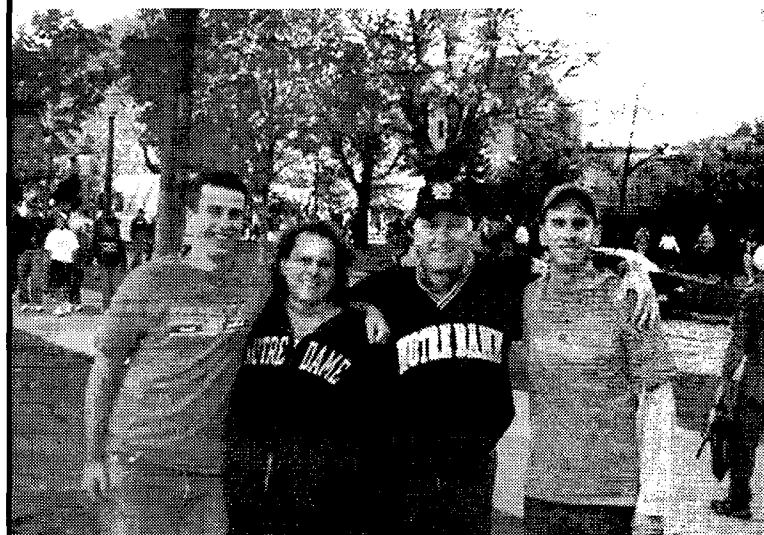
**Notre Dame
Graduate
Class of 2007**



Congratulations Greg!

Thanks for making us
an ND family.

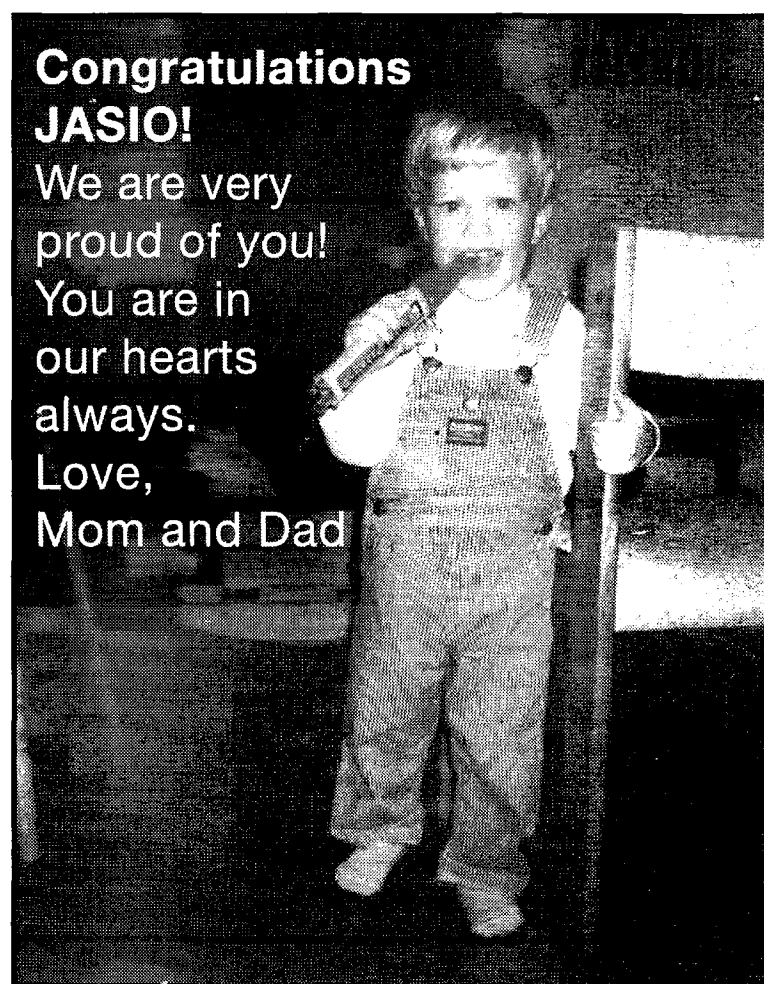
Love, Mom, Dad and Shawn



Congratulations JASIO!

We are very
proud of you!
You are in
our hearts
always.

Love,
Mom and Dad



CONGRATULATIONS PEANUT!

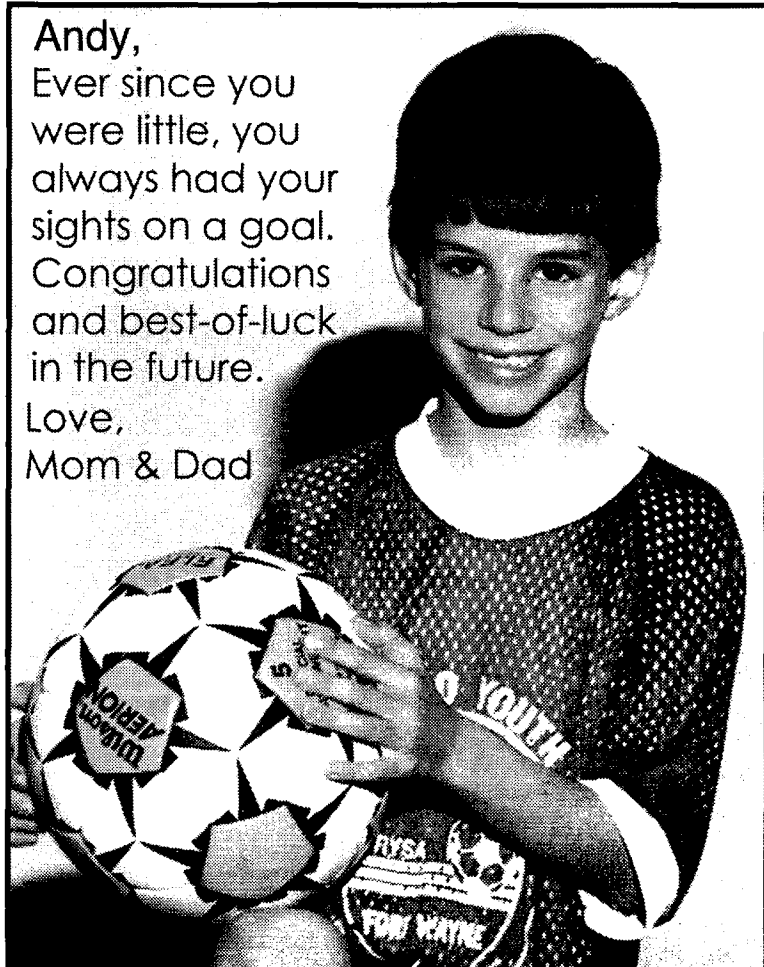


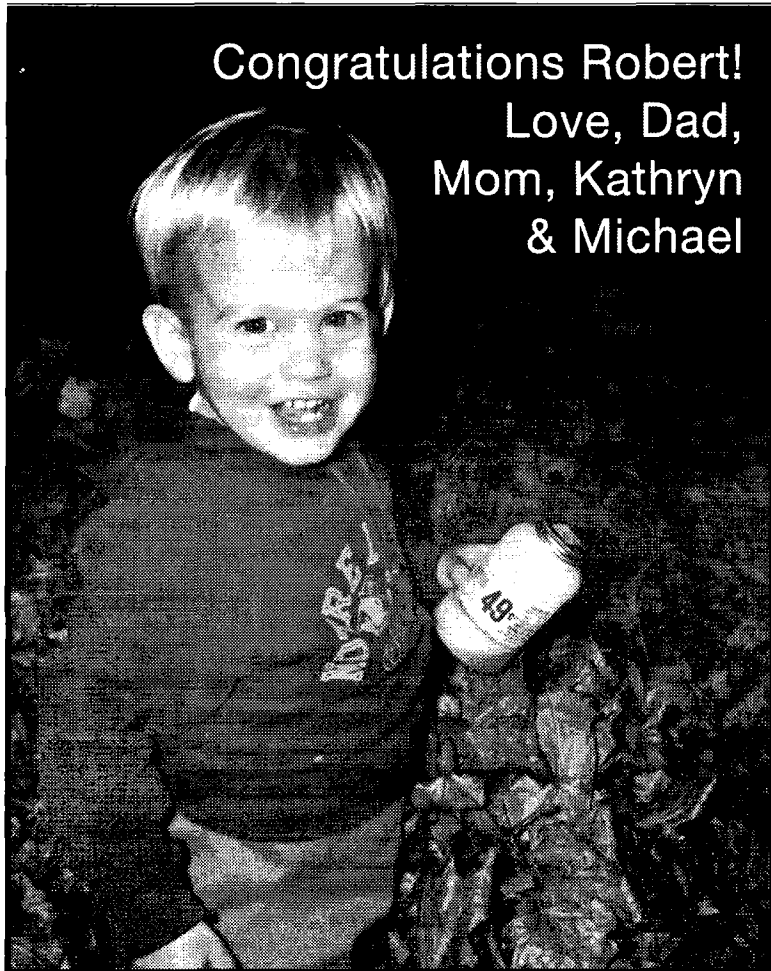
We could
not be any
more proud
of you.

All our love
Mom, Dad,
Julien & Tux

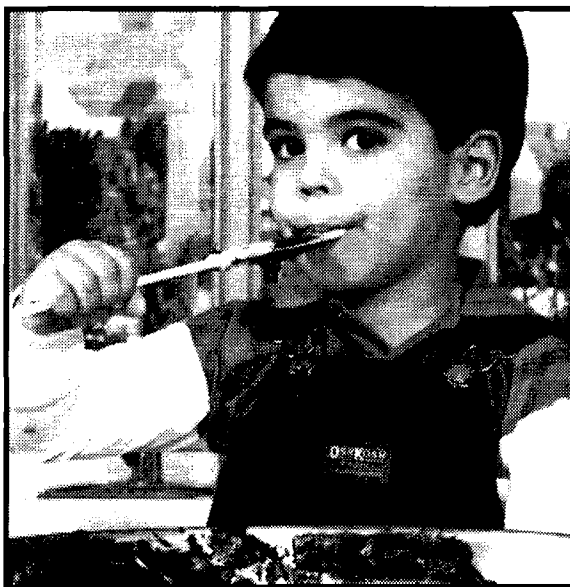


Andy,
Ever since you
were little, you
always had your
sights on a goal.
Congratulations
and best-of-luck
in the future.
Love,
Mom & Dad





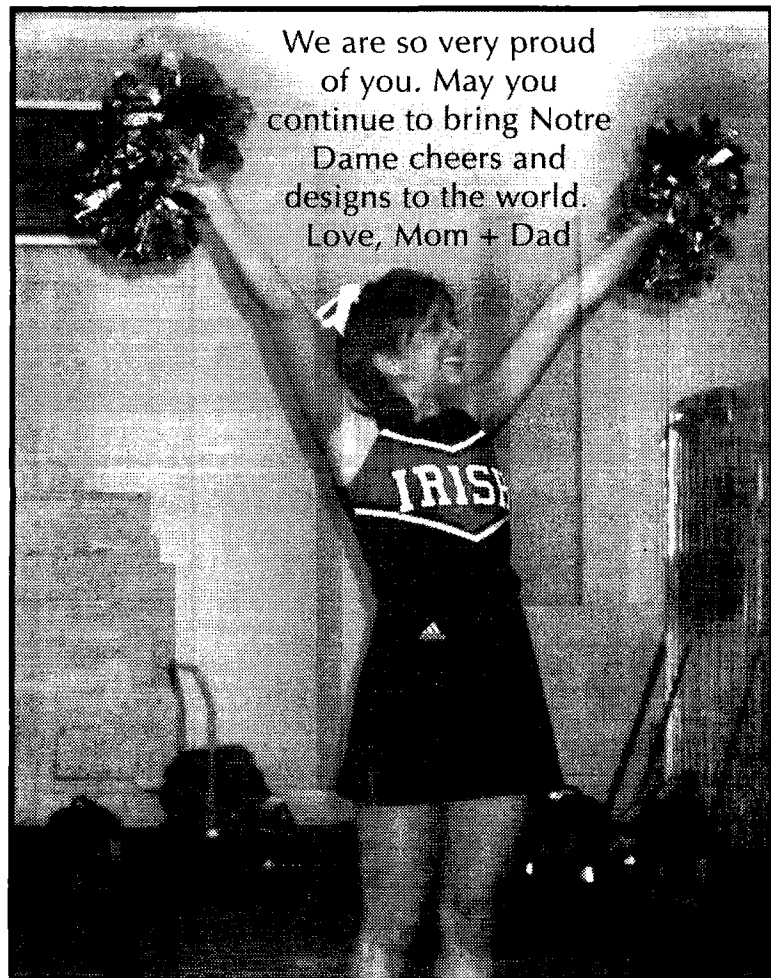
Congratulations Robert!
Love, Dad,
Mom, Kathryn
& Michael



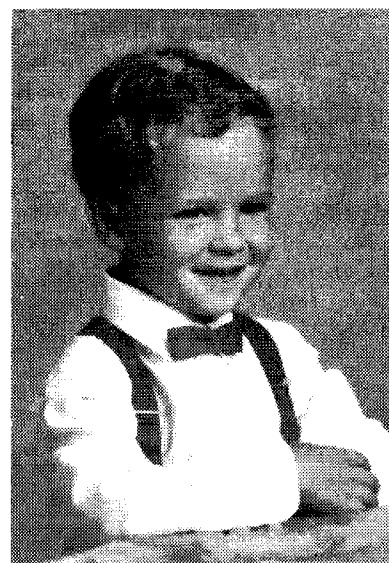
May your life be full of
simple pleasures -
Enjoy them all!

Congratulations
Matthew!

Love,
Mom, Dad,
Greg and Tim

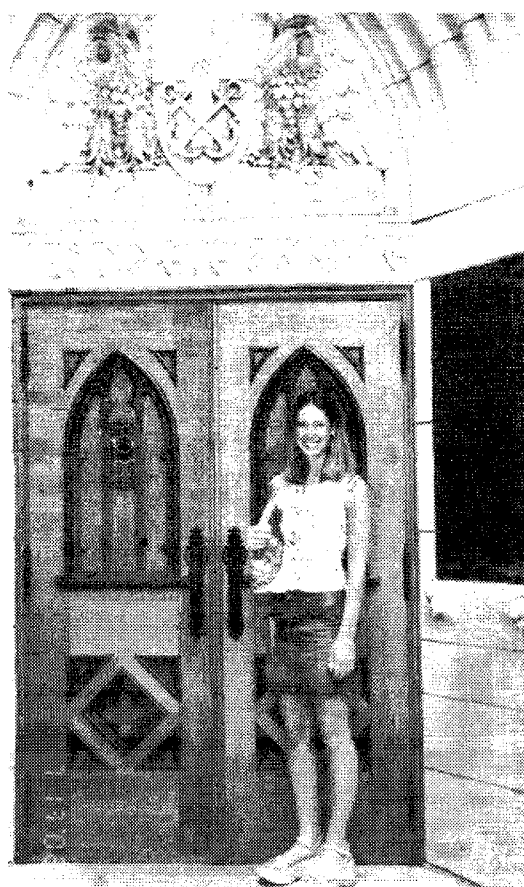


We are so very proud
of you. May you
continue to bring Notre
Dame cheers and
designs to the world.
Love, Mom + Dad



Preston,
Congratulations! May God
continue to bless you on life's
journey.

We love you,
Mom and Dad,
Jennifer, Jackie & Spencer

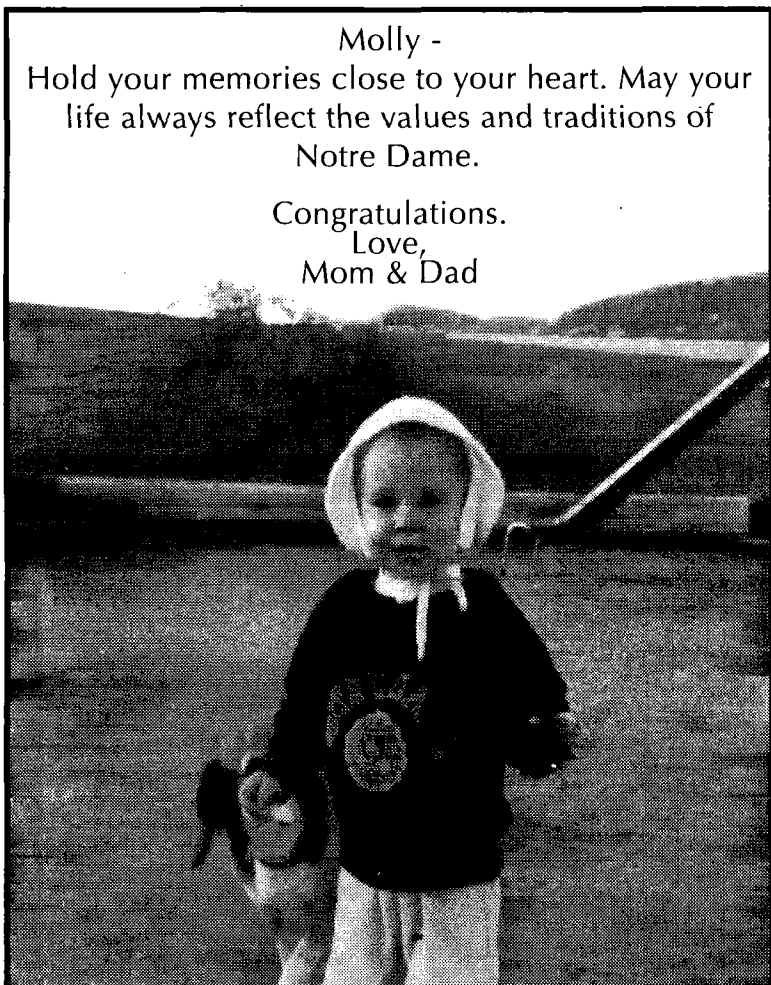


Dearest Lauren, (aka OLR)

Congratulations on achieving you dream! Your incredible persistance and effort, together with your exemplary choices have earned you a degree from this outstanding university. Go into the world with the passion for life which already defines you, and success will be yours. We are proud beyond words as we stand behind you and whatever challenges lie ahead.

Love Love Love,
Mom, Dad, and 'J'
(Proud Family of Dulac '07)

*"Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference."—Robert Frost*

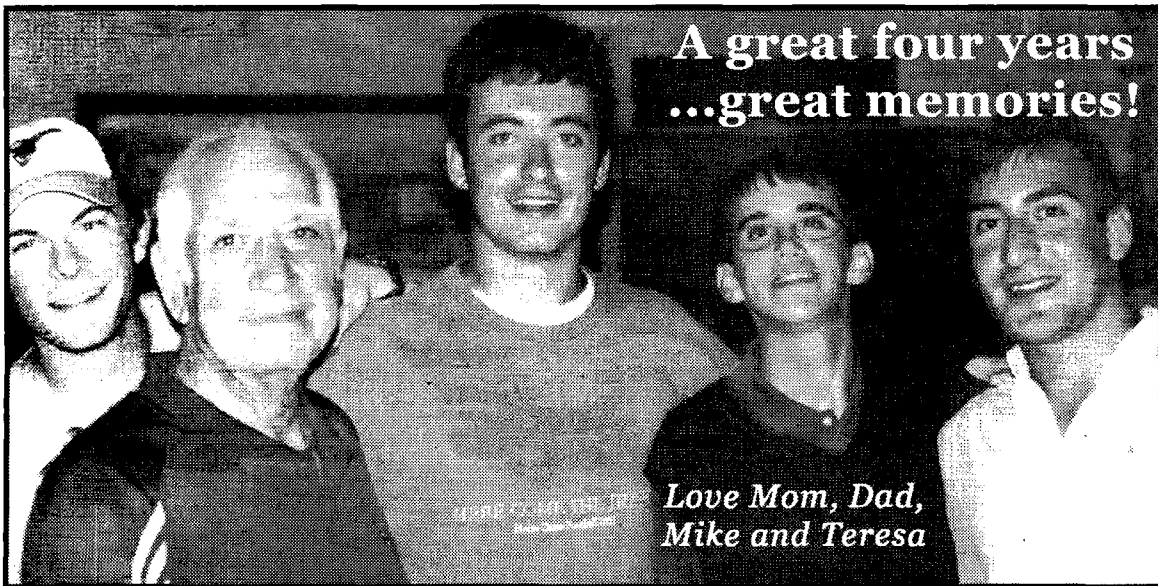


Molly -
Hold your memories close to your heart. May your
life always reflect the values and traditions of
Notre Dame.
Congratulations.
Love,
Mom & Dad



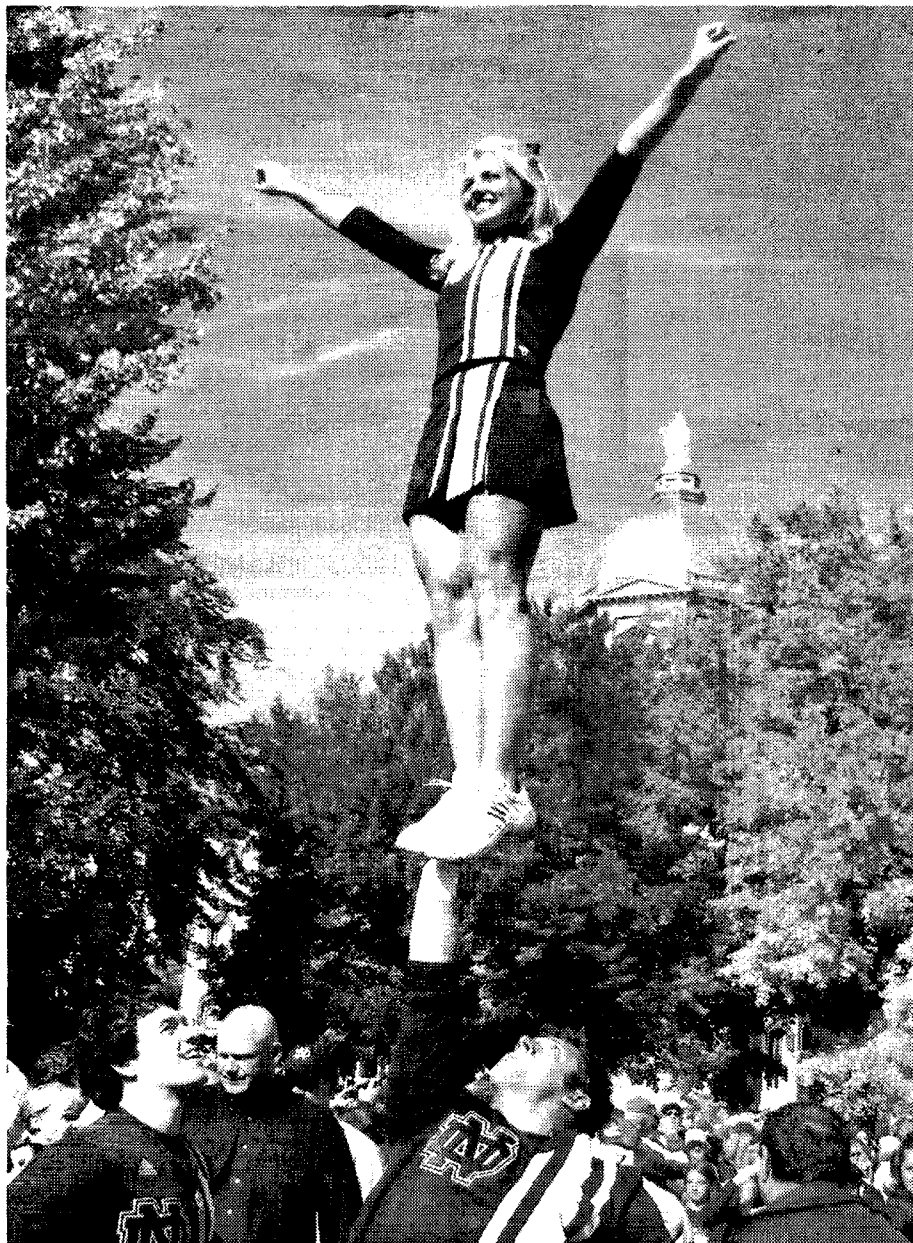
**Congratulations
Kane!
Still making us
proud!**

**We love you,
Mom and Dad**



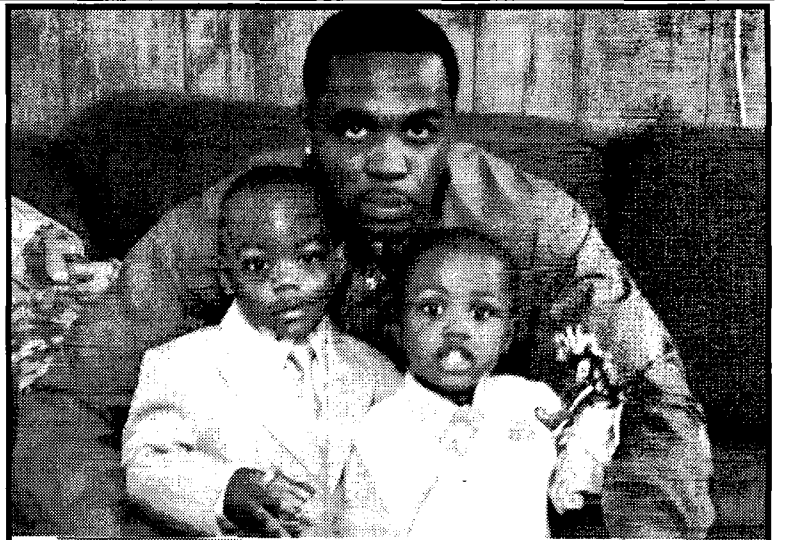
**A great four years
...great memories!**

*Love Mom, Dad,
Mike and Teresa*



**CONGRATULATIONS BROOKE!
THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES!**

**WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU!
LOVE, MOM, DAD TREY AND MOLLY**



Mitchell O'Ryan Thomas

It seems like only yesterday when we dropped you off at campus and now you are graduating! Do you remember when your little sister left the porch light on waiting for you to return and all of those long distance calls from your nephews asking, "When is Uncle Ryan coming home?" WOW! It's amazing how fast four years have passed and now you are closing one chapter in your life only to begin another one. We have faith that you will continue to succeed in life and that God will continue to bless you and keep you in his arms. "The Lord is my light and salvation, so whom shall I fear." (Your favorite book of the Bible, Psalms 27.)

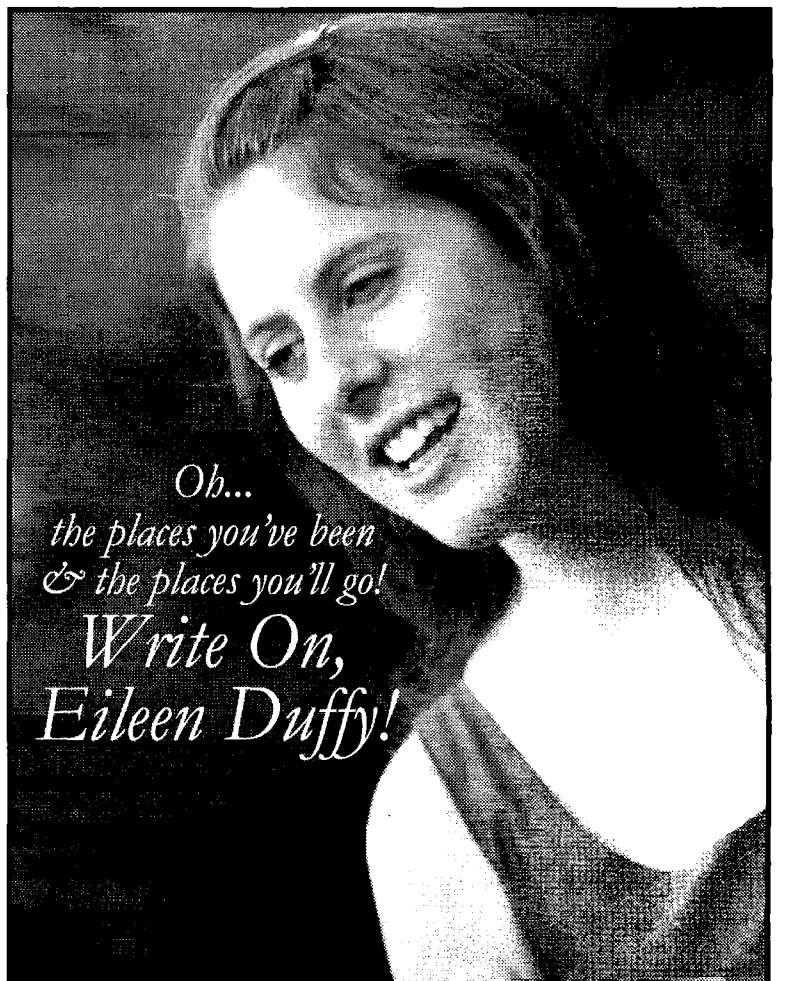
LOVE,

Dad, Mom, Shawndale, Anisa, Ashley, Taylor, A.J. & The Family



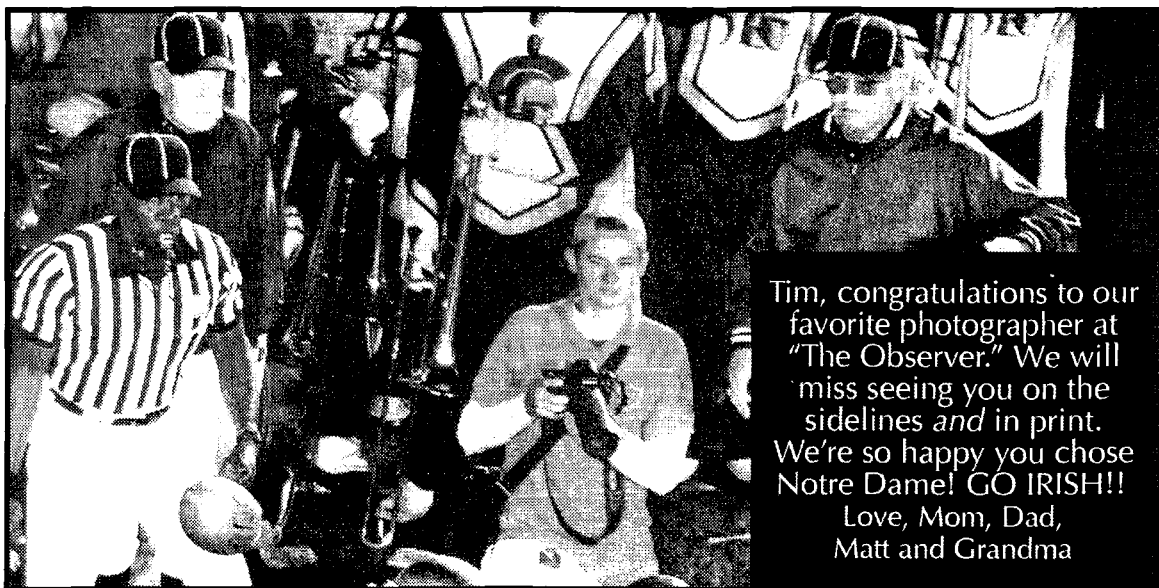
Congratulations Maria Olga Bosch!

We love you very much
Your Dad, Mom, Ponchin, Jordy, Maria Cristina



*Oh...
the places you've been
& the places you'll go!
Write On,
Eileen Duffy!*

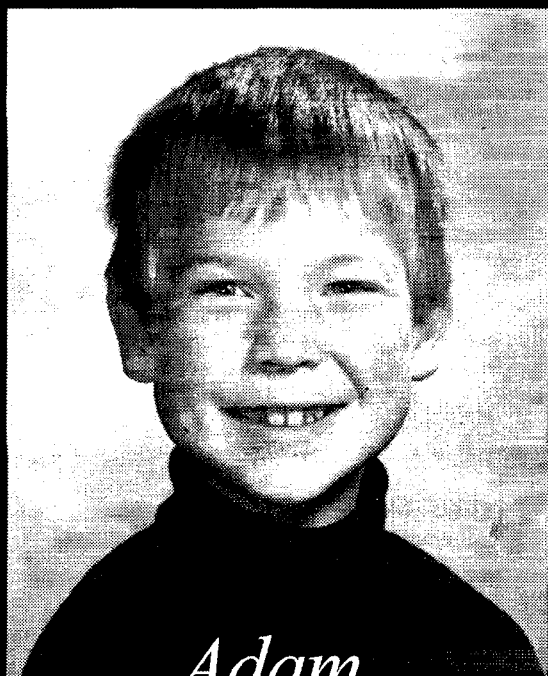
Way to go, Claire Bear!
Love you always,
Mom, Dad, Christopher,
Kate and Annie



Tim, congratulations to our
favorite photographer at
"The Observer." We will
miss seeing you on the
sidelines and in print.
We're so happy you chose
Notre Dame! GO IRISH!!
Love, Mom, Dad,
Matt and Grandma



**Congratulations
Clara!**
We are so proud
of you.
Love, Mom and Dad



Adam,
Another joyful day in an exceptional life!
We are so proud of the fine person you are
and all you have accomplished.

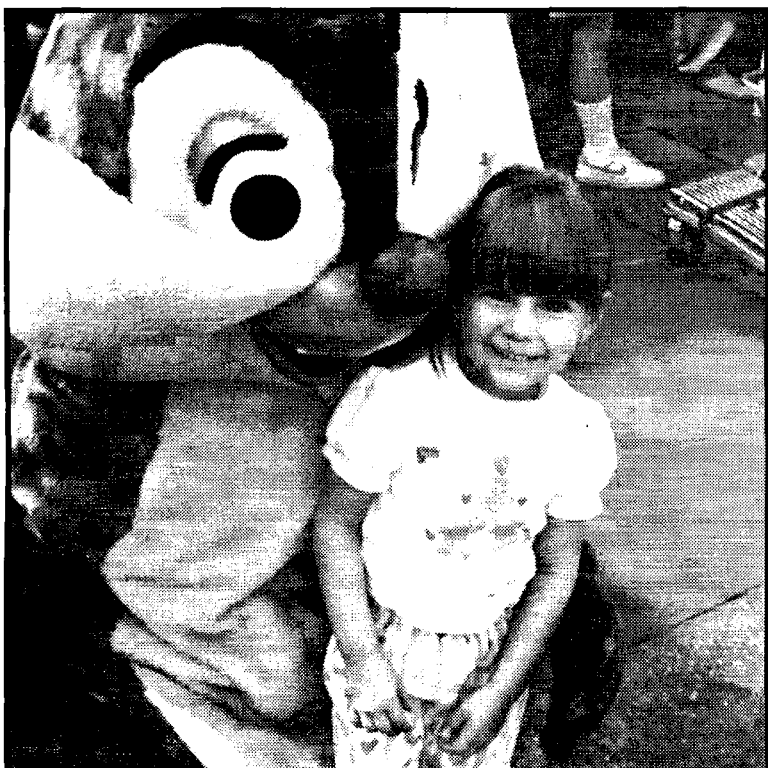
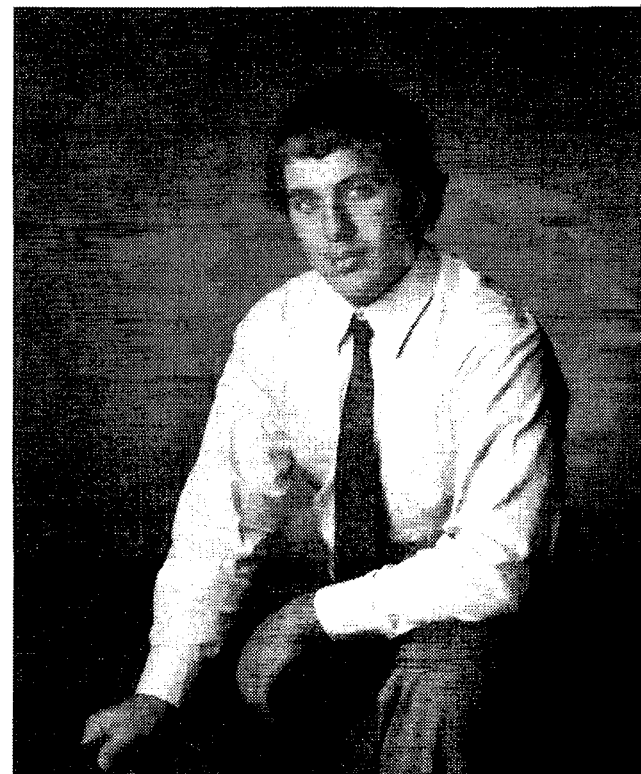
Much love and congratulations,
Mom, Dad and Sara



Congratulations!
Today is your day
You're off to Great Places!
You're off and away...
Your mountain is waiting...
so... get on your way.

Dr Seuss

Love,
Mom, Dad, Danny & Alita



Congratulations Stephy!
We are still nuts about you.
Your family.

WE COULDN'T
BE PROUDER!
WE LOVE YOU,
MOM DAD & THE GIRLS!



**Congratulations
Mike Doversberger!**
M & D



Jose! "What we are is God's gift to us,
What we become is our gift to God."
Te queremos mucho! -Mama y Papa



Dear James Ramos,
Congratulations! We're so proud
of the person you have become.
Best of Luck in your future.
Love always, Mom & Poppy

Nina, We're so proud of you.

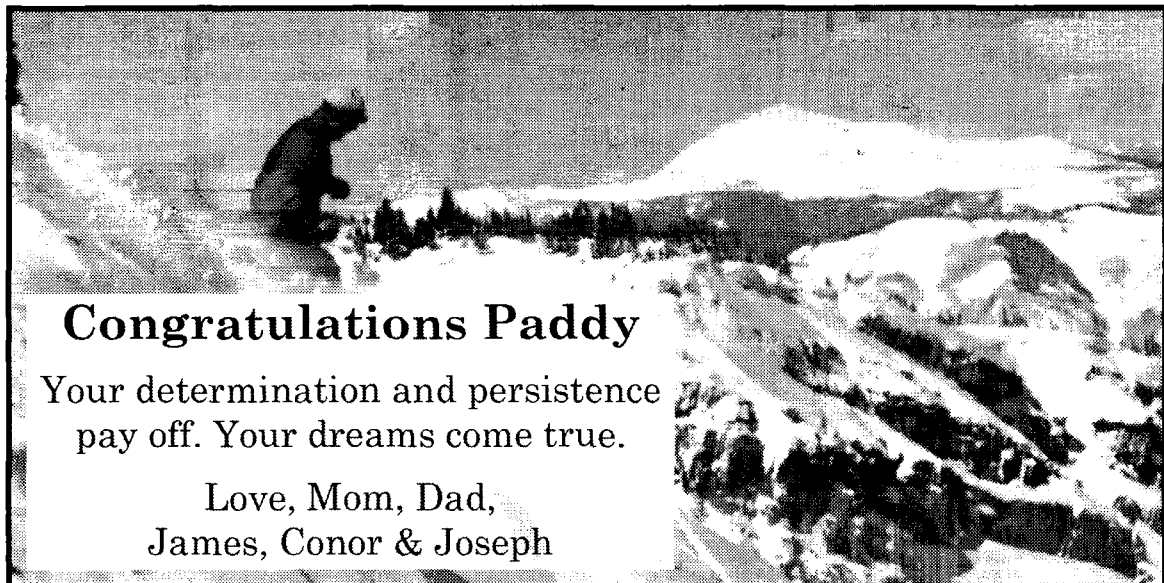
**All our love,
Dad, Mom, Finn
and Digger**



Congratulations my
"Choochi Brown"
Love,
Grandma Rachel



Kristin,
We are all so proud of you and
your accomplishments. You
are a wonderful daughter and
you have a wonderful future
ahead of you.
Love,
Mom, Dad & Family

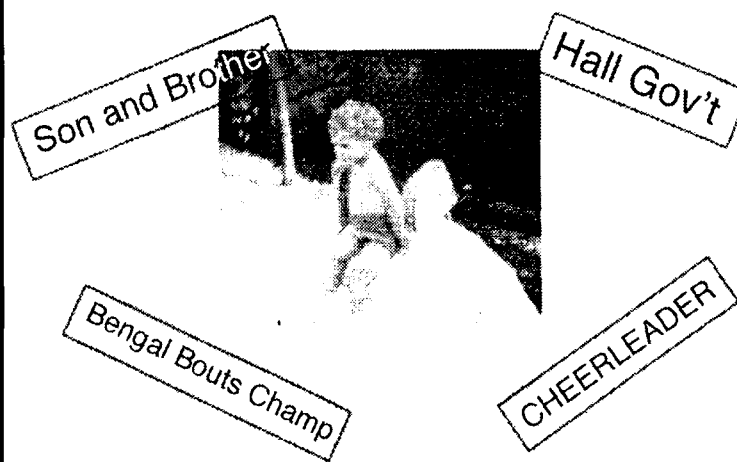


Congratulations Paddy

Your determination and persistence
pay off. Your dreams come true.

Love, Mom, Dad,
James, Conor & Joseph

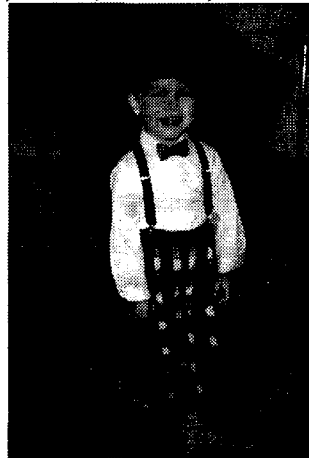
CONGRATULATIONS TONY



We are so proud of you.
Mom, Dad and Beth

Timmy,
Congratulations, you are officially
a Domer! Good luck on making it
a triple! We love you!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Sarah, and Megan



CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU SENIOR VARSITY CHEERLEADERS!



You are the ones that have continued to inspire and promote the Irish enthusiasm during the pep rallies and the games. We appreciate and thank all of you for the untold hours of practice, the community work, cheering at pep rallies and games, as well as the dedication that each one of you gave to the cheer program and to us, the ND fans. You are and have been an intricate part of the ND spirit.

Thanks for getting us on our feet and cheering loud!
Notre Dame Fans



ND - The Ultimate
in so many ways

**Emmie,
You never cease
to amaze us!
We love you.
Mom and Dad**



Darling Nikki,
*Follow your dreams, live life
to the fullest, & let the
learning never end.*

*We love you,
Mom, Dad & Tara*



Congratulations, Bud!

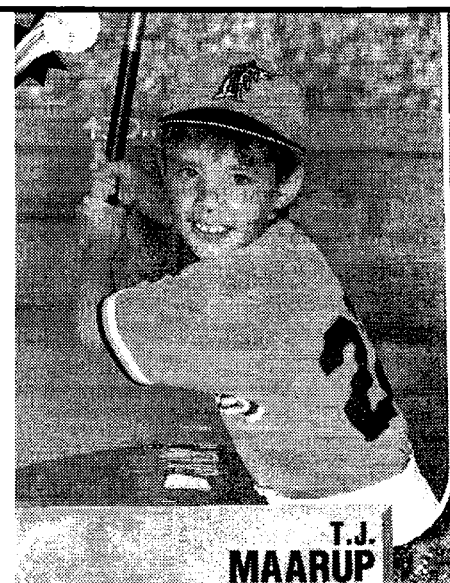
**Wow—2
degrees!
We are
so proud
of you!**

**Love, Mom, Dad
and Hillary**



Dear T.J.!

Dreams do come true...
Congratulations on getting
into Medical School!
Love, Mom & Dad



Ashley,

No matter what road you take,



ASHLEY CONGJUICO

University of Notre Dame
Class of 2007



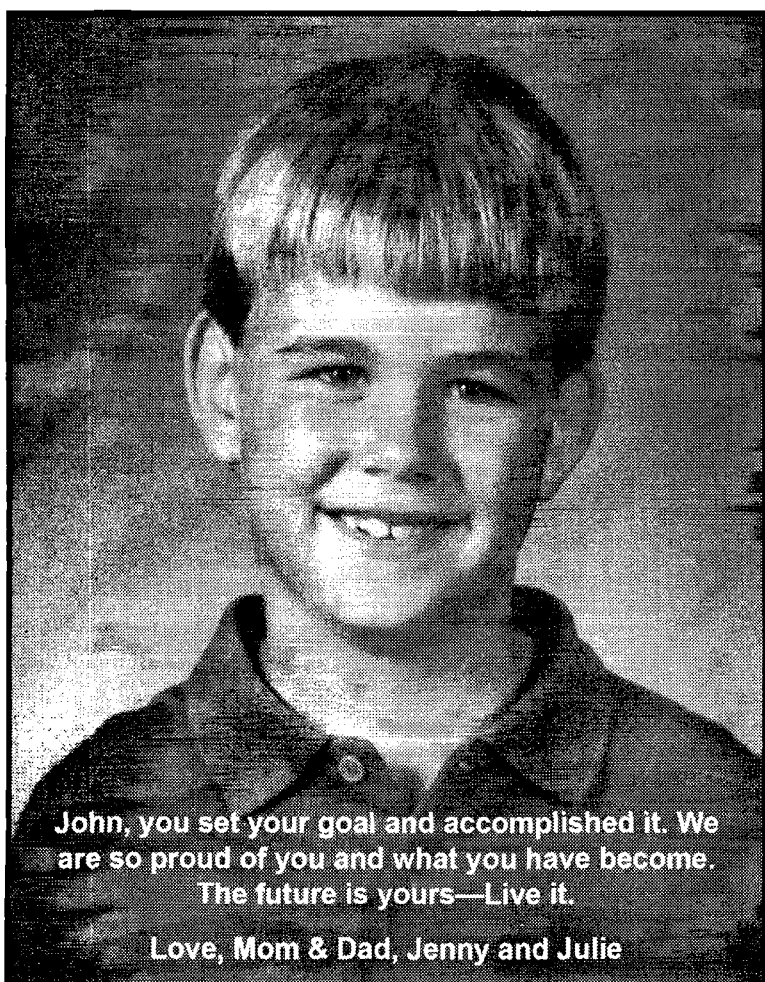
*Your journey will lead you
to do incredible things.*



John, you set your goal and accomplished it. We
are so proud of you and what you have become.
The future is yours—Live it.

Love, Mom & Dad, Jenny and Julie

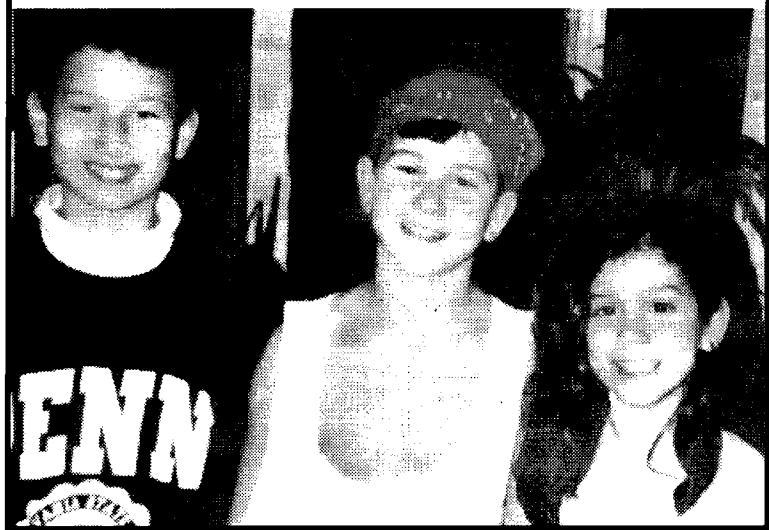
Congratulations! Love, Your Family



Congratulations, Leigh!

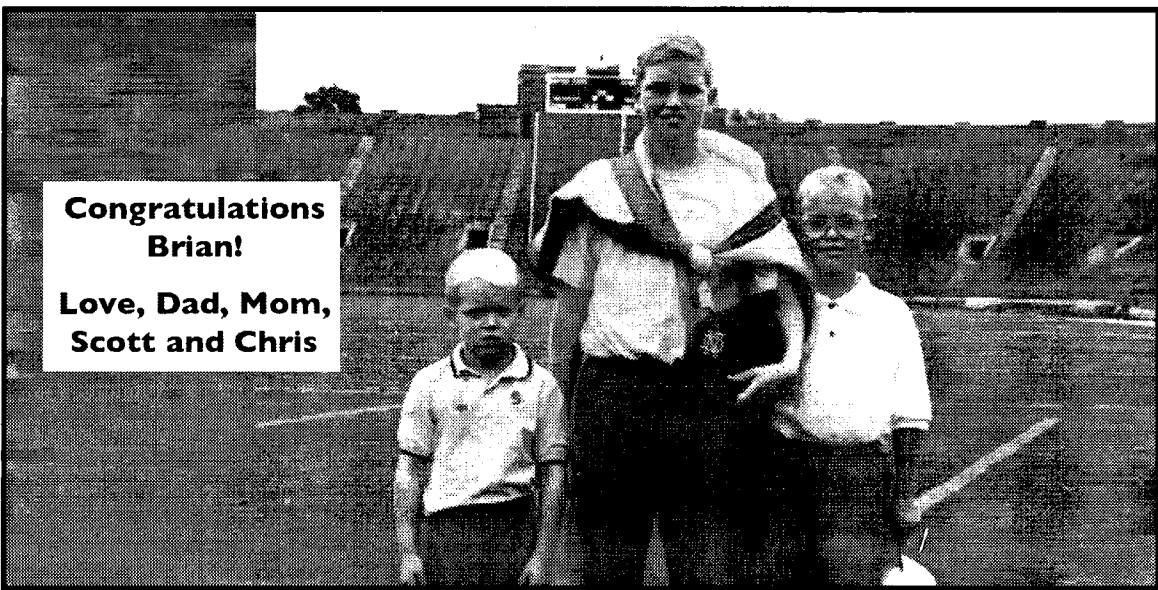
Mom, Eric, Brian, and I are very proud of you and your accomplishments! We know you will be very successful. Watch out Credit Suisse.

Love, Mom & Dad



Congratulations
Brian!

Love, Dad, Mom,
Scott and Chris



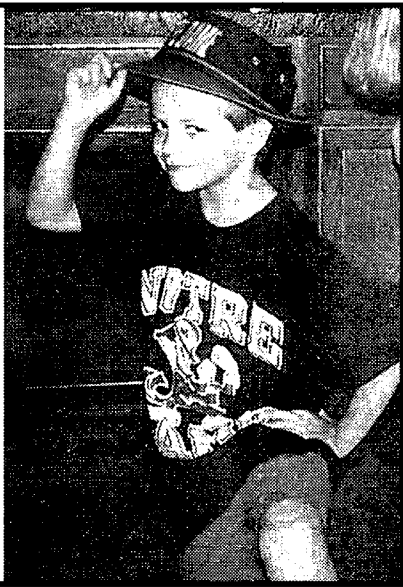
Patrick,

"Go confidently in the
direction of your
dreams. Live the life
you've imagined."

—Thoreau

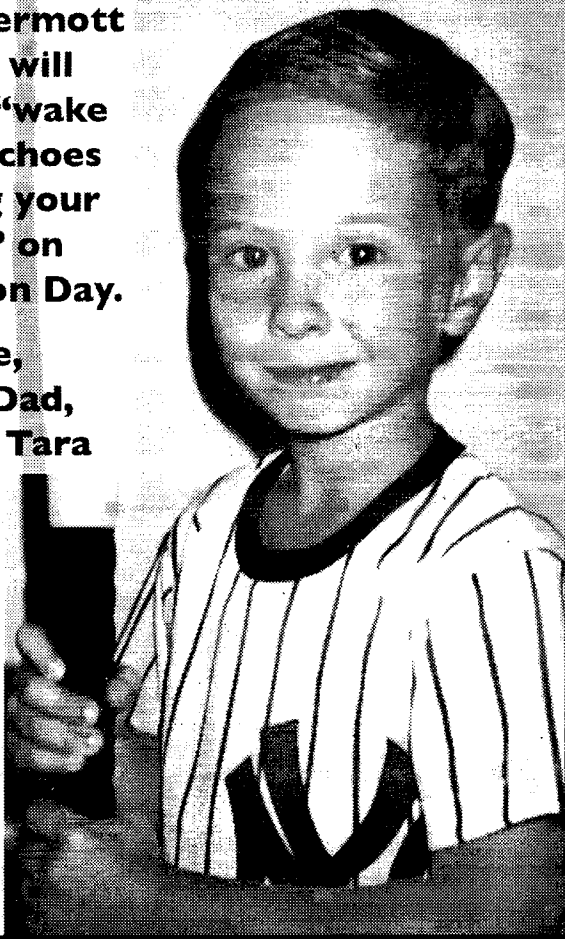
We are so proud of you!

Love, Mom and Dad

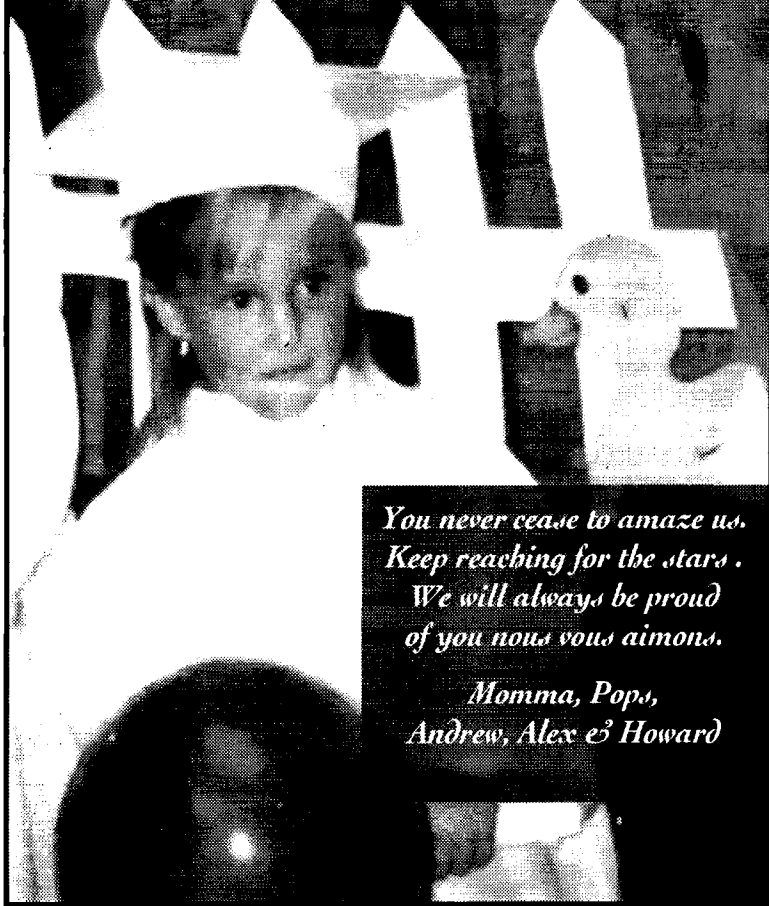


The McDermott
Family will
proudly "wake
up the echoes
cheering your
name" on
Graduation Day.

Love,
Mom, Dad,
Katie & Tara

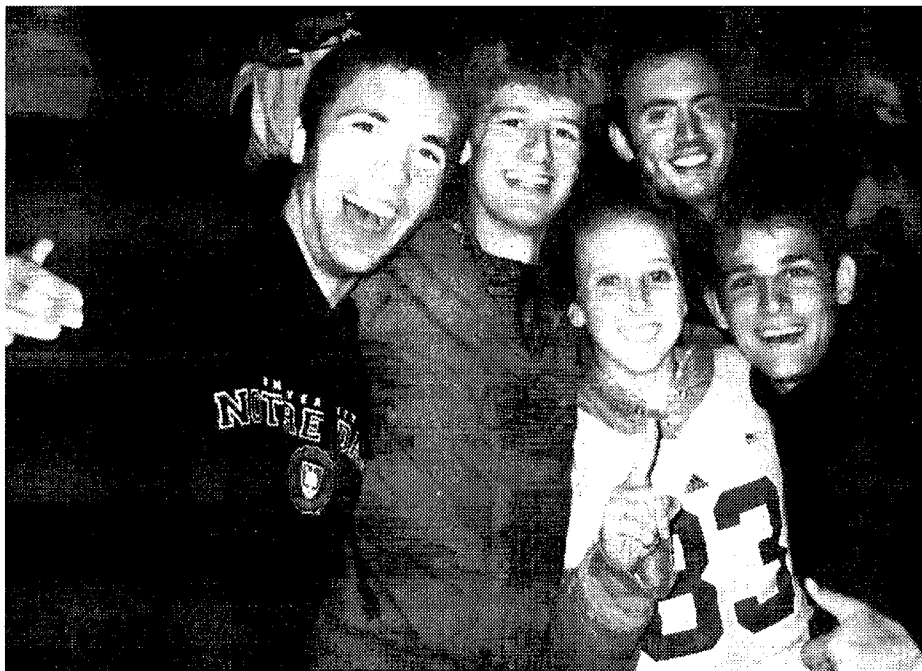


Congratulations Samantha



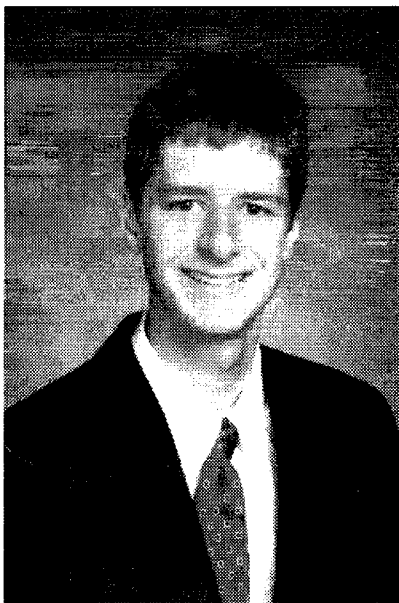
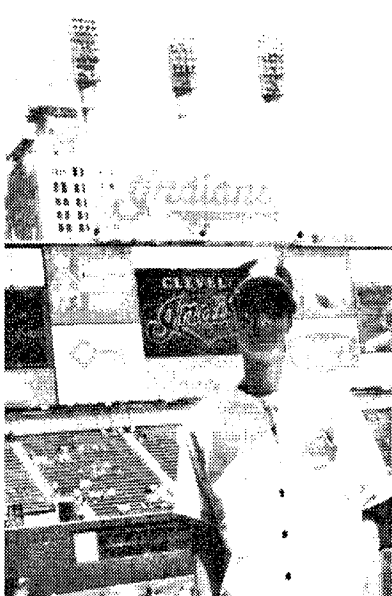
You never cease to amaze us.
Keep reaching for the stars.
We will always be proud
of you nous vous aimons.

Momma, Pops,
Andrew, Alex & Howard



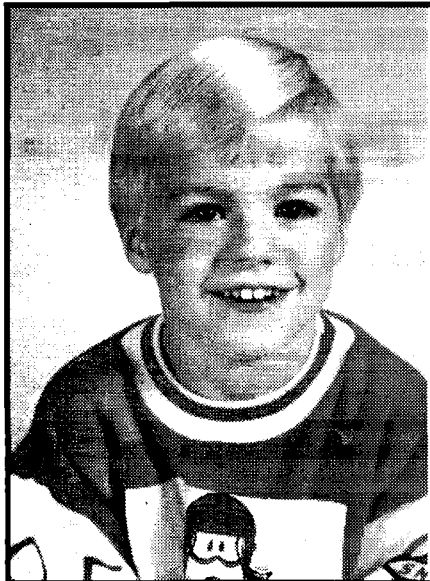
From "The Jake" to the Dome and you did it with such success!
We are so proud of you, Chris. May God bless you always and
may God bless Notre Dame. Go Irish!

Love, Mom and Dad



Yahoo, you did it!
Congratulations
Gregory!

Love,
Mom and Dad



Congratulations
Matthew
May the glow of the
Dome shine upon
you forever.

Love, Mom and Dad

Paul Donahue

"Okoboji Skies"

From a Morning Star to Loveland fields,
You learn to look both ways.
In time we know that you must go,
But our hearts say, "Paul, please stay."

I will love your true, if you "Love Me Do",
I can see it in your eyes.
And we'll spend our days in just this way,
With Ellen by our side.

If you close your eyes and think of me,
All your dreams come true.
And we'll spend our days over fresh, green waves,
Under Okoboji skies.

--Pat Donahue

...More than the moon, the stars, and the sky!!



G.O.M, G.O.D, and the Herd



Melissa, You have always been an artist &
you've followed your dream. We are so very,
very, VERY proud of all you have
accomplished. Congratulations on your BFA!

Love, Mom, Dad, Andrew,
Chris, Tim & Aunt Dale. xoxo

Samantha, We hope you and Bella didn't use up
all of your 9 lives at ND. But you always had an
"Ace" up your sleeve and now will forever be a
Notre Dame grad! We are so very proud of you!



Love Always,
Mom, Dad & Jori

Congratulations
SEAN & Christina, Honors Grads,
and Best wishes on continued
success at Harvard Law.

Love, Dad, Mom, Ryan, Patrick, & Gill

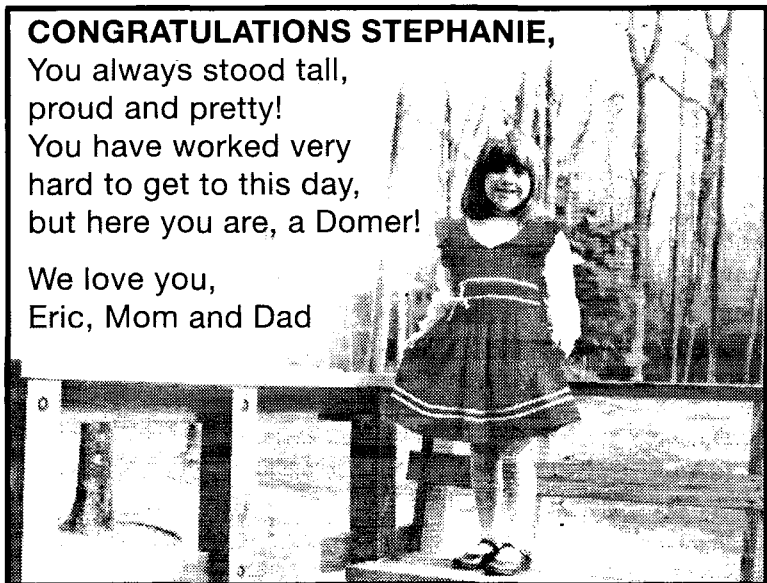


Congrats

CONGRATULATIONS STEPHANIE,

You always stood tall,
proud and pretty!
You have worked very
hard to get to this day,
but here you are, a Domer!

We love you,
Eric, Mom and Dad



Congratulations

Alisa!

We are so very
proud of you.
Wishing you
continued
success and
happiness.

Love,
Mom and Dad



The first day of school
the other kids cried.
You jumped on the bus
with a smile so wide.
And so it began,
How proud we all are.
Our little Liz Coffey
is now a big star!

Congratulations!

We love you,
Mom, Dad,
John & Tim



Way to go Ryan...

We are
very
proud
of you

Love Mom, Dad,
Andy & Kelsey



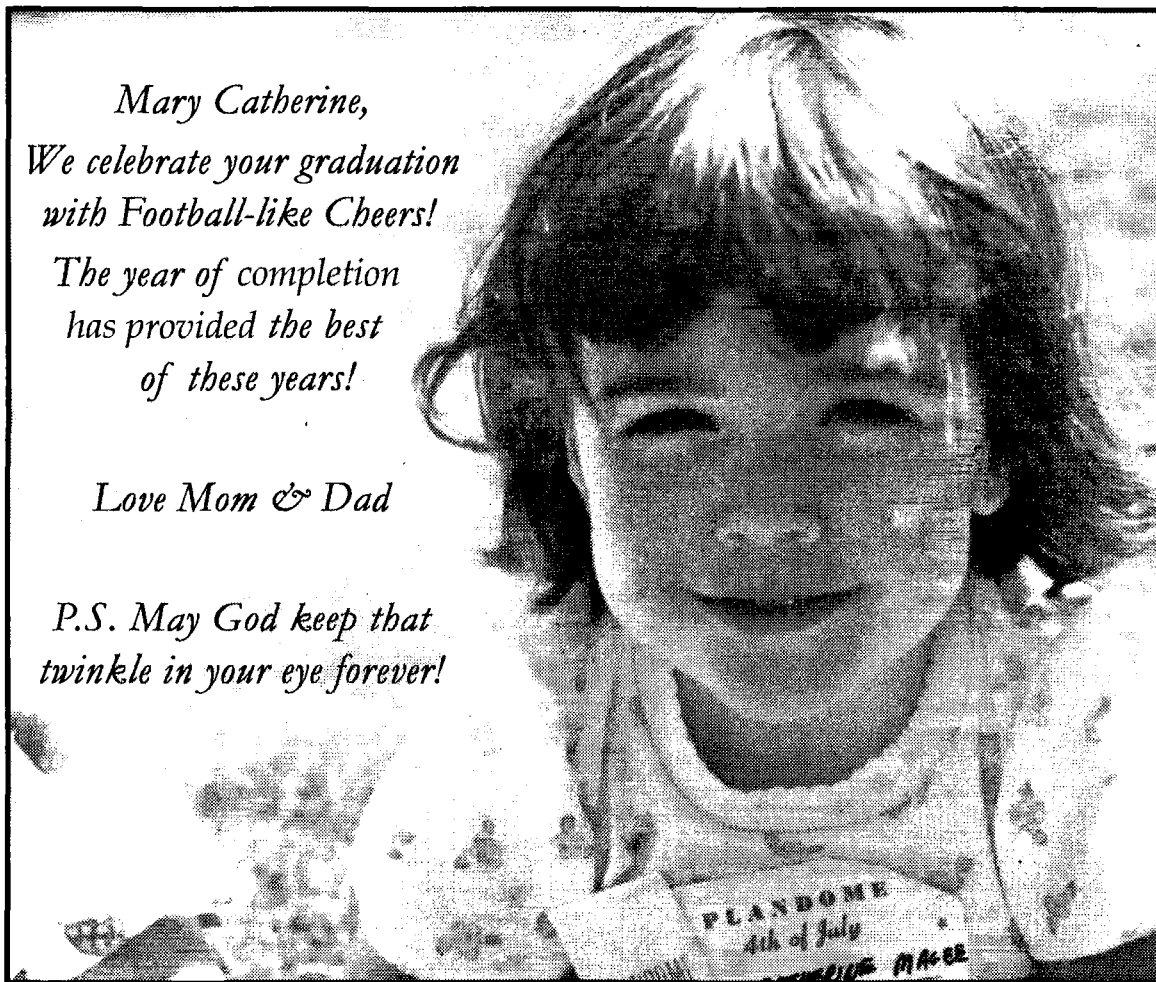
Our Precious Jana Marie
We are so proud of you!

Love, Mom and Dad

Mary Catherine,
We celebrate your graduation
with Football-like Cheers!
The year of completion
has provided the best
of these years!

Love Mom & Dad

P.S. May God keep that
twinkle in your eye forever!





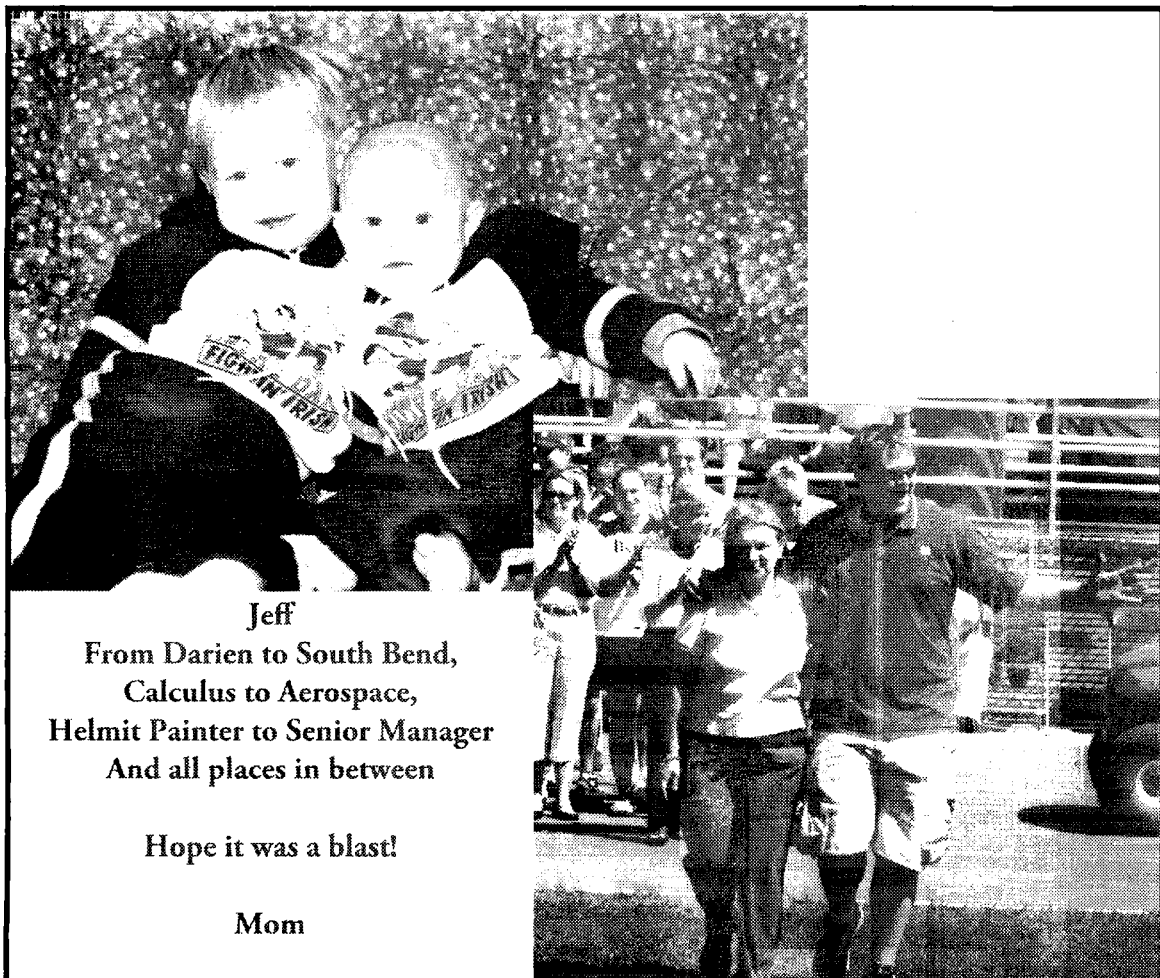
Carol and Katie
Together with 'Our Lady'
From Beginning to End

Congratulations

TOM, AMY, MEG, MEGAN, ALINA, STEVE AND RYAN!

WE ARE PROUD OF YOU!

LOVE, THE MCCLAIN FAMILY

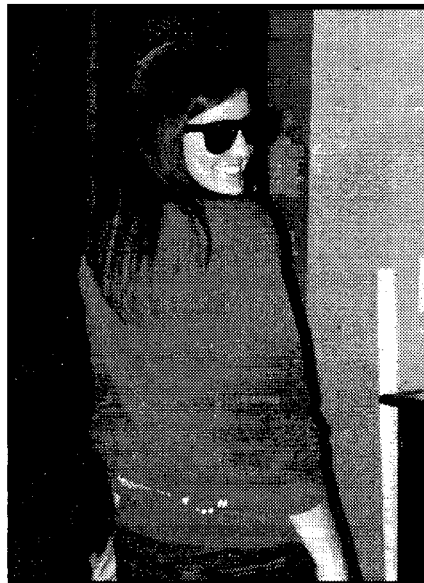


Jeff
From Darien to South Bend,
Calculus to Aerospace,
Helmit Painter to Senior Manager
And all places in between

Hope it was a blast!

Mom

Good Luck



Claire,
You Rock!

Congratulations
We love you,

Mom, Dad &
Conor

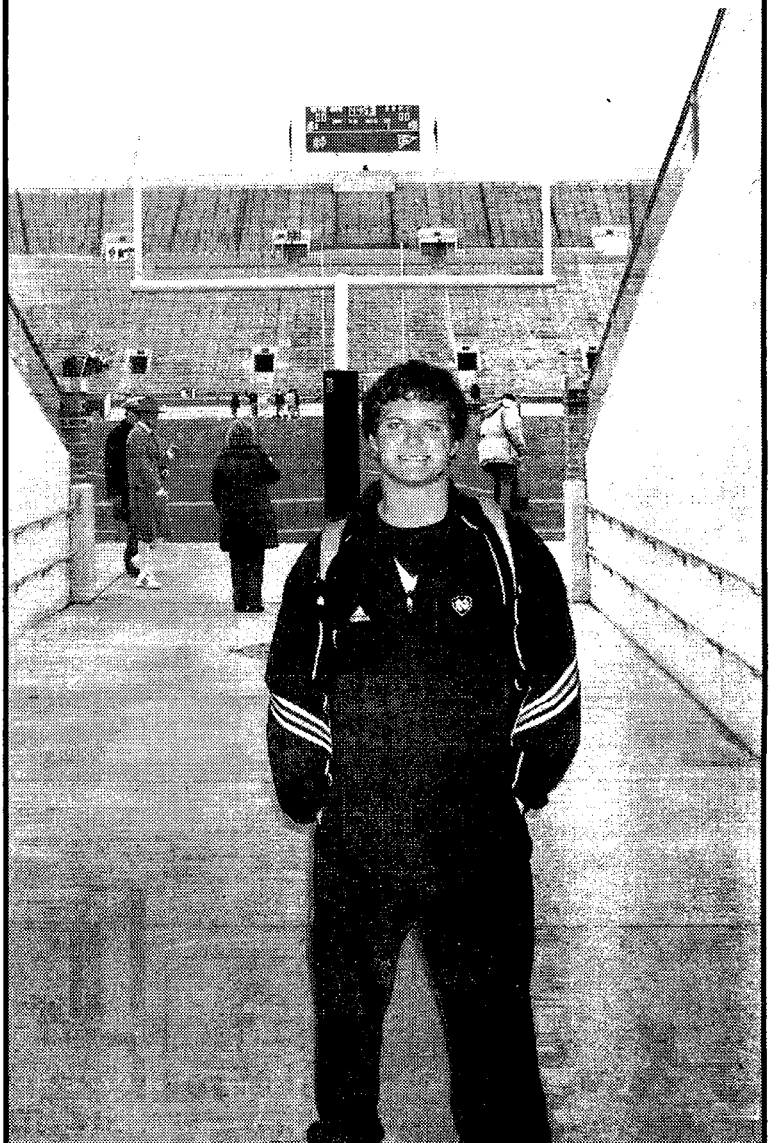


Dear Meggie-Pooh
Congratulations on
your ND Graduation!
We're so proud of you!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Katie,
Molly, Kerry, Kelsey,
and Corby

Congratulations Andrew Kowalski!

It has finally come to fruition.
Ever since you were a young child
you always wanted to attend and graduate from Notre Dame.
Your dream has finally been fulfilled.
Now continue to follow your other aspiring dreams and they too can come to fruition.



We have enjoyed watching you cheer for the Irish these past three years.
We are very proud of you and your accomplishments.

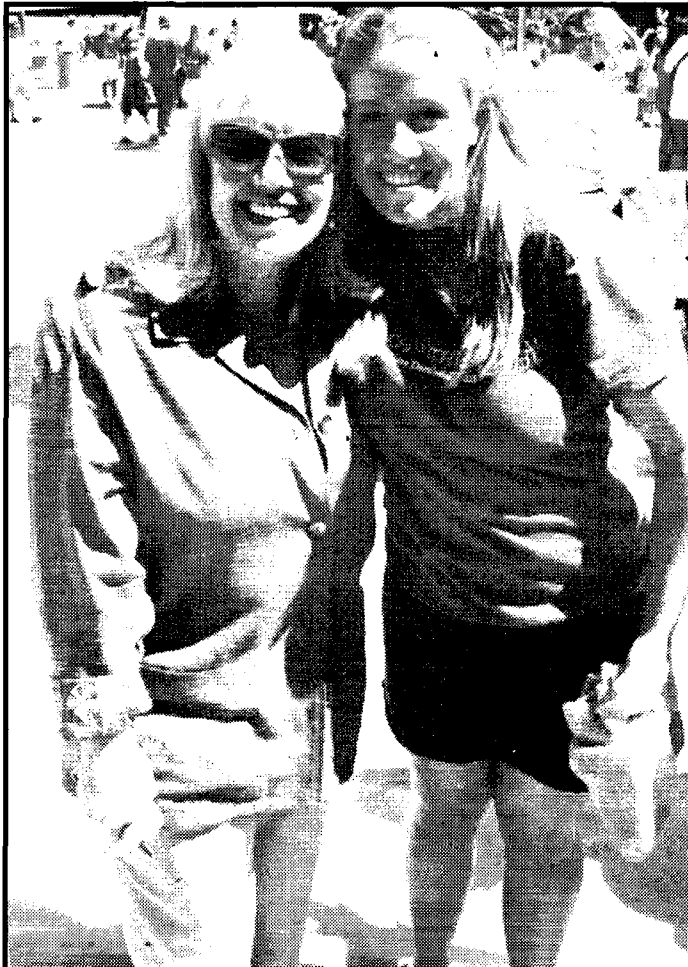
Love,
Dad and Mom



**Congratulations
Katie!**

**From day one
we knew you
could do it!
We love you!**

**Dad, Mom,
Scott, Leah & Will**



**Congratulations
Stephanie!**

**We are very proud
N.D. parents!**

**Love,
Mom + Dad**

**Congratulations, Annie, and
Welcome back to the warm
South!**

**Nothin' could be finer than
to be in Carolina after four
long, cold winters...**

**Love,
Mom and Dad,
Megan and Drew,
Tracy and Ashby, and
Zack, Nicole and Caroline**

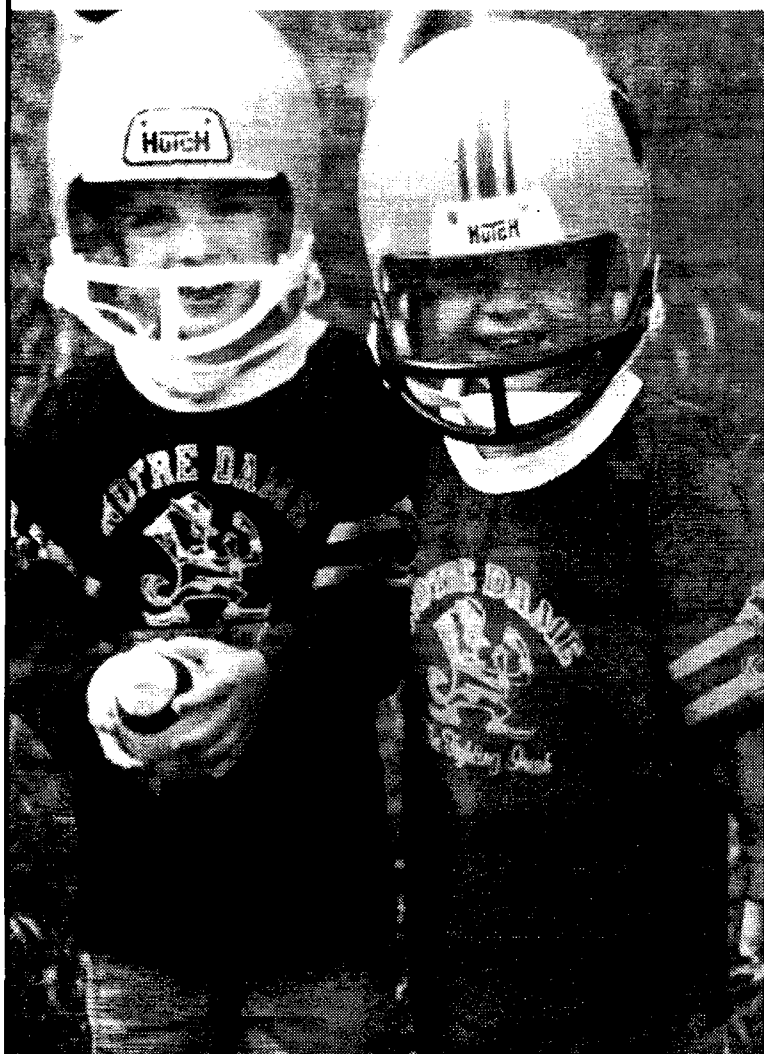


Kelly

**Four years really
flew by.**

**Congratulations-
Mom, Dad, Chop
+ Pat**

Pat and Paul Rigney



**Cheer, Cheer for Pat and Paul Rigney
We are very proud of you!**

**Congratulations! Love, Mom,
Dad '70, '73, '75, Erinn '04
& Meghan '04
Go Irish!**

You've Come A Long Way Baby!!



And We Couldn't Be Prouder!

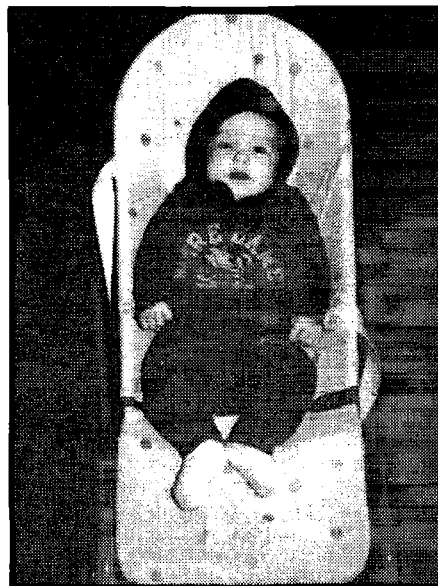
Congratulations Meggie!!

Keep shining like the star that you are. The world is waiting.

**Face all of your tomorrows with
confidence, compassion, laughter & love.**

You are our greatest Meg & we love you so very much!

Mom & Dad



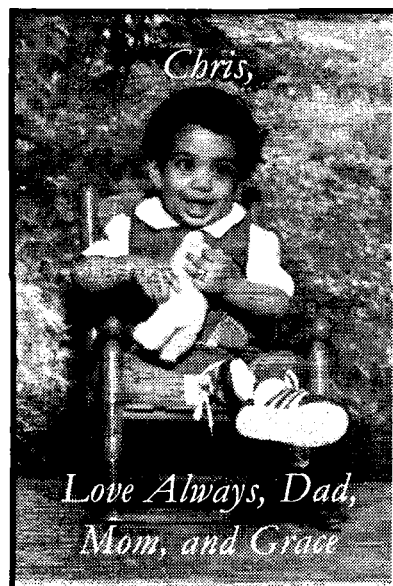
Congratulations Patricia!

We are so proud of our newest Domer!

Love, Mom, Dad, Sarah, Joseph and Mary Kathleen

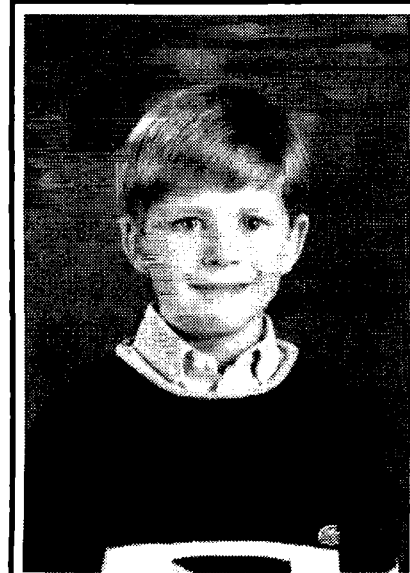


Congratulations Bréona! God is always Good and Stars always Shine!
Love, Mom, Brandon, Granny and Poppy



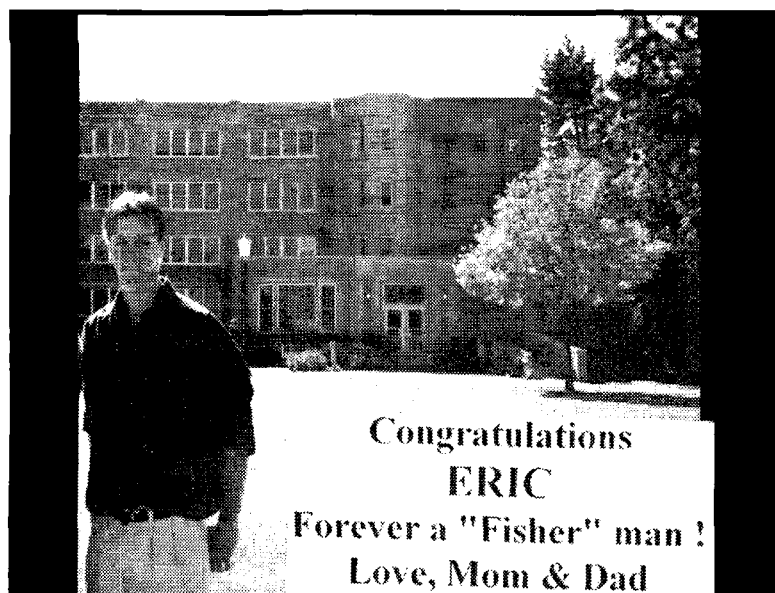
Congratulations on all your achievements. We are so proud of you and want to wish you all the best for your future. God bless you and keep you safe. Go out there and make a difference in the world.

Love Always, Dad, Mom, and Grace

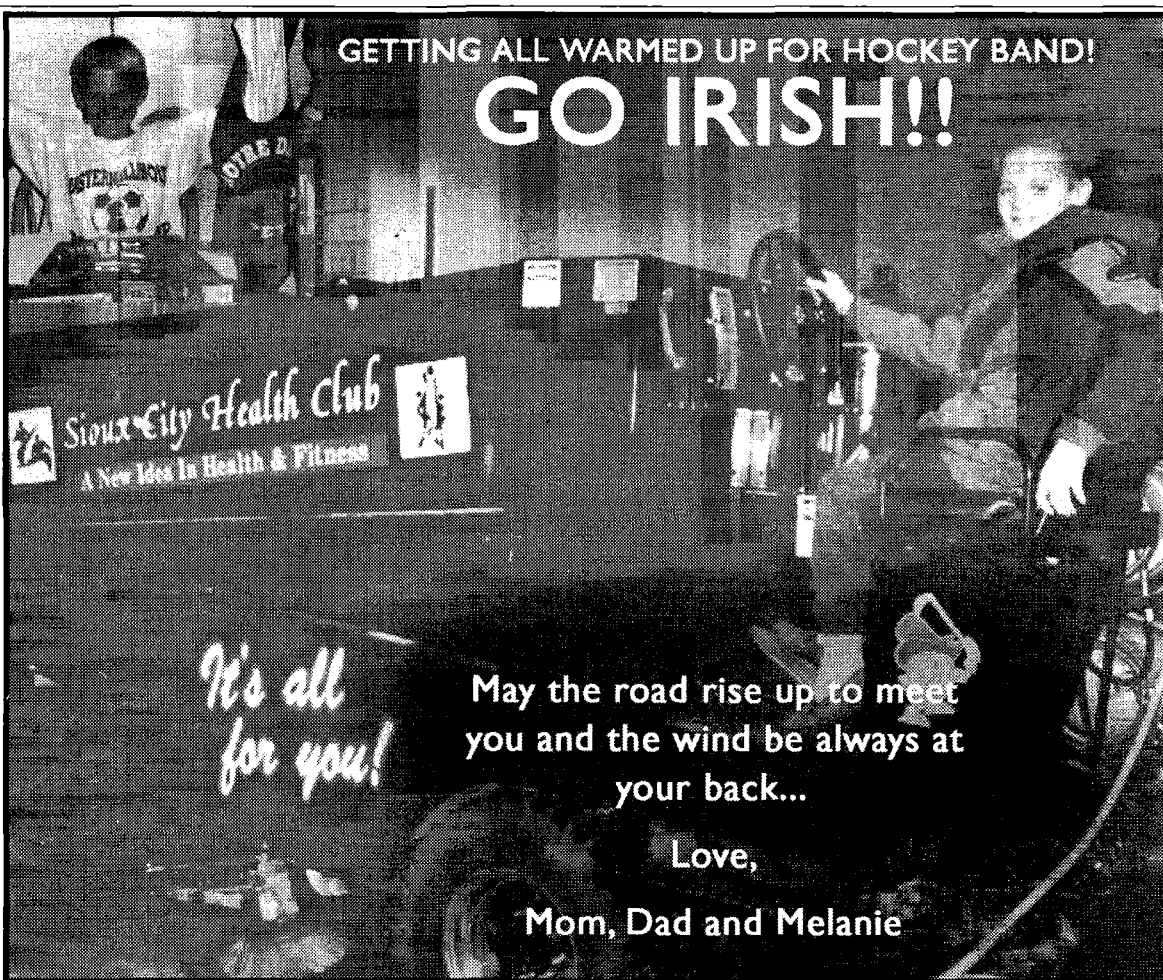


Congratulations Tim,
We're proud of you!

Love,
Mom & Dad



Congratulations ERIC
Forever a "Fisher" man!
Love, Mom & Dad



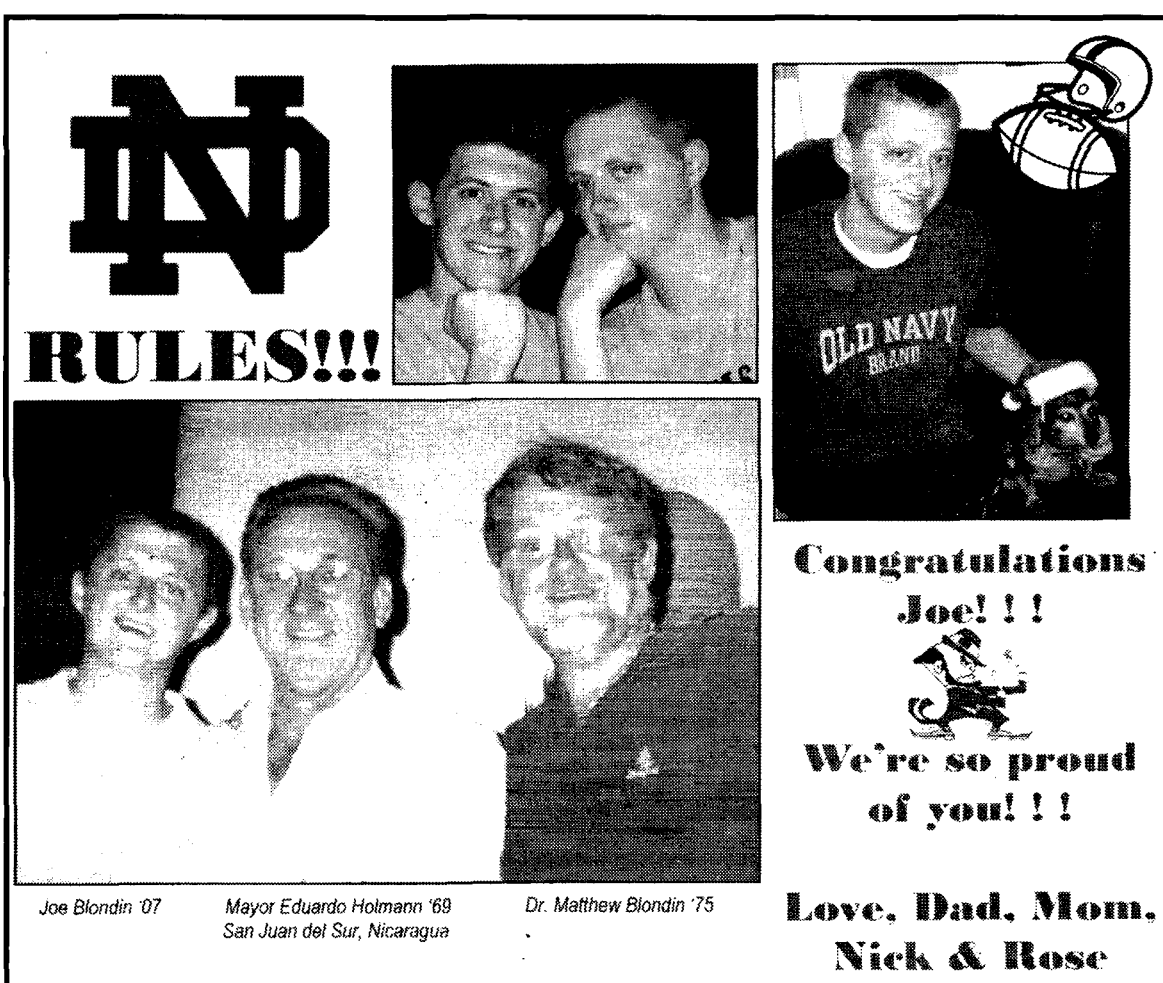
GETTING ALL WARMED UP FOR HOCKEY BAND!

GO IRISH!!

It's all for you!

May the road rise up to meet you and the wind be always at your back...

Love,
Mom, Dad and Melanie



RULES!!!

Joe Blondin '07

Mayor Eduardo Holmann '69
San Juan del Sur, Nicaragua

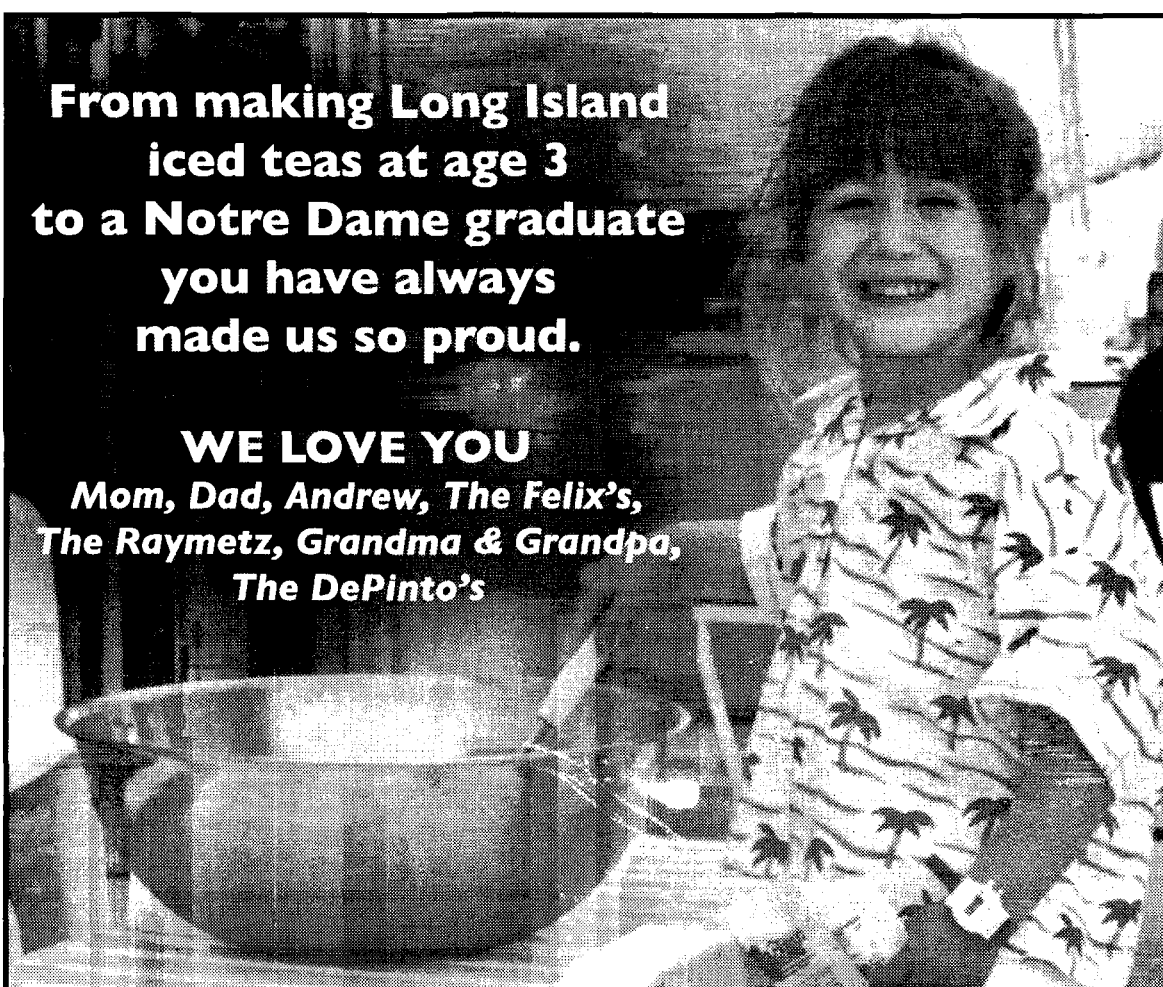
Dr. Matthew Blondin '75

Congratulations Joe!!!



We're so proud of you!!!

Love, Dad, Mom, Nick & Rose



From making Long Island iced teas at age 3 to a Notre Dame graduate you have always made us so proud.

WE LOVE YOU
Mom, Dad, Andrew, The Felix's,
The Raymetz, Grandma & Grandpa,
The DePinto's



Ann Marie
Verwilt,

Love & God's
Blessings to our
Chemical Engineer.

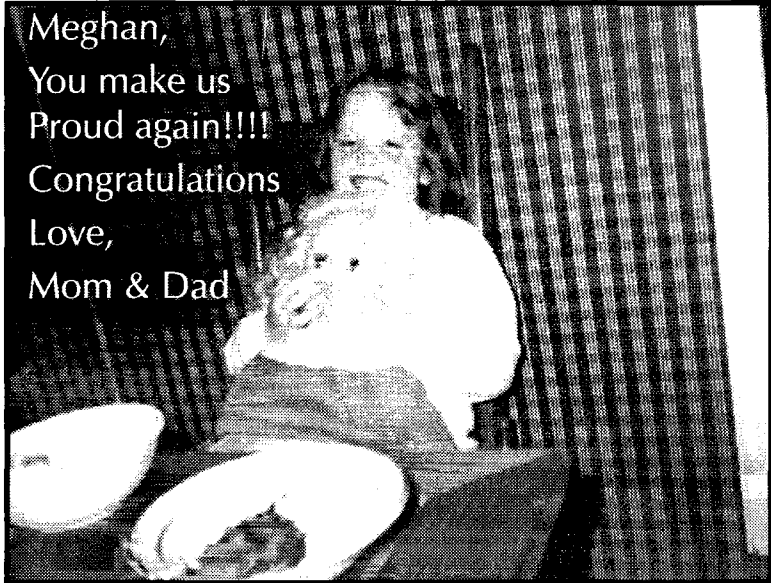
Mom, Dad,
Laura & Andrew

Ann

Gina
You're finally
coming home
to me!!!
Luv,
Brady Morgan
P.S.
Congratulations!



Meghan,
You make us
Proud again!!!!
Congratulations
Love,
Mom & Dad



Let's all stand and
cheer, Colleen's
graduating this
year!

Congratulations
sweetheart. Love,
Mom, Dad, John
and James



Congratulations
Kaitlin:
Your world awaits
Ye & we could not
be prouder.

Love,
Mom, Dad & Ben



Alya,

We've watched you
as you reached for the stars
with your laughter, love, creativity
and spirit of determination!
We are filled with pride for
all that you've accomplished!

Congratulations!

Mama, Tato, Olesh,
Freckles, and Keycha

♥
We love you!



Let us pray, In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Bless Cathy on her graduation day. The world's a better place with this Notre Dame graduate in it.

"Teaching is a profession that teaches all other professions"



Congratulations, Ashley!
We are very proud of you
Love
Mom and Dad

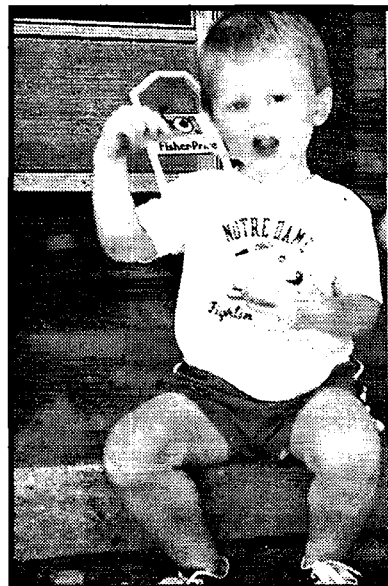
Ashley J. Enright

Today's preparation determines tomorrow's achievement.



**Congratulations
Gracie!**
"No Where But
Notre Dame"

ALL OUR LOVE,
MOM, DAD,
KATE, STINKY
& EMMA



Kevin Stone Martin~
Your achievement is
awesome and we
couldn't be prouder
of you. We wish you
success in all that
you do. Our love is
with you - you are the
very best!

Mom, Dad and Andy

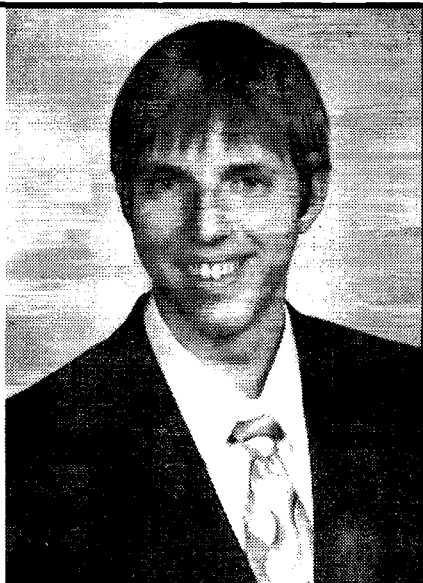
Joanne, Remember when you were five years old and you said to us, "I know how to read, I know how to write, now I can quit kindergarten and be like Paula Abdul." We are so happy you changed your mind and decided to stick with it. Here you are sixteen years later with a degree from the University of Notre Dame. Way to go, kid. We are so proud of you.

We love you,
Mom, Dad, Jessica, Tricia, and Eddie



**Wishing
you the
best
always.**

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Annie

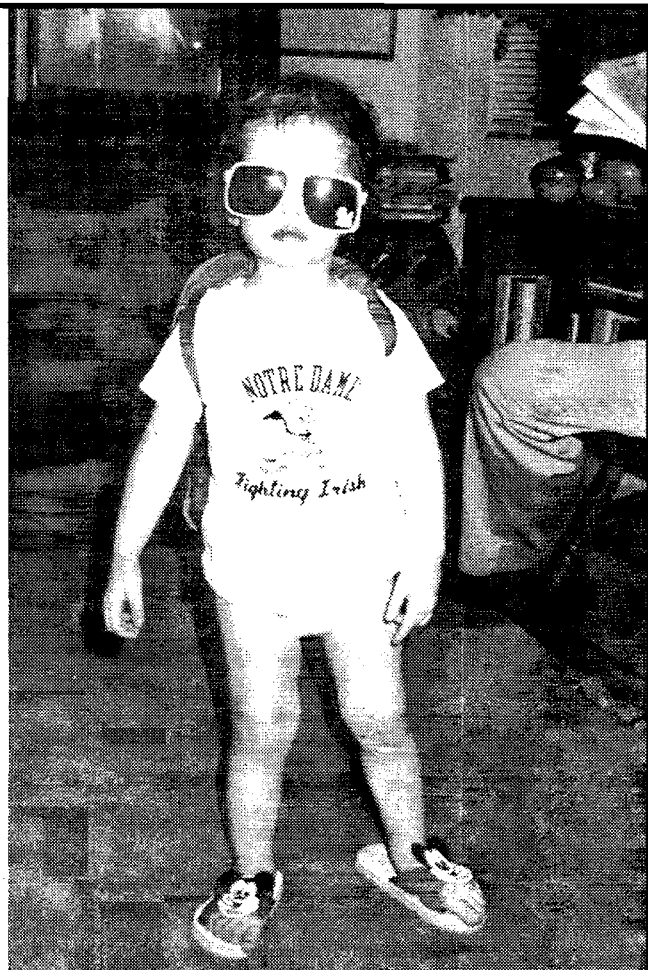


**Congratulations
Yayal. We always
believe in you!!**

Love,
Mom & Da



**Julia Clare
Cunningham
suited up for
the Golden
Dome early
in life**



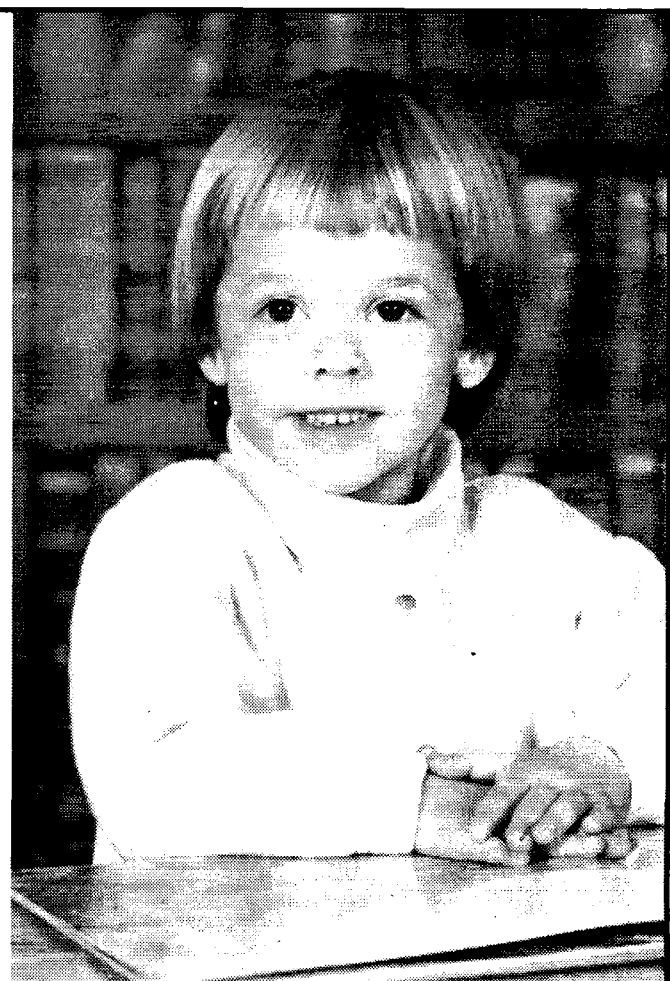
*Dear Bethann,
Congratulations
on a job well
done. May our
Dear Lord and
Blessed Lady
of the Golden
Dome continue
to bless you
all the days
of your life.
We love you!!!
Mommy, Daddy,
Peter and Rosalie*



**Congratulations
Annie!**


**Your ND life
is only beginning.
We're so proud
of you.**


Mom, Dad, and Scott



Congratulations Joe,
We know you will
do great things!

Love
Dad, Mom, and
Teresa





**Congratulations
Jeremy!**


We're proud of you!
Go Irish

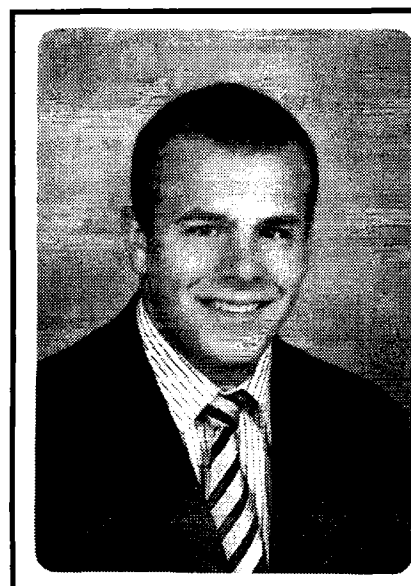
Love, Mom, Dad,
Josh and Deni

Richard and
Auntie Steph

"Blowing a
dandelion for
good wishes"

By: Richard





*Congratulations
Christopher!*

*Words cannot express
how proud we are of
the person you've become.*


*We love you.
Mom and Dad.*

**SHANE,
Congratulations!**

We're very
proud of you
and all you've
accomplished.

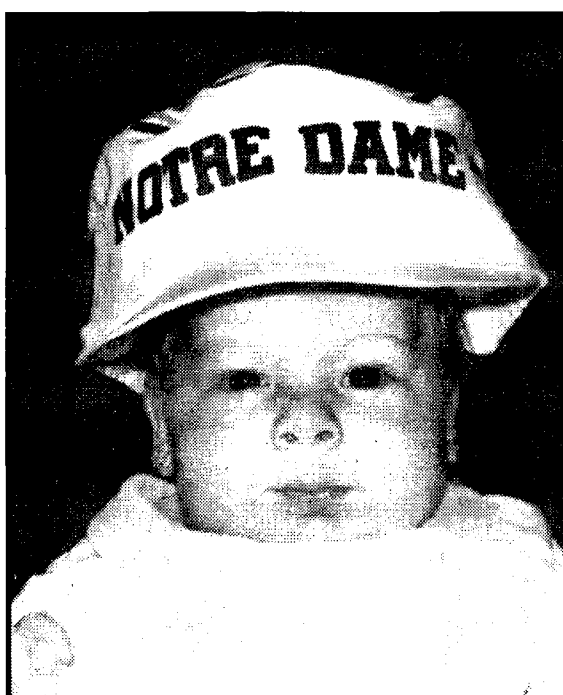
Love,
Dad and Mom

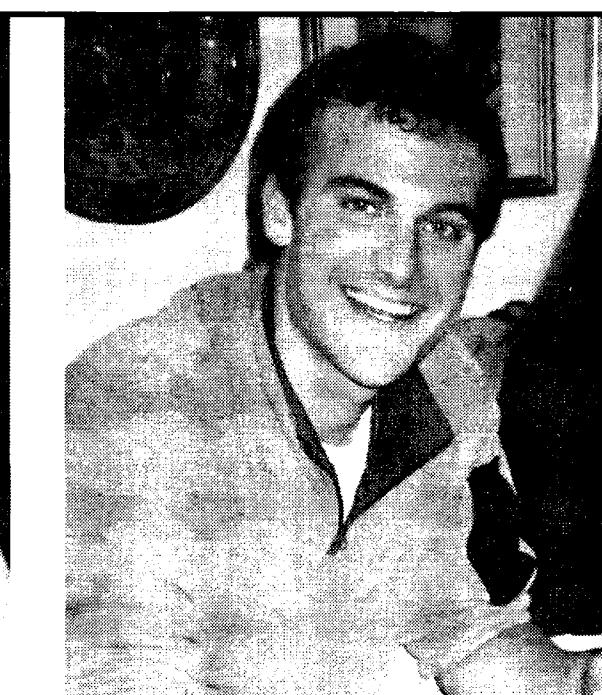




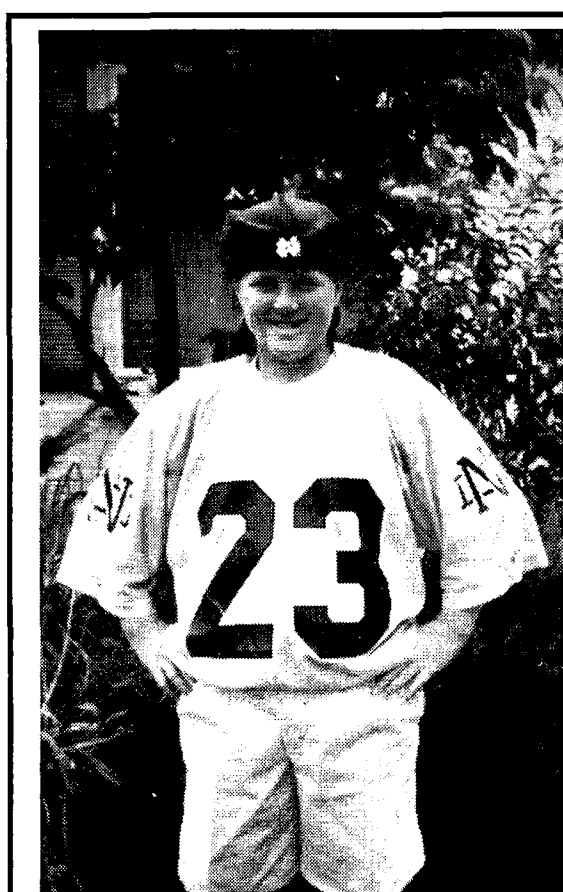
**Patrick,
always
continue
making
waves.**

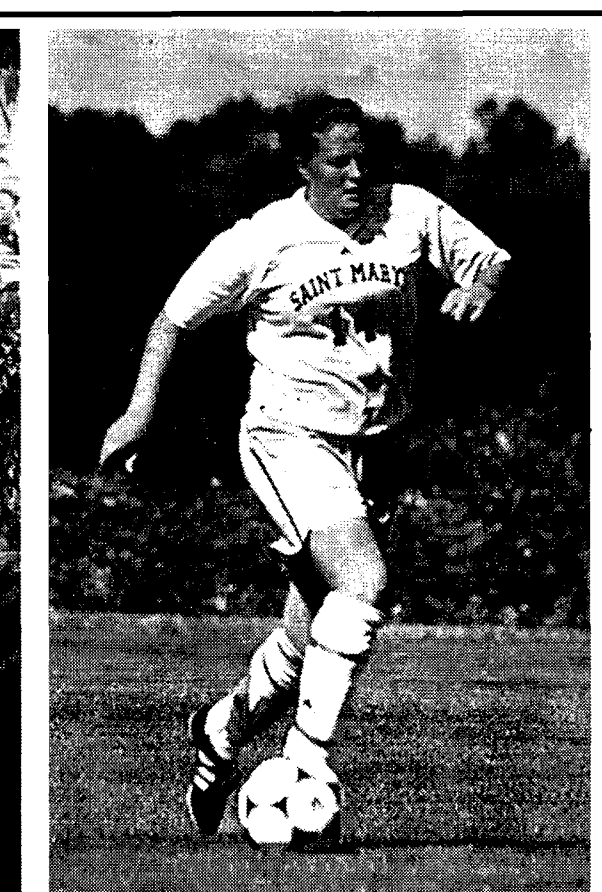
We love you and are proud of you.
Mom, Dad, Trevor and Maeve.
Aunt Karen, Uncle Steve,
Nanny, Mimi, The Herberts, and Papa!



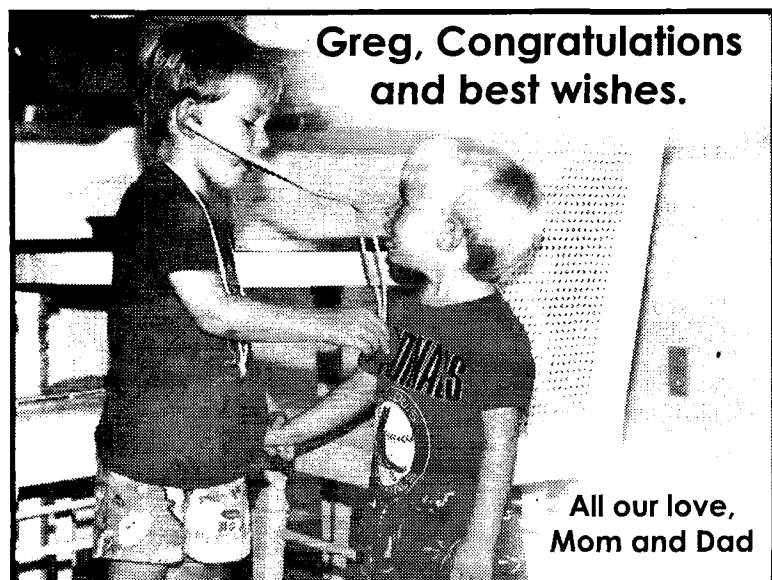


**Congratulations Tom! May God
bless you always and in all ways.
Love, Mom, Dad, Mike & Emily**



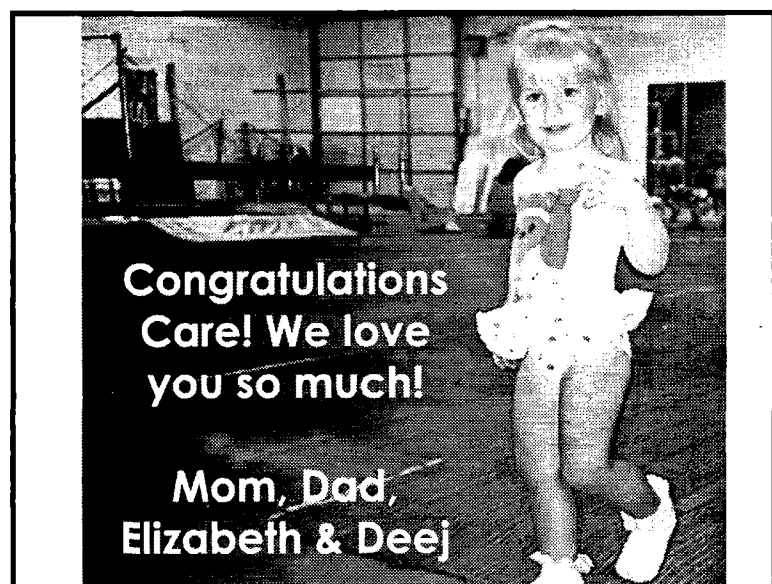


Great Job "MYSTER"



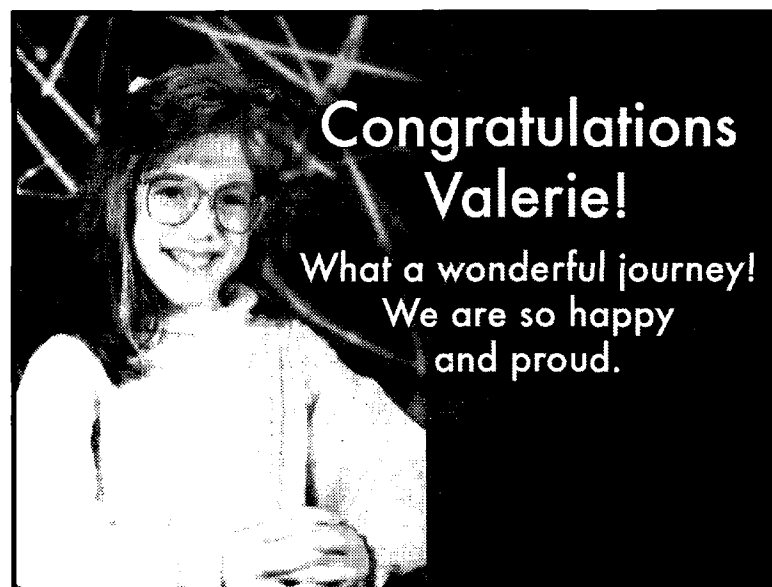
**Greg, Congratulations
and best wishes.**

All our love,
Mom and Dad



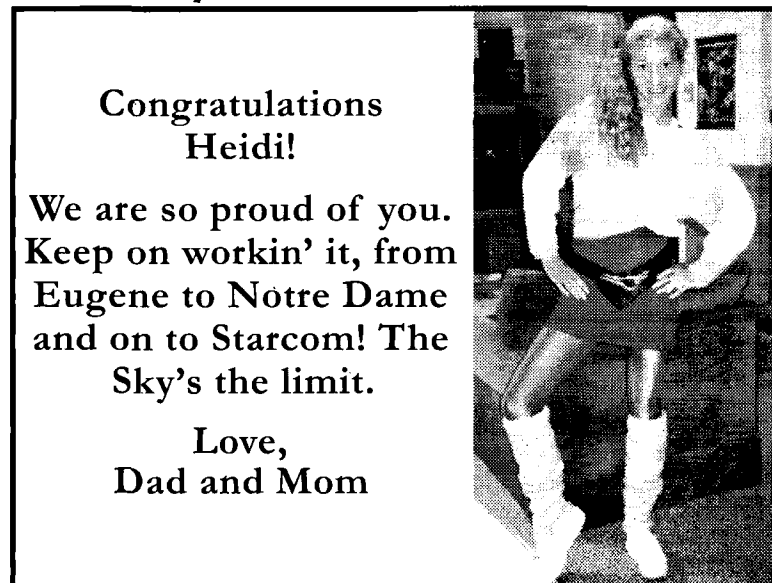
**Congratulations
Care! We love
you so much!**

Mom, Dad,
Elizabeth & DeeJ



**Congratulations
Valerie!**

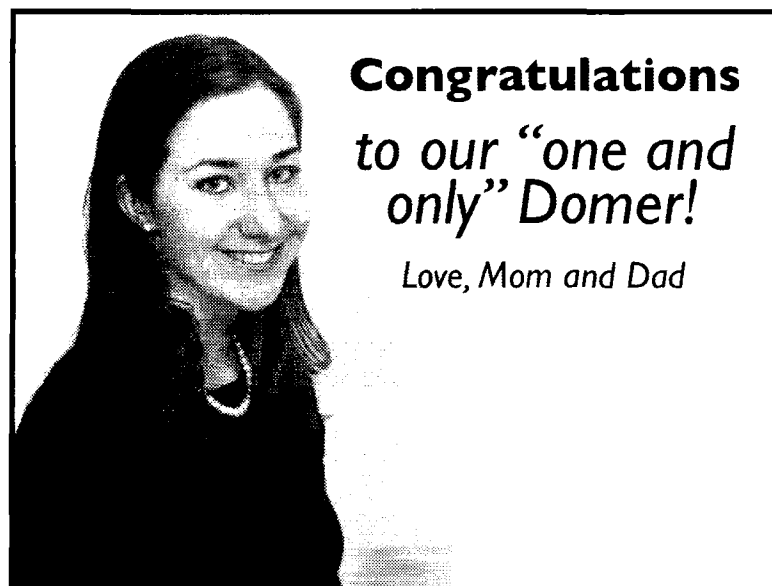
What a wonderful journey!
We are so happy
and proud.



**Congratulations
Heidi!**

We are so proud of you.
Keep on workin' it, from
Eugene to Notre Dame
and on to Starcom! The
Sky's the limit.

Love,
Dad and Mom



**Congratulations
to our "one and
only" Domer!**

Love, Mom and Dad



Dear David,
We are so proud of
you and love you very
much! You had four
wonderful years at
Notre Dame filled
with great memories
and lasting
friendships. Make the
most of your years
ahead and be
thankful for all that
you have been given.
Go Irish!

Love, Dad Mom, Kara
and Kristen

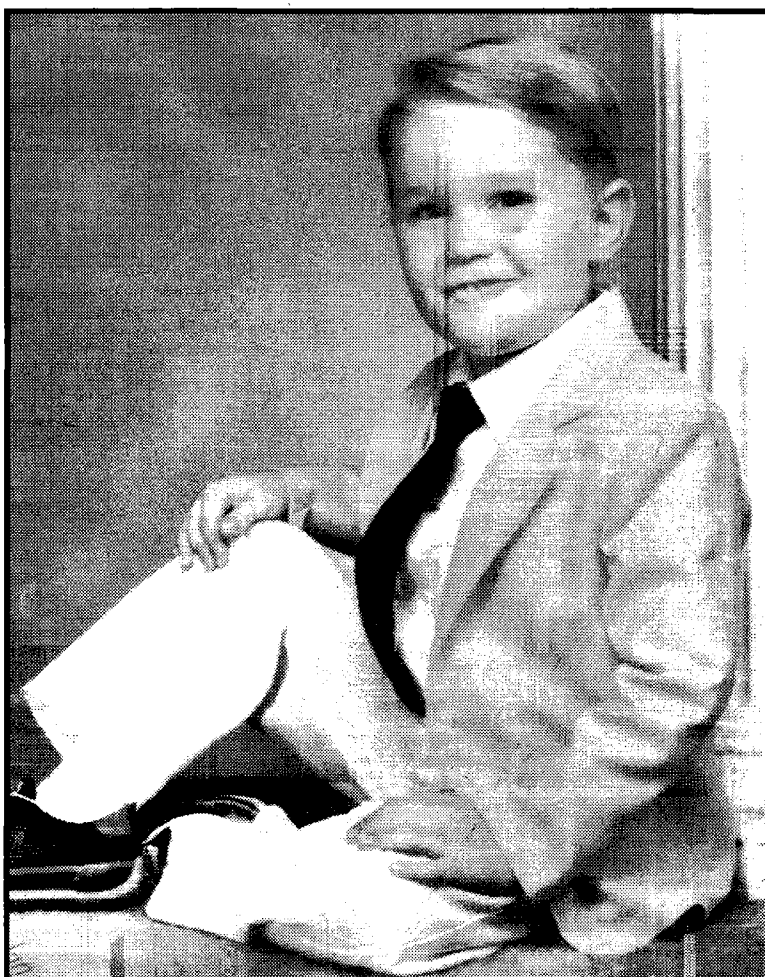
David D'Onofrio
Class of 2007



What a surprise
blessing you were.
We didn't think we
would know the joy
of holding our
hearts in our arms
again, then you
came along. We
have always been
your biggest
cheerleaders.

Congratulations Veronica.

We love you,
Mom, Dad, Mandy & Alicia



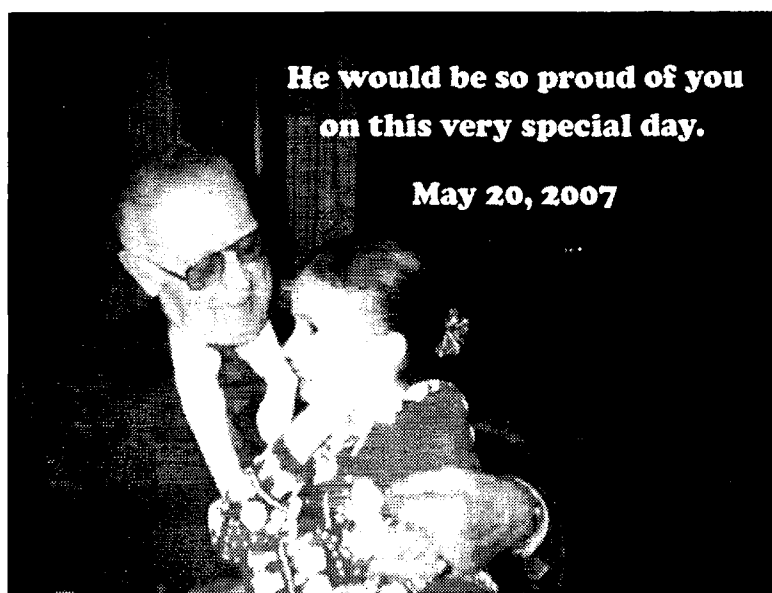
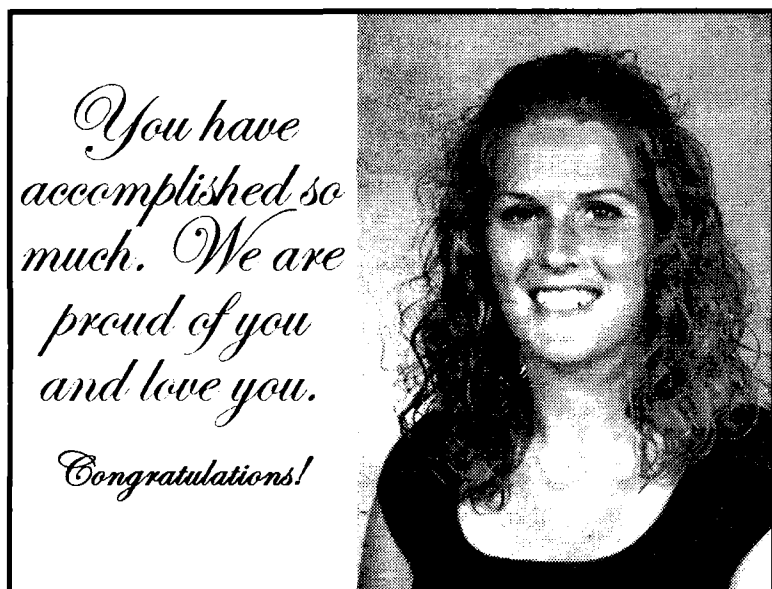
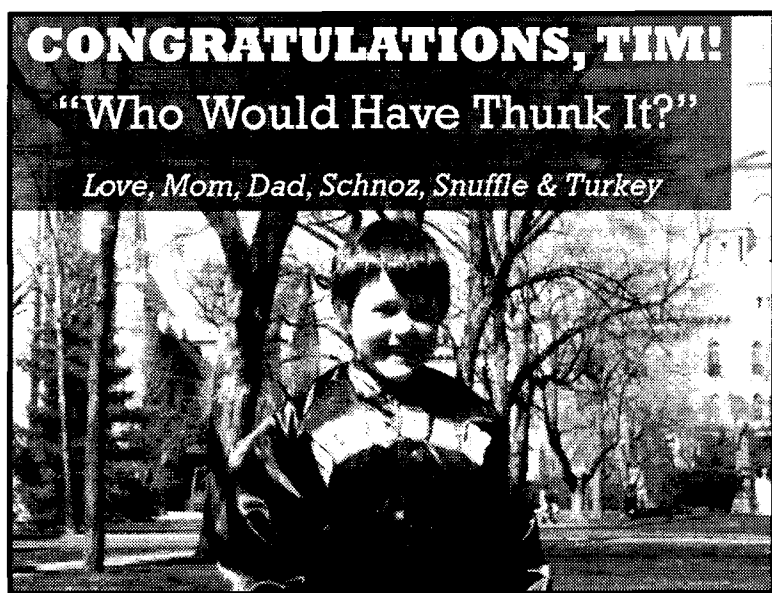
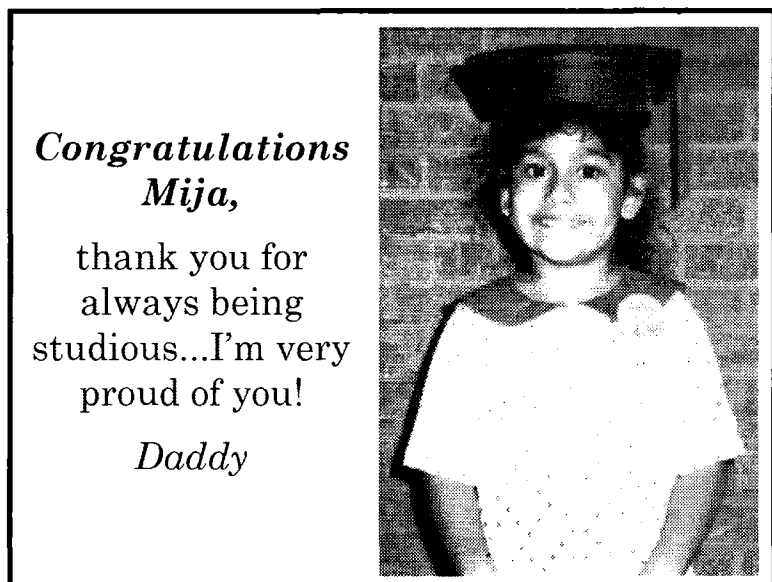
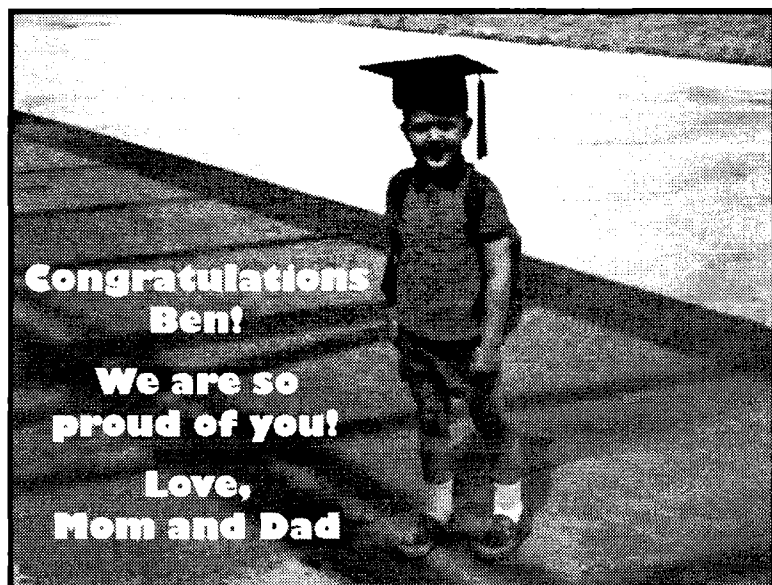
**CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR
GRADUATION FROM
NOTRE DAME
JESSE!**



**WE ARE VERY
PROUD OF YOU!**



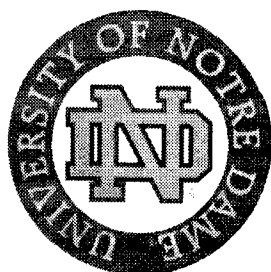
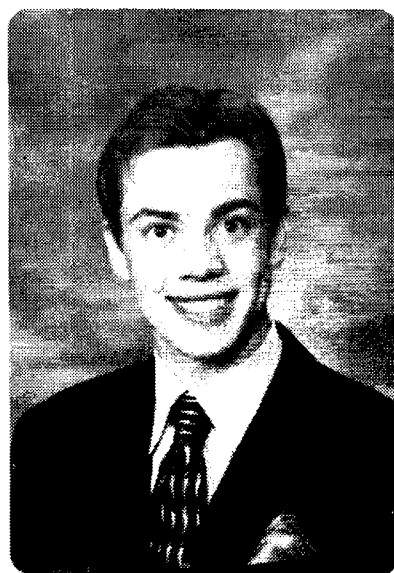
**LOVE,
MOM AND DAD**



**You know
the power of a
dream, Domer!**

**Congratulations on
making your dream
a reality! May the
dreams you hold
today be the reality
of tomorrow!**

**With love
and great pride,
Mom and Dad**



Congratulations, David, "Beloved One"

*David, may the Lord bless you with wisdom
and courage as you graduate from Notre Dame.*

*Always, may you be a voice for the helpless and
a caring heart for the needs of the less fortunate.*

*Value trust, honesty and integrity as timeless
traits that you always carry in your heart.*

*Imagine and believe that you can make a
difference in the world and in the lives of others.*

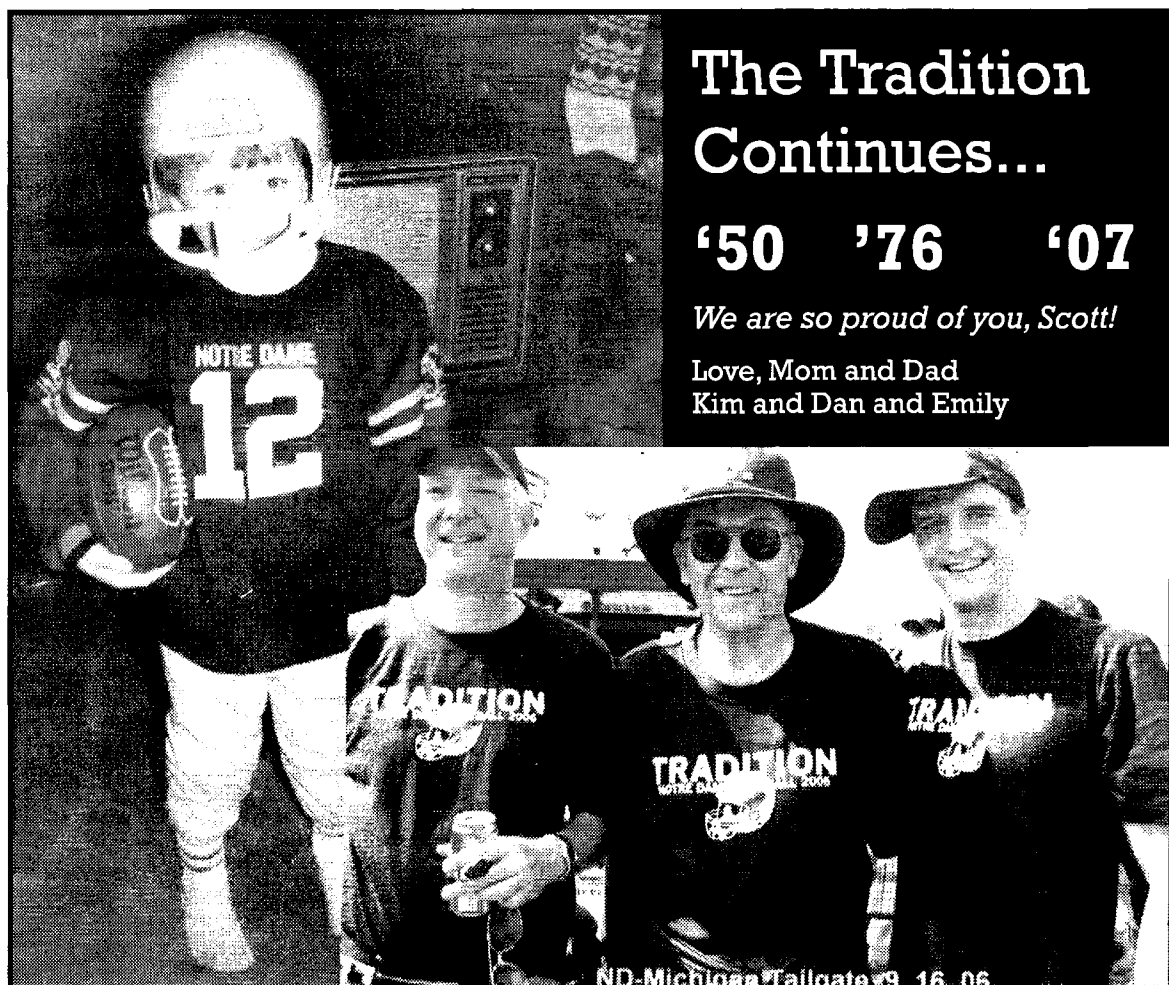
*Dedicate yourself to excellence in all you do
and remember that character is what counts.*

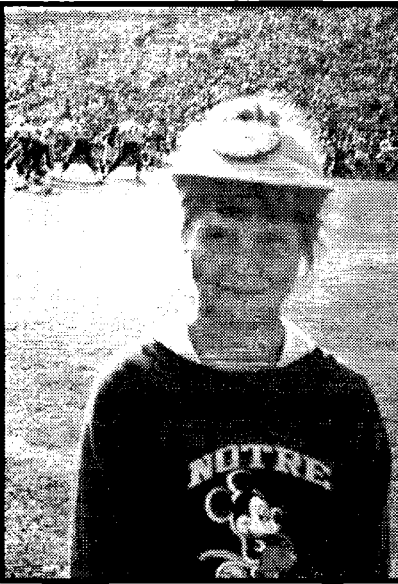
Good luck on your journey and God be with you.

(David Poell)

All our love,

Mom, Dad & Lauren



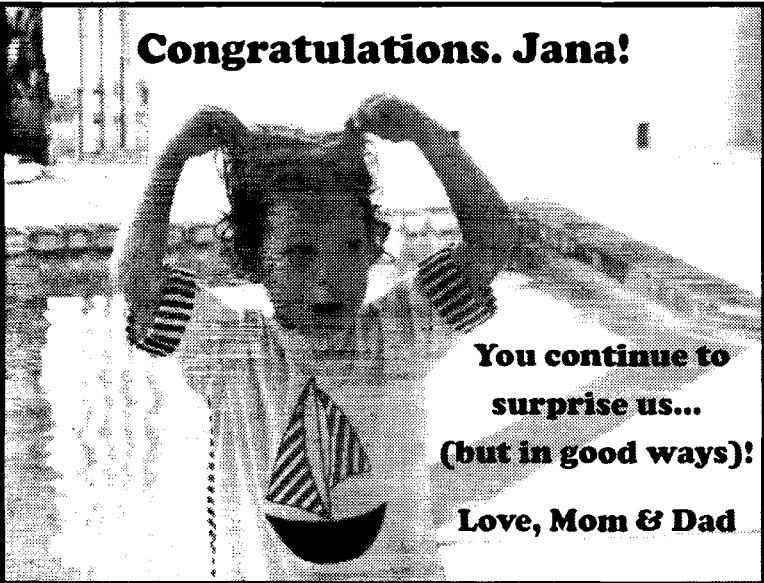


Congratulations, Laurie!

Little did you know back in 1992 that 12 years later you'd score a touchdown in the ND stadium for Walsh Hall and graduate from Notre Dame! We are so proud of you!

Love,


Dad, Mom, Dan & Stefanie



Congratulations. Jana!

You continue to surprise us... (but in good ways)!

Love, Mom & Dad



Congratulations Kristin, once again you're on the move!

Love,

Mom & Dad


Amy,

Keep following your dreams!

Be "ND Proud" forever.

Love,

Mom & Dad





Dear Tara-

Congratulations, you clever girl!


We love you!

U.S.S.*

愛しているよ!

母と父

*Usual Sentimental Stuff



Michael,

In the 2003 letter you wrote to us the night before you left for Notre Dame, you said you would work hard to make us proud. Little did we know to what extent you would carry out that promise. You have exceeded all expectations we had for you. You found the balance between having fun and your commitment to scholastic excellence. You amaze us all. We are SO proud of you, but more importantly, you should be proud of yourself. You have had a tremendous four years.

Love,


Mom, Dad, Jennifer, & Ryan

Michael Johnson

You worked hard and played hard too.

Congratulations Mike


Love, Mom Dad Jen Lori and Matt




From smiling packyderm to controlling the reigns in Petra. May your wanderlust never be sated in your quest for excellence.

Congratulations Meeg on your BFA.

Love, Mom & Dad







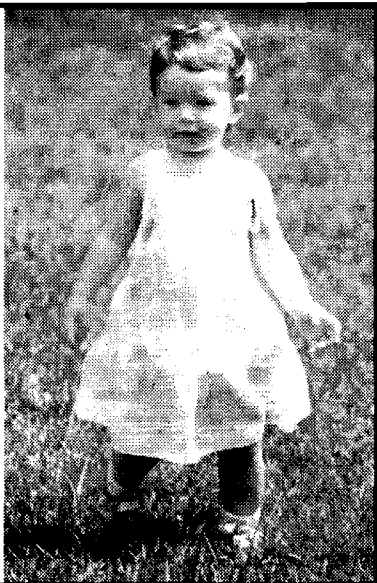
Rena—

We are very
proud of you
and
congratulations
on being a
Domer.

**Congratulations
Emily Jeanne!**

Go out into the
world and tell the
Good News.
GO IRISH!

Love from your family,
Mom, Dad, Sarah and Mike.

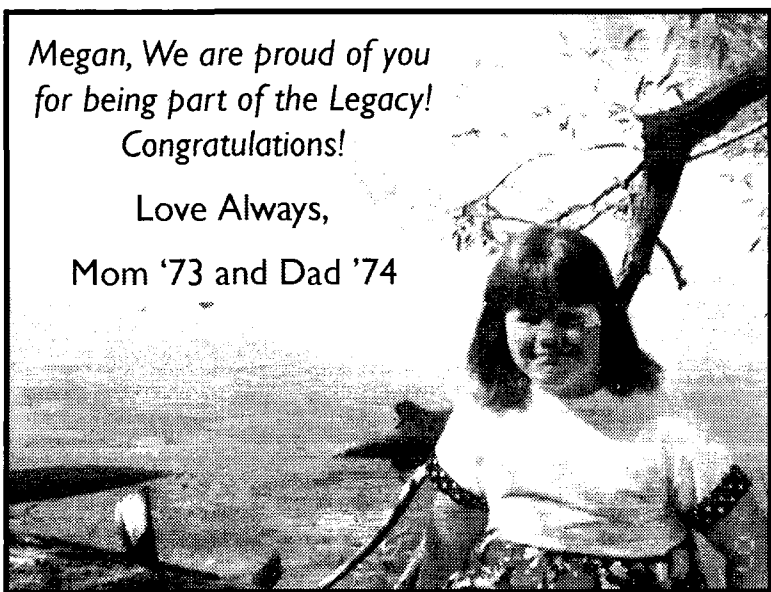


**Megan—No more
pencils, no more
books! You've done it!
We're so proud!**

Love, Mom, Dad,
Katie & Michael

Megan, We are proud of you
for being part of the Legacy!
Congratulations!

Love Always,
Mom '73 and Dad '74

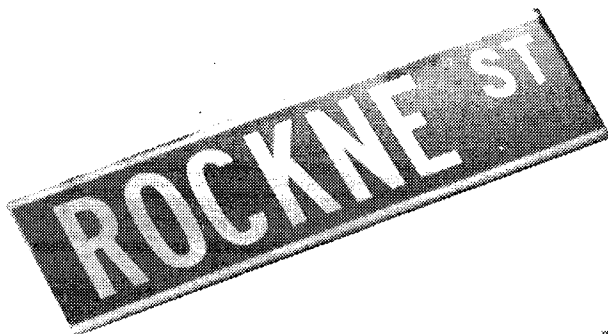


**Congratulations
Courtney**

*The years have gone by so quickly
and now you are a wonderful
young woman following her
dreams and at the same time you
are fulfilling one of ours.*

Love,

Mom, Dad & Kendall



**Congratulations
ALLISON**

From your home on Rockne Street
To the home of Rockne
You have made us so proud!
May the blessings of Our Lady
Be with you always
Love, Mom, Dad and Frankie



CONGRATULATIONS BETH GARRABRANT!!!

We are so proud of you for keeping up the Notre Dame tradition!

"Gop Gop" – Jim Donnelly – ND '45

Your Mom and Dad – Sue and Gary Garrabrant – ND '79

Elizabeth Garrabrant – ND '07

We love ND and we love you!

Grandma and Gop Gop

XOXOXOXO

**We have enjoyed
watching you
enjoy your
Notre Dame years.
Now, let the next
adventure begin!**

**We love you, Clare.
Mom & Dad**



**Congratulations
Kelli!**

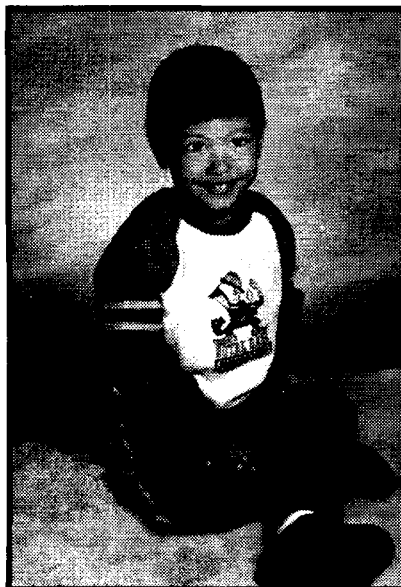
This is only the
beginning.

We love you!
Your Family



**Congratulations
Zachary Joe**
Little "Jimmy" is
an ND grad!!!
We are so
proud of you!

All our love,
Mom, Dad
and Tonio



**Congrats on your
graduation!**
May you bless
the world as
much as you
have blessed us.

Love Always,
Mom, Dad & Luke



Colleen,

*Our little IRISH GIRL has
achieved her goal and
now she is forever our
DAUGHTER OF NOTRE
DAME. We are so proud
of you.*

Congratulations!

*Love,
XOXO Mum, Dad
XOXO Brian & Greg*



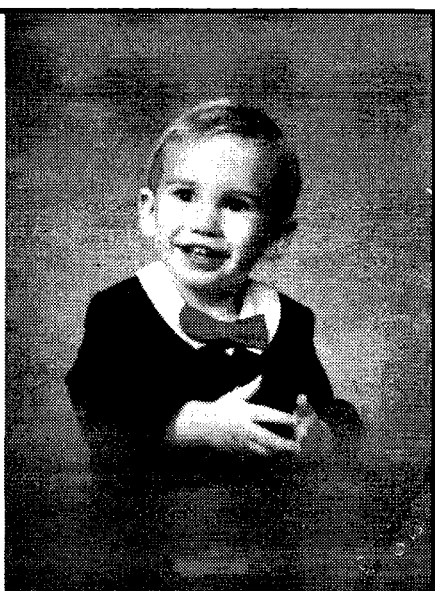
Tommy,

Congratulations!

You have lived your dream—
you are now a Notre Dame
graduate. Now on to the
next dream—law school
(even at 1 year old you
looked great in a suit!)

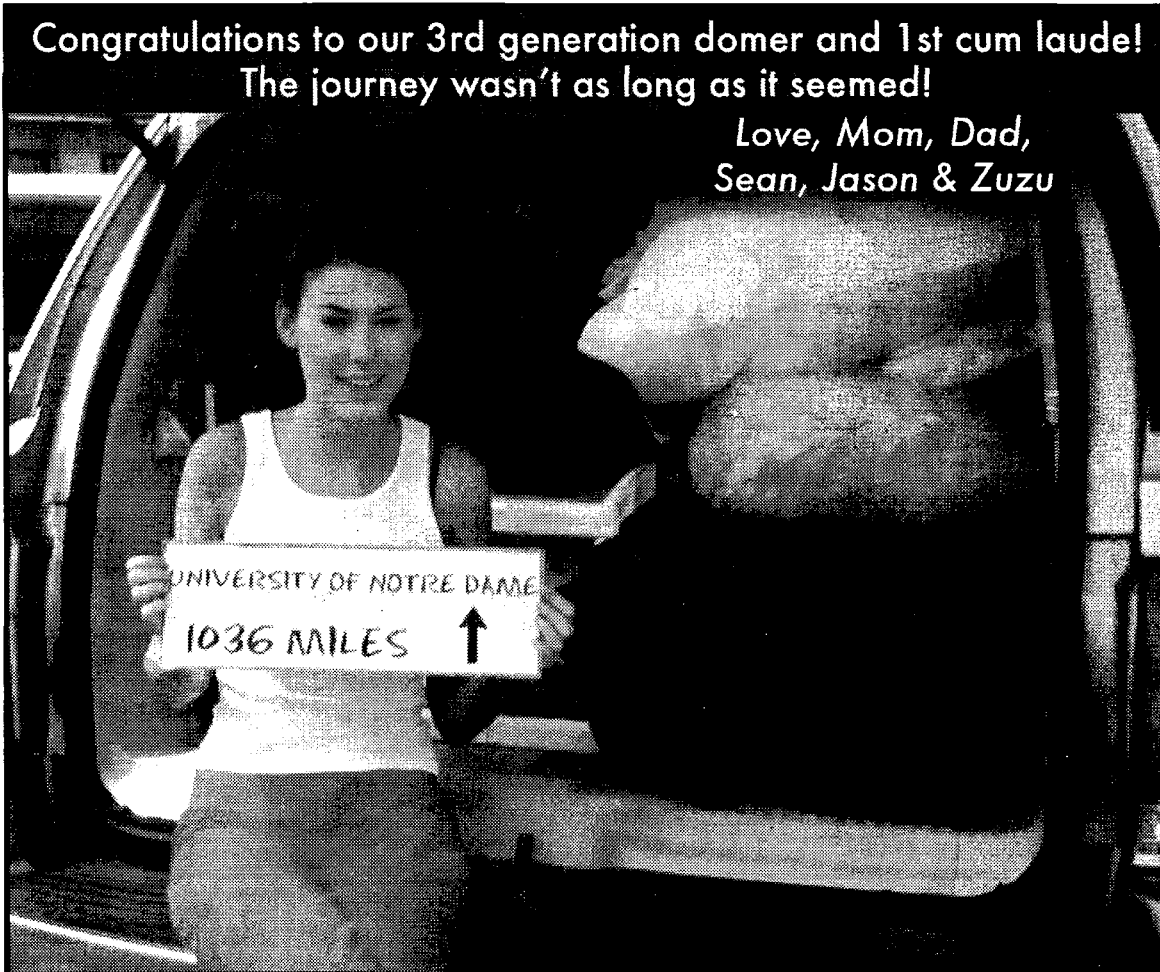
**We love you now
and forever.**

Mom and Dad



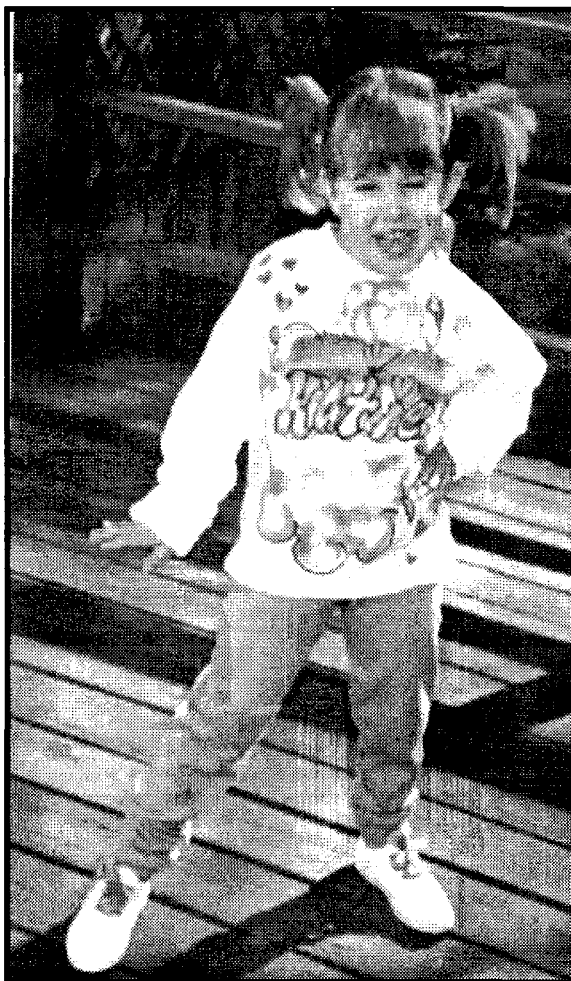
Congratulations to our 3rd generation domer and 1st cum laude!
The journey wasn't as long as it seemed!

Love, Mom, Dad,
Sean, Jason & Zuzu



**Congratulations
Katie**

Fantastic Job
Now it's your turn
to rock the world!
Love, Mom & Dad



Congratulations Johnnie!

We are so proud of your accomplishments at ND. Good luck in law
school! Now and forever you are a loyal son of Notre Dame.

With all our love and admiration,
Mom, Dad and Elizabeth



Congratulations Roseanne!

*You've worked so hard
to be a domer.
We are proud of you!*

Love,
Mom and Dad



Congratulations, Kenya Jean!

Dreams really do come true!
Good Luck with Teach for
America!

"I'll love you forever..."



Congratulations Sarah! We are so proud of you!

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Anne



Way to hang in
there Sarah! You'll
Make a Great
Teacher.
Congratulations!

Love,
Dad, Mom,
Hannah & Sam



Congratulations Michele!

*We are so proud of you
and all that you have
accomplished.*

*Keep believing in yourself,
as we do, and everything
that you wish for
will come true.*

*We love you very much,
Daddy, Mommy and Katy*



Gee, ERNIE.
In 20 years
I'll be a domer!

Love,
Mom, Dad, J.P.,
Joe, Heather, and
future domers;
Lia, Reece and
Gianni.

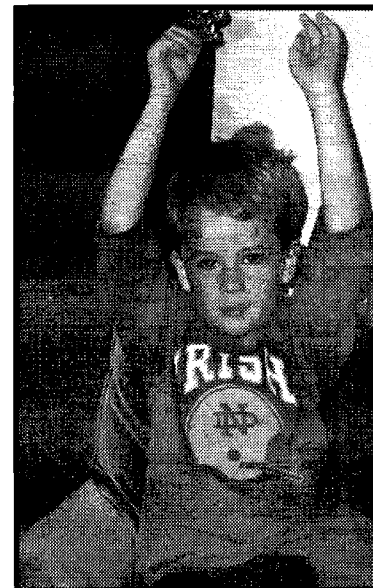


Congratulations Zach!
You have exceeded our every
expectation--from Spokane
to Notre Dame to London.
Keep building and dreaming
to the glory of God.

Love,
Dad and Mom



Michael,
Hurray, we always
knew you'd be a
Domer some day!
Congratulations on
your graduation, we
can't wait to see what
you will achieve next.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Timmy



*You have come
a long way baby.*

*We are
bursting
with pride.*

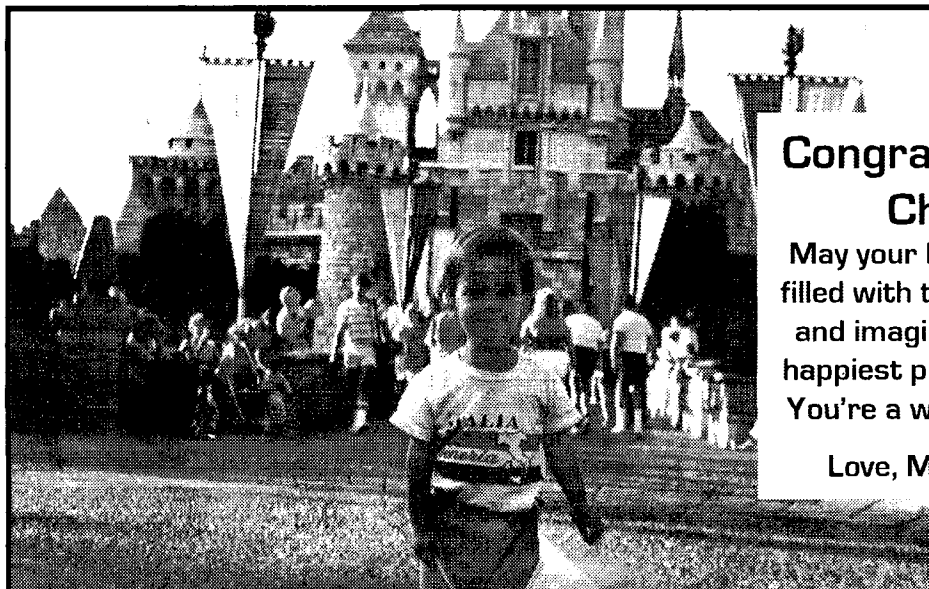
Love,
Mom & Dad



Congratulations Chris!

May your life always be
filled with the magic, joy,
and imagination of the
happiest place on earth.
You're a wonderful son.

Love, Mom & Dad



Congratulations



Way to go
Kiwi and Gee!!
You have
always made
our Irish Eyes
Smile!

Love,
Mom & Dad



HATS OFF ALANNA!
You Did It-
CONGRATULATIONS
Love,
Mom & Dad

CONGRATULATIONS

Megan!

*It seems like
only yesterday!*

Love,
Mom and Daddy



"Many people come in
and out of your life,
but only true friends
leave footprints in your
heart" --Eleanor
Roosevelt

Monsur, Eric, Bryce,
Michael, A.J., Colleen,
Katie, Kate, Anna, Beth
Thanks for leaving
footprints in our
hearts.

Mike & Mary McHugh



*Congratulations Class of '07 Members
of the
Notre Dame Rowing Club
on your Graduation
and the Club's Most Successful Season*

Michael Giordano
Michael Lucci
Sarah Miceli

Gigi Guitierrez
Steve Maher
Kane Pithey

Ted Hawks
PJ McAward
Ray Schleck

The McAward Family

ROW IRISH!

Megger,

*You Have Been
A Member Of The
Notre Dame Family
From The Beginning.*

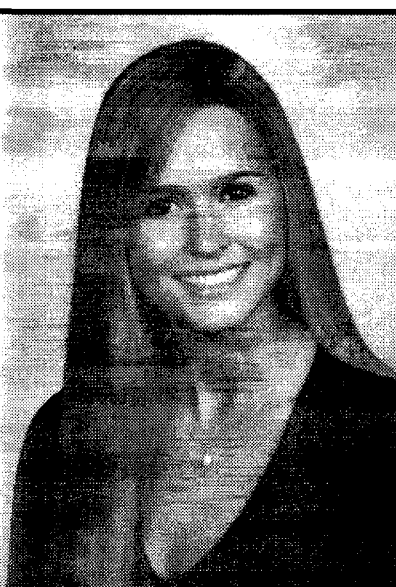
Congratulations!!

Love,
Mom, Dad & Erin



*Congratulations Liz!
We are so
proud of you!*

Love,
Mom, Dad,
Jackie & Jay



FOR ALL YOU ARE,
FOR ALL YOU'LL BE,
FOR ALL OUR PRIDE
AND JOY IN THE
YEARS BETWEEN,

YOU ARE LOVED!

Papa Jack and
Grandma Jeanne



Good Luck

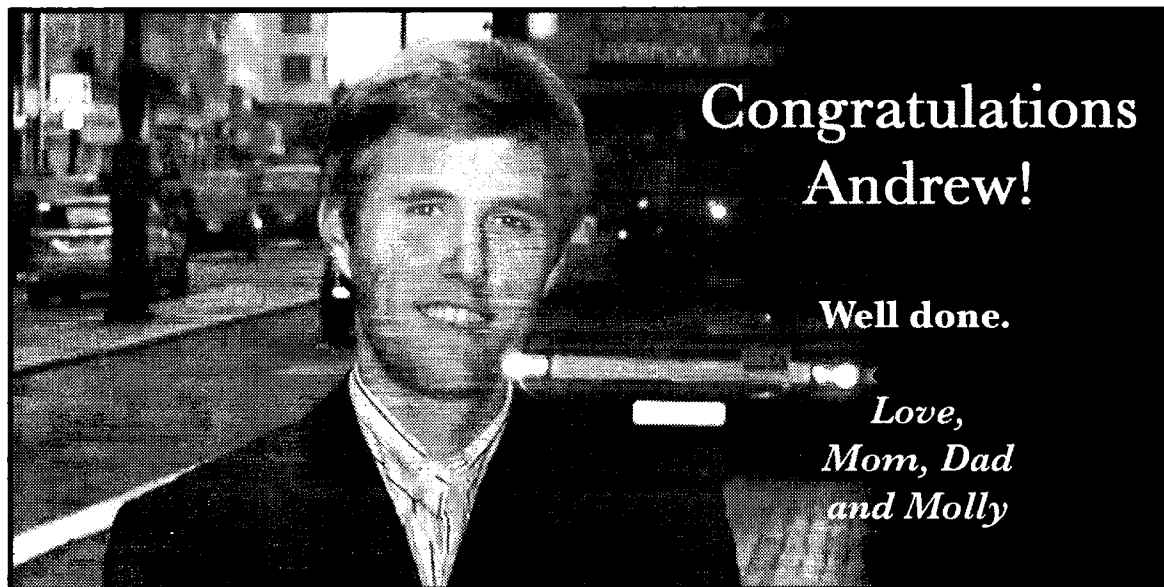
From start to finish
it's been a great run!
Congratulations
Chris!
We are so proud of
you!
Love,
Mom and Dad

Once an Irish lass, now our Irish grad!
Congratulations Kristen!



Love, Mom,
Dad, Kyle and
Karoline

Congratulations
Andrew!

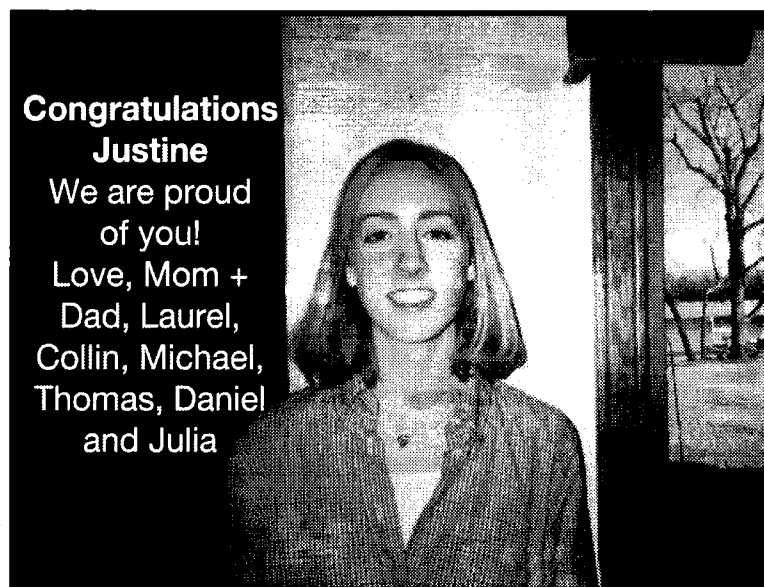


Well done.

Love,
Mom, Dad
and Molly

Congratulations
Justine

We are proud
of you!
Love, Mom +
Dad, Laurel,
Collin, Michael,
Thomas, Daniel
and Julia



Heart of Our Hearts

*Katrina, we are very proud of you!
Congratulations on
four great years at Notre Dame!*

Love always, Mom and Dad



Congratulations
Mike! We
couldn't be
prouder!

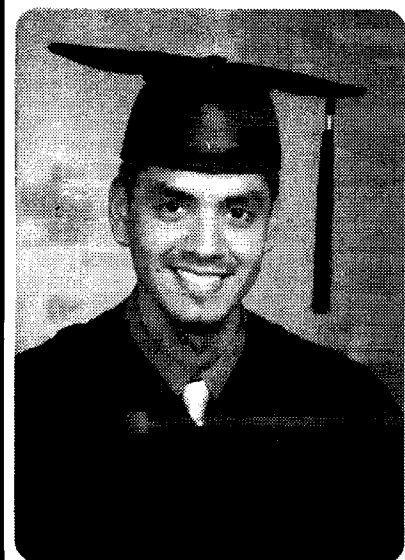
Love,
Mom & Dad



*We are so very proud of you
for all that you accomplished
these past four years.*

*We love you very much and
may God bless you always.*

Mom, Gilmer, Taly and Jimmy



From preschool to
pre-med you continue
to make us proud
with each success.

We love you.
Mom, Dad, John,
Michael, and Steph.



Congratulations Casandra!!

We are so proud of you
and all your
accomplishments!
We always have known
that what you want in life
you would succeed in
getting accomplished.

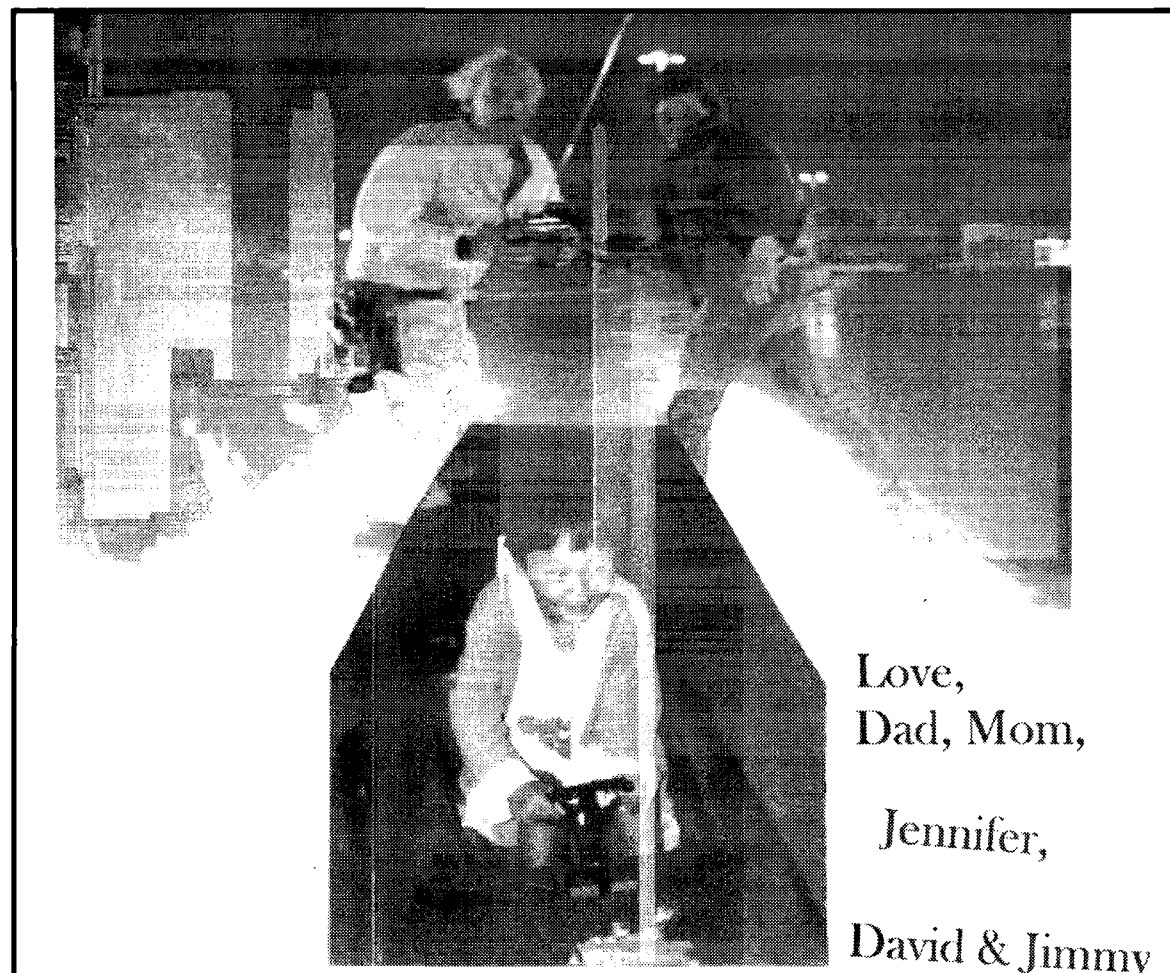
Love you always!
Mom, Dad, Chris, Calvin,
Chad and Gandpa



Another domer!
We love you,
Conor.
Mom & Dad



Congratulations

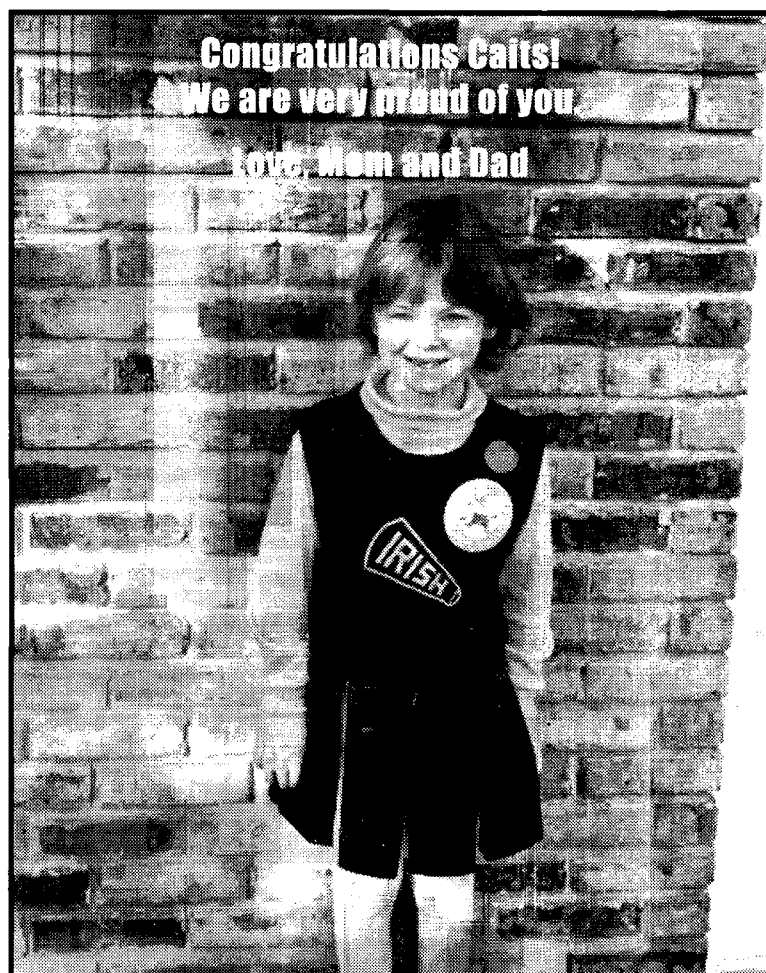


Love,
Dad, Mom,

Jennifer,

David & Jimmy

Brian Doxtader
Back to the Future



We are so
proud of you, Amy!

May the
Luck of the IRISH
Always be with You!

Love You,
Mom, Dad,
Aly & Kiki



**“Make no little plans; they have no
magic to stir men’s blood.....”**

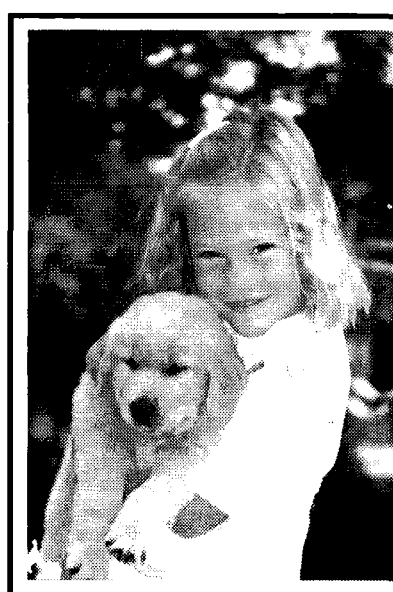
Daniel Burnham

(.....or women’s blood, for that matter.)

Clare—

Congratulations on all that you have accomplished
and blessings on all that is to come.

With pride and much love,
Mom and Dad



Kim,
We’re so
proud of
you!

Love, Mom,
Dad, Michael
and Mark



“HERE I GO, MOMMY”

**Congratulations
to my “Rome Girls.”**

Love, Nana



“An innocent girl arrives on Earth.”



“A strong, confident, educated woman enters the World.”

*Educere ~ Q.E.D; Love from your (extensive) family!
Marissa May Vita Buck*

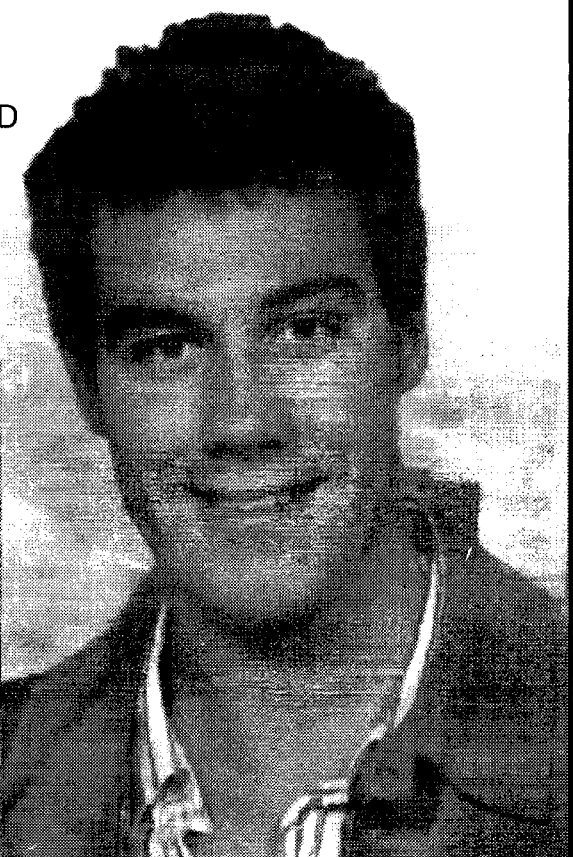
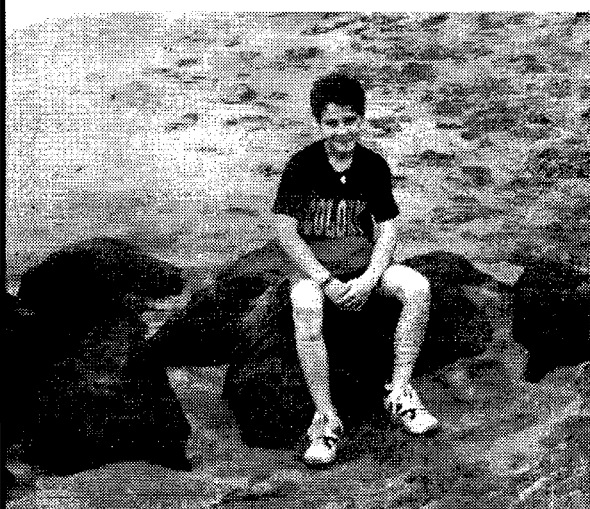


Congratulations, Greg!
We are so proud of you and all you’ve accomplished! The sky is the limit now.

Love, Mom, Dad and Chris

**Congratulations “Trickie Micky”
(Alias Michael Burke)**

ALL THE HARD WORK PAID OFF
YOU HAVE MADE US ALL VERY PROUD
LOTS OF LOVE MUM, DAD
DAN, CHRIS, NATALIE,
GRANDMA AND NAN NAN XXX



**Congratulations
Wendy Sue!**
Changing Lives, one
smile at a time!
We are so
proud!
Love, Mom,
Dad, Emily
and Steven



Dear Andrew:

While searching for photos for Junior/Parent Weekend (Stanford Hall slide show) we came across this photo of our 10-year-old son. Of course, we added the caption, "God, Country, Notre Dame" for the show; but in reality, this was a candid 4th of July photo and Notre Dame to you was just a university that had a legendary football team. Notre Dame was not your dream back then. Your childhood days were bursting with never-ending challenges and happiness. Andrew Edward Winslow was enjoying baseball and basketball, fishing in nearby Neshaminy Creek or Barnegat Bay, riding in the waves at Long Beach Island, collecting coins, bicycling, karate lessons, altar serving, Nativity's music group, playing the piano and trumpet, family gatherings; and we cannot leave out your passion for the weather with your daily viewing of the "weather channel" along with the many books you absorbed on this science. All of this and more you enjoyed while maintaining academic excellence.

You are about to graduate from one of the greatest educational institutions in the world. We congratulate you on all of your accomplishments and wish you peace and happiness. Keep the child within you alive and don't allow the fast pace of the world prevent you from experiencing the joys in the little things of life. Nurture and live your faith and never forget God and His Mother's unconditional love for you. We love you and are always there for you.

Love,

Mom and Dad



Brendan,
To our longtime
**Notre
Dame
"star"
player.**

**Love, Mom,
Dad, Bob & Jim**



Although we all cannot be
there, remember we are
beside you on whatever
path you walk in life.

Love from above,
Pop Jack and Ahma



Stephen John,
We are so proud!
IRISH FOREVER!

Love,
Mom, Dad and Natalie,
Aunt Kathy and Uncle
Jim, Grandma Rita



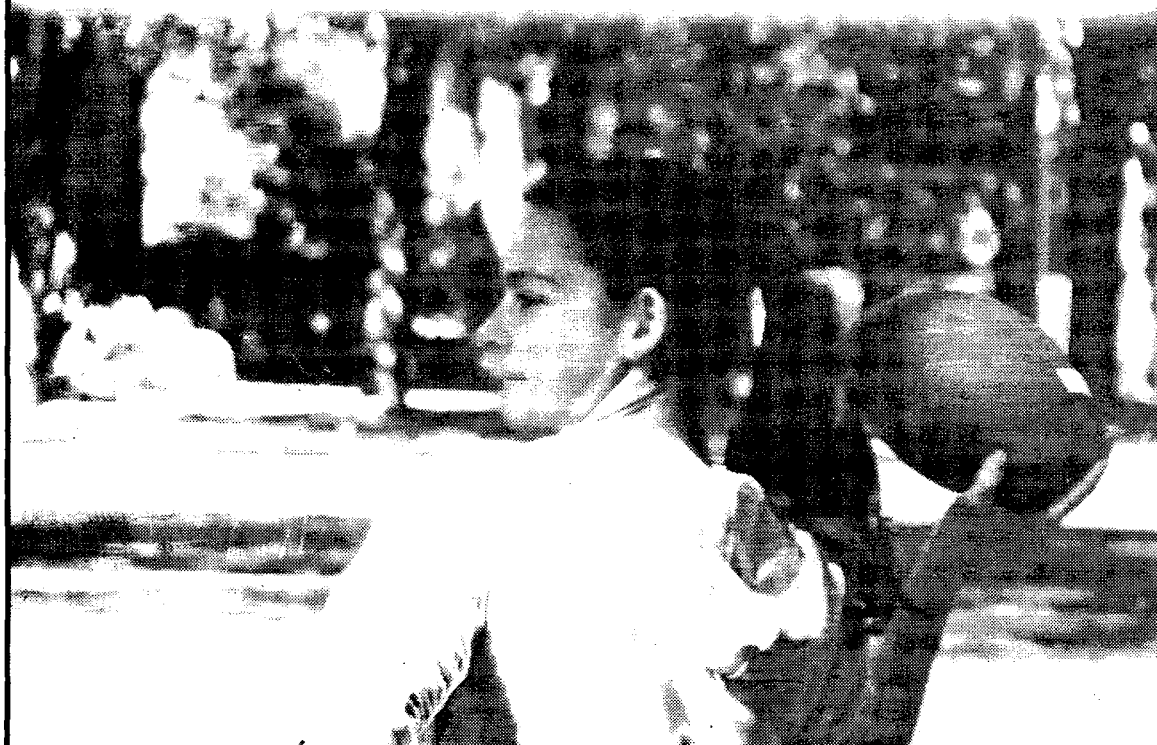
Laura- Congratulations!
You really took advantage of N.D.
Notre Dame will be with
you the rest of your life.



We love you, Mom & Dad

Caitlin Mahan,
We love you for who are, we're proud of you for what you've
accomplished. Go Irish!

Love, Mom and Dad



Irish dreams can come true!
Congratulations

Love, Mom, Dad and Jeff





Dear Michael

We will never forget how happy and excited you were when you found out you were accepted to the University of Notre Dame and now already you are preparing to graduate.

We know your time at Notre Dame has gone by too fast for you! But the memories and friends you have made will be with you forever!

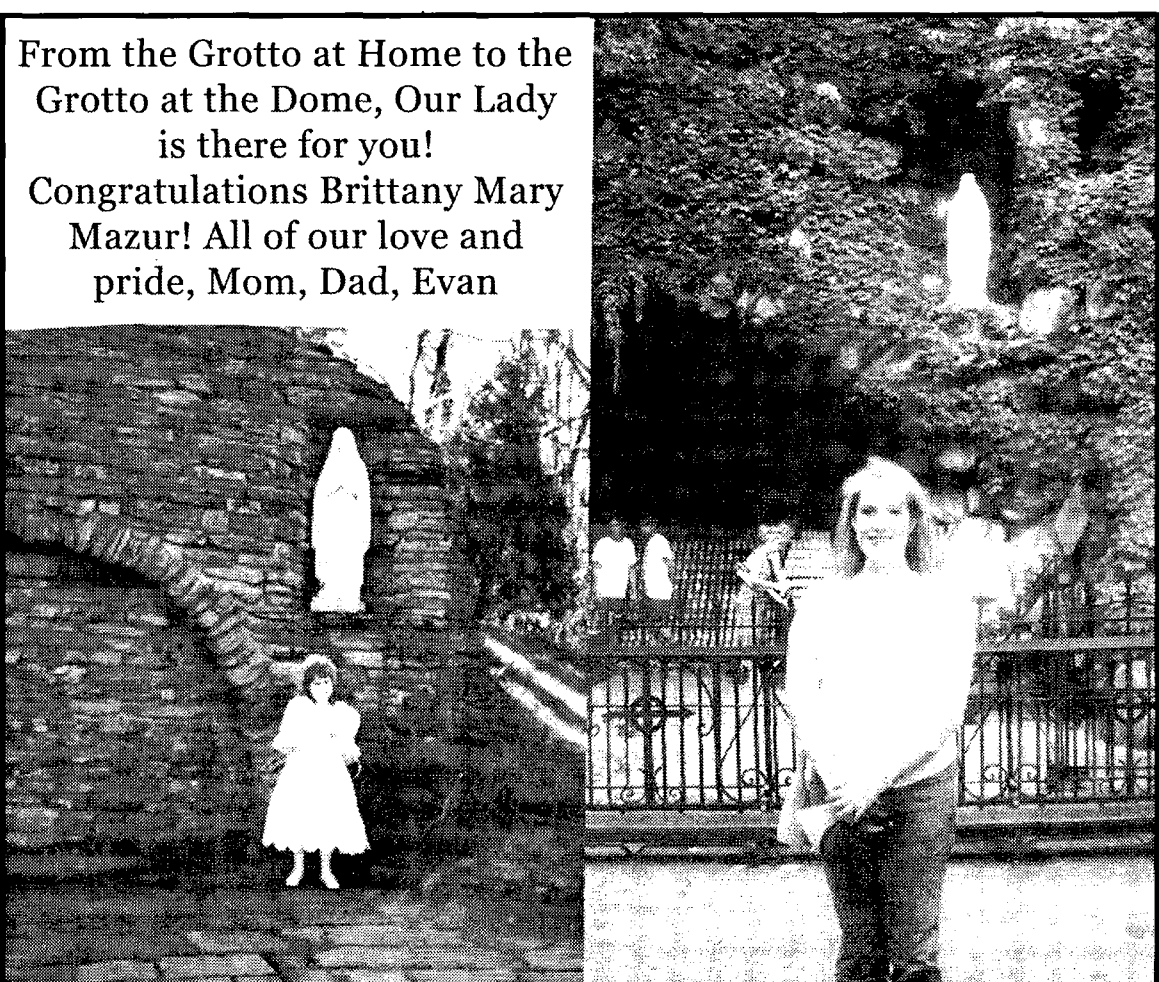
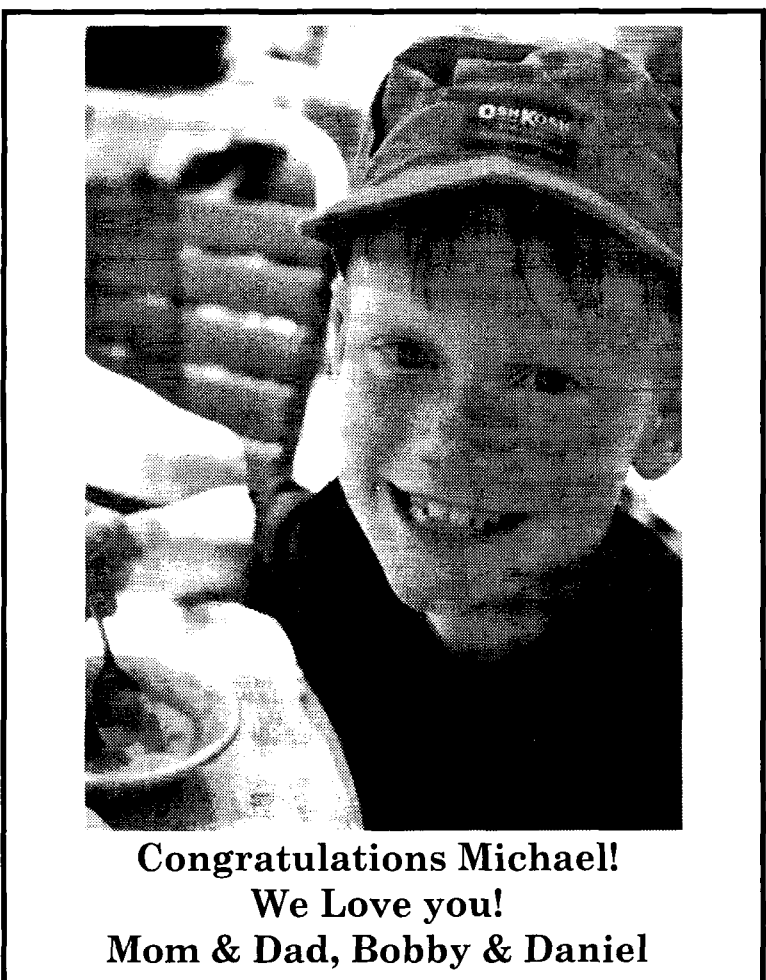
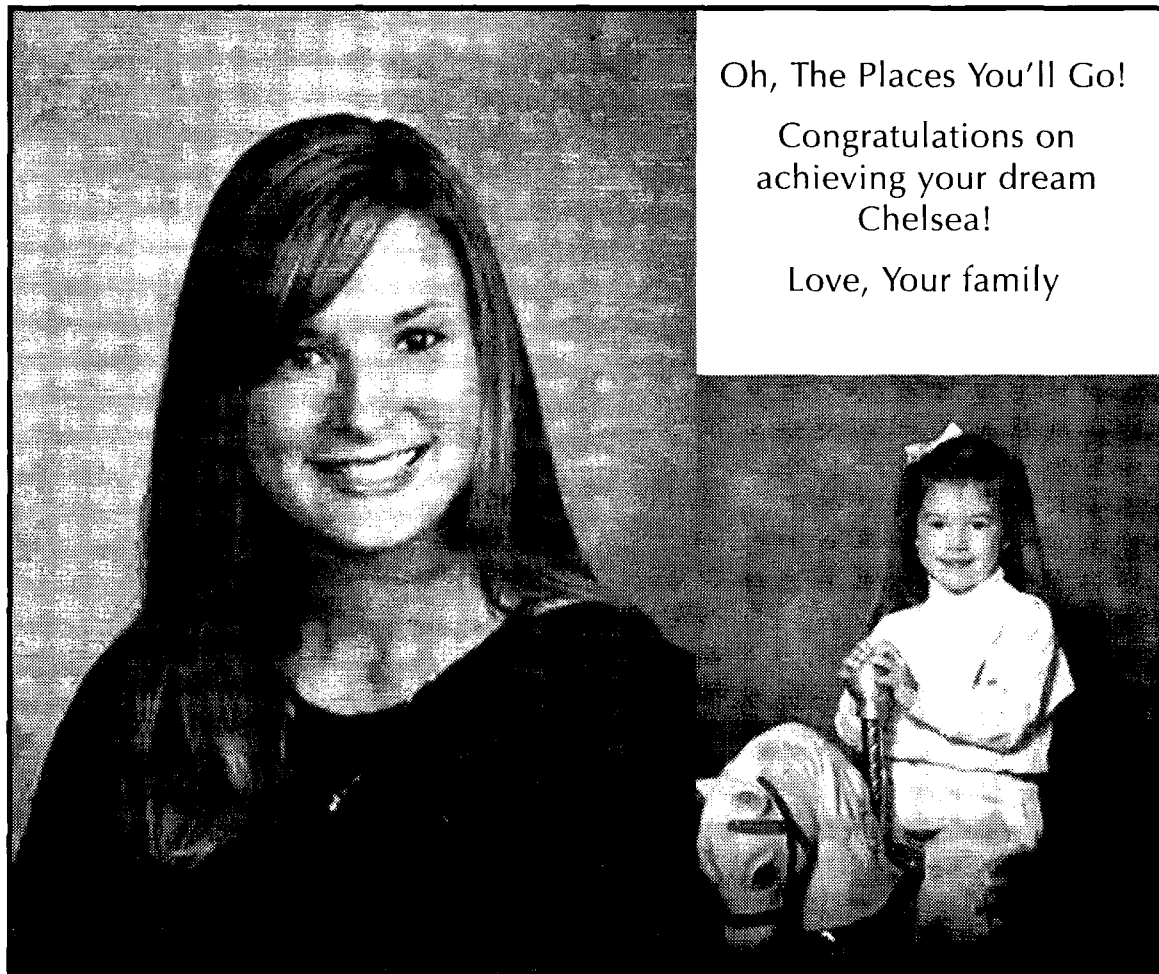
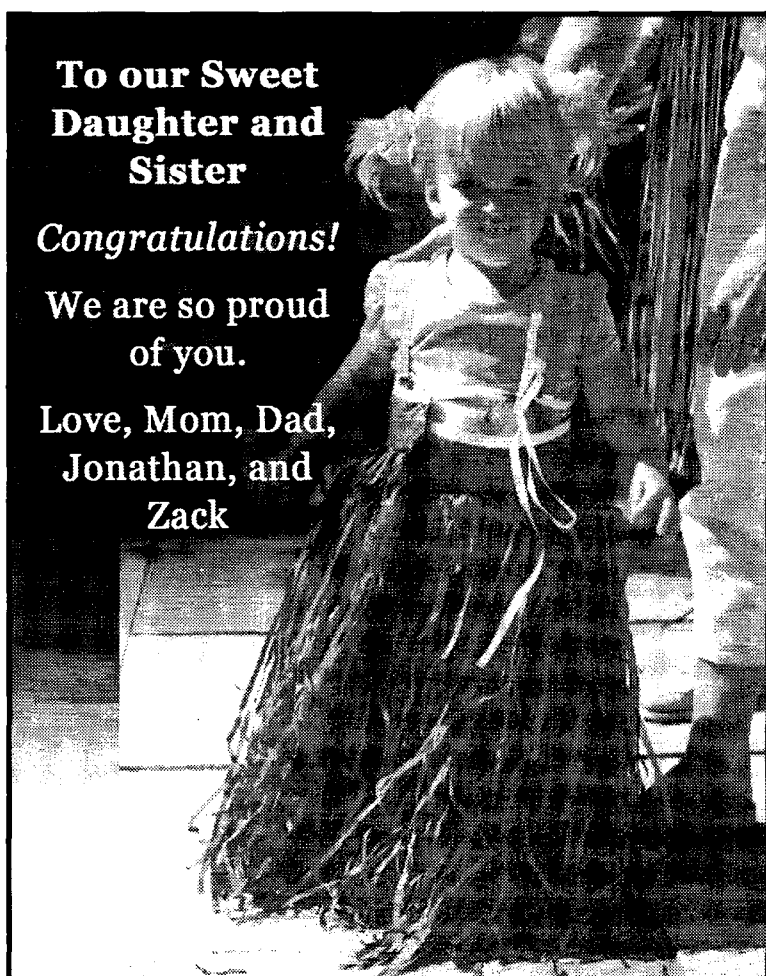
There aren't enough words to say how proud we are to have you for our son and to see the man that you've become. Thanks for giving us the experience of a lifetime to be a part of the University of Notre Dame family.

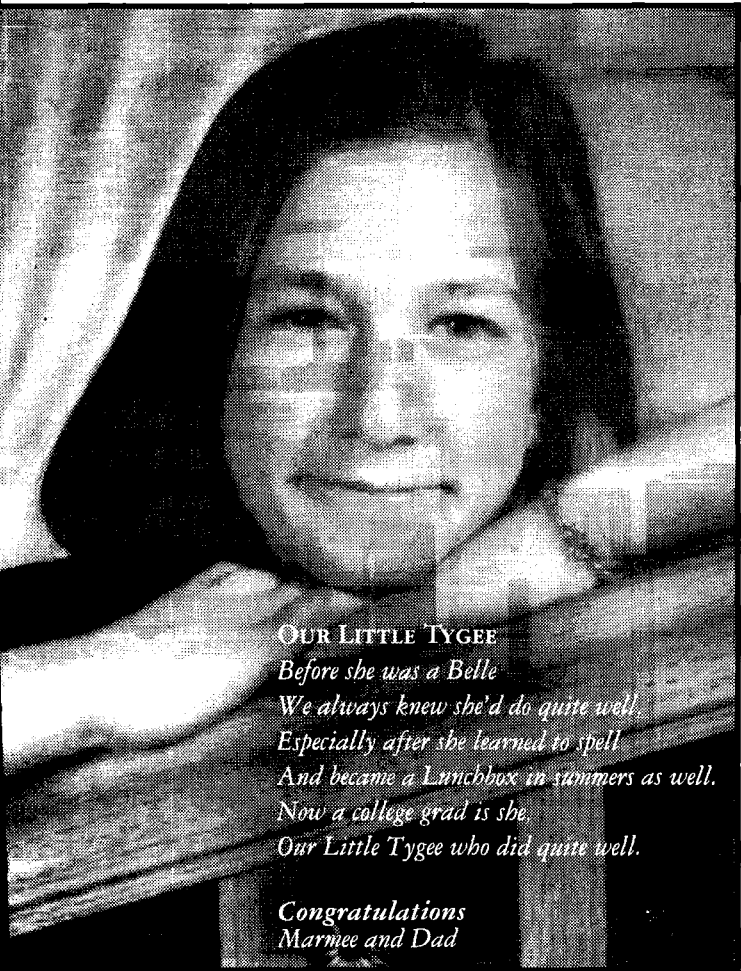
Keep God with you always and you will continue to go far and be successful in life.

Michael we love you so very, very much.

Love Forever

Mom, Dad, Amy, Brandon, Timothy, and Breanna



A black and white portrait of a young woman with long dark hair, resting her chin on her hands.


OUR LITTLE TYGEE
*Before she was a Belle
We always knew she'd do quite well.
Especially after she learned to spell
And became a Lunchbox in summers as well.
Now a college grad is she.
Our Little Tygee who did quite well.*

Congratulations
Marmee and Dad


WHEN YOU WERE YOUNG...

*...you dreamed
big dreams.
As you grew
they became goals.
Through
hard work,
determination
and
maturity,
the first is
now reality.*


*Congratulations
on the first of
many realities!*

A black and white photo of a young girl in a light-colored dress, standing and waving her right hand.

*We're proud of
you,
Mom & Dad
Jeff & Kristin
Dan, Heidi, Evey
& Kaity
Aunt Sherry &
Shanny*

A black and white photo of a young man in a white short-sleeved shirt and a dark cap, posing with his arms raised.

Congratulations JP!
From 2nd grade you kept your promise
to Pop-Pop. We're so proud of you.
Love, Mom and Dad

A black and white photo of a young girl in a light-colored dress, standing in a kitchen area.

Congratulations Annisann!
We're proud of
everything you
"cook up".

Love,


Mom and Dad

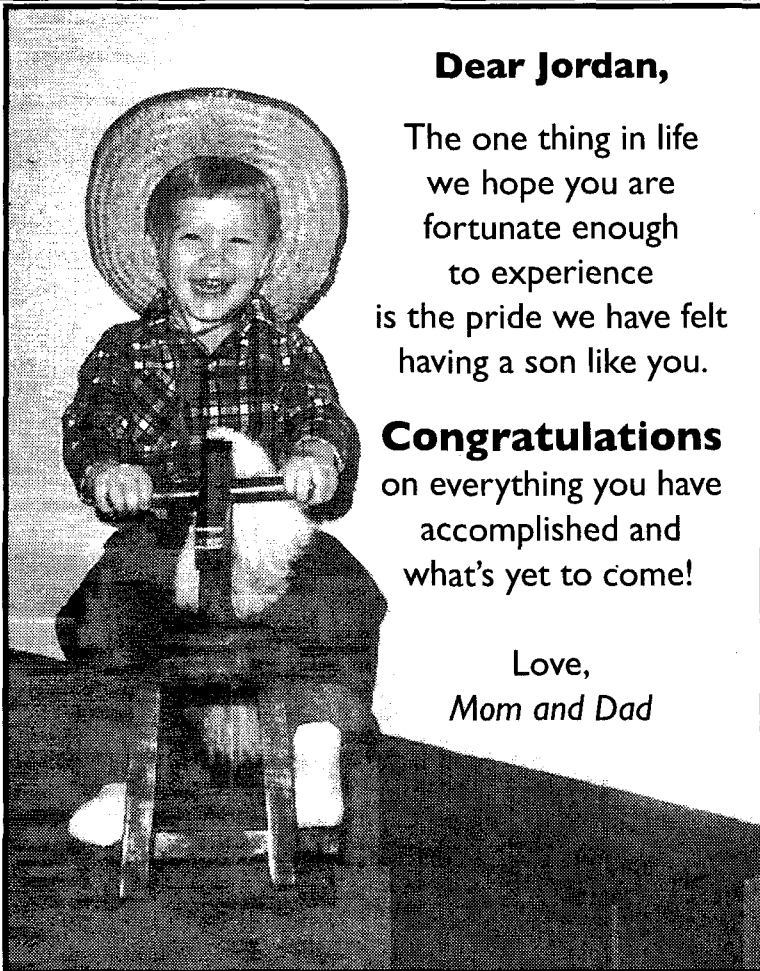
Congratulations Caitlin

A black and white portrait of a young woman with dark hair, smiling.

Welcome Back to Florida!
Good luck in Medical School.
We love you.
Dad, Mom, Andrew & Jordan

Congratulations Mikeypooh!
We are so very proud of you!
Love, The Dad, The Mom, KimbyAnn,
Teresita, Shippapoo, and Amanda Panda

A black and white photo of a young child with dark hair, looking over a white surface.



Dear Jordan,

The one thing in life
we hope you are
fortunate enough
to experience
is the pride we have felt
having a son like you.

Congratulations
on everything you have
accomplished and
what's yet to come!

Love,
Mom and Dad

**Congratulations to
our TWO Domers!!**

Loved you then,
Love you now...
Whatever you do,
Wherever you go,
We'll love you
always and
forever...

Mom and Dad

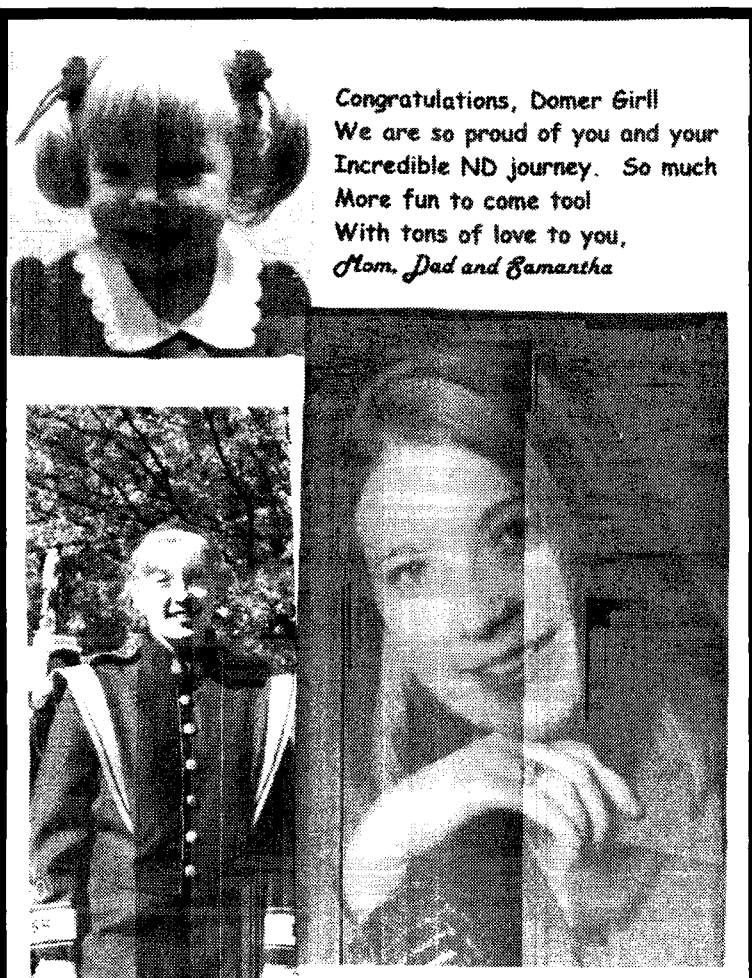


**Congratulations, Adam, on joining the
Fischer Family Notre Dame Alumni!**
Mom '76L, Dad '73, Erin '01, '04L, and Lauren '04



From your first day of Kindergarten
to your last day at ND you've always
been our shining star! Happy B-day!!

Love, Mom & Dad



Congratulations, Domer Girl!
We are so proud of you and your
Incredible ND journey. So much
More fun to come too!
With tons of love to you,
Mom, Dad and Samantha

Casey,
As one part of your journey ends,
our wish for you remains the same:

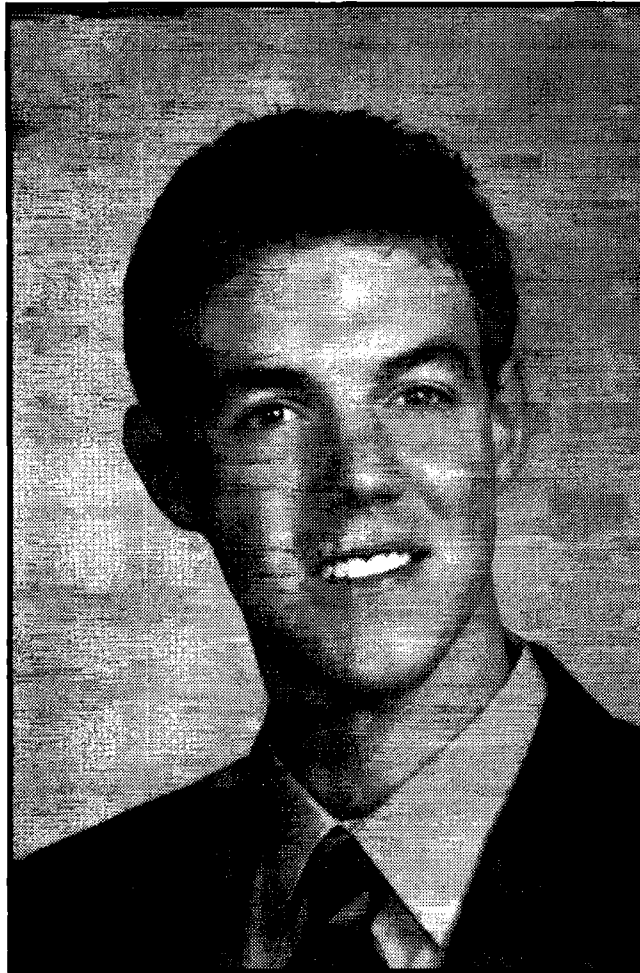
"Hope your road is a long one.
May there be many summer
mornings when, with what pleasure,
what joy, you enter harbours you're
seeing for the first time..."

But don't hurry the journey at all.
Better if it lasts for years,
so you're old by the time you reach
the island, wealthy with all you've
gained on the way, not expecting
Ithaca to make you rich..."

Congratulations- we are so VERY
proud of you!!

All our love,
Mummy, Gerry, Gordon
and Tin Cup





Hi Steve -

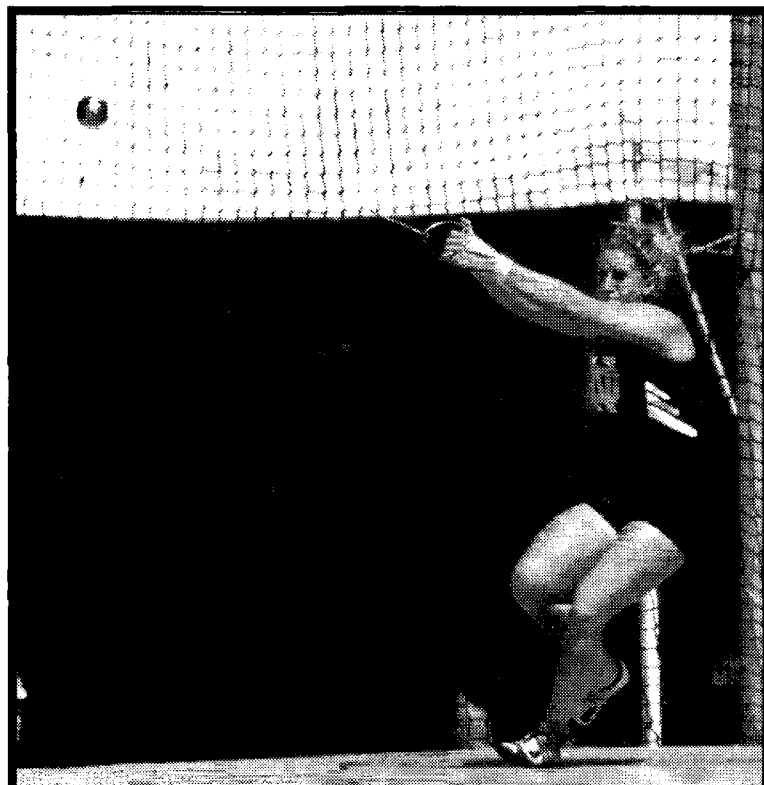
One last "feature" in the Observer... isn't it amazing how these 4 years have flown by? We are so very proud of you!

Congratluations and much love - Mom, Dad, & Dave



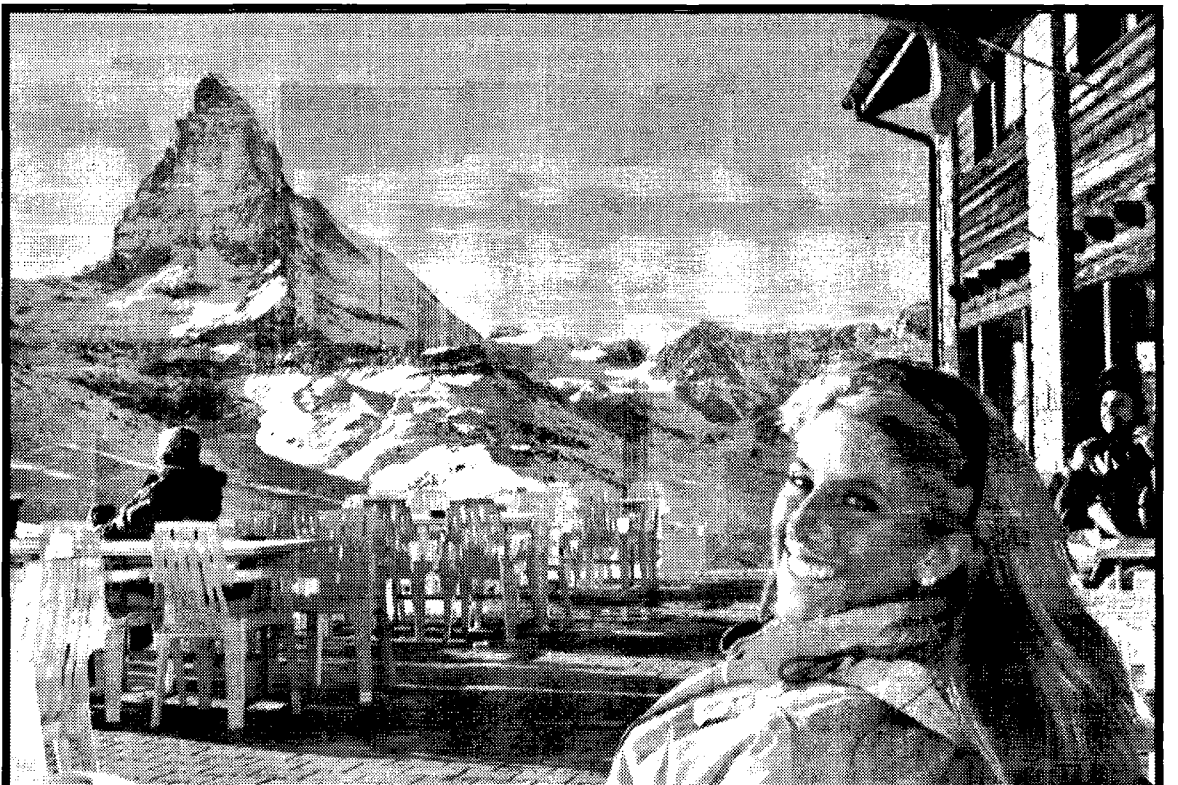
You did it, you devil you!
And we could not be prouder!

Love, Mom, Dad,
Christopher and Brian



Stephanie Best
Dallas, Texas

At Work at Notre Dame.



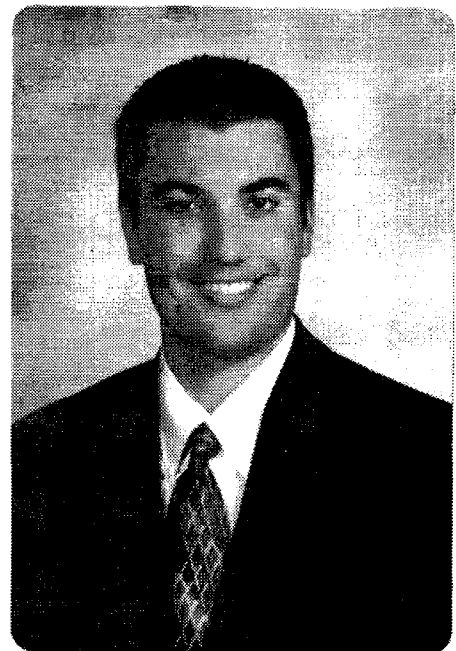
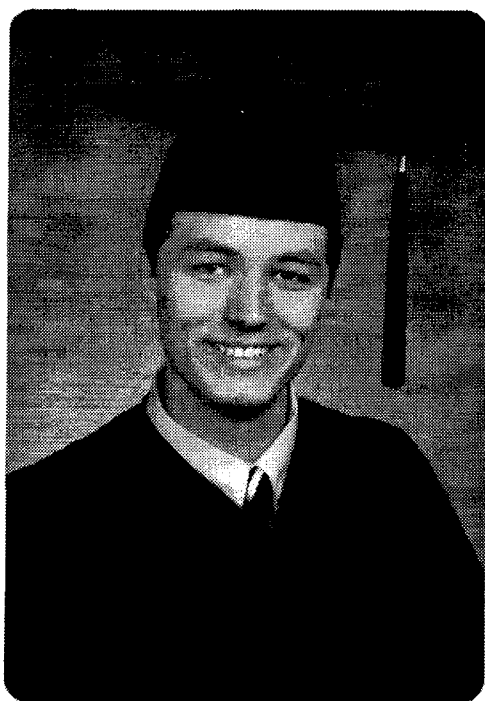
"Steph" at Play in Zermatt.
Choose? No Way! You tried to get it all. We are so proud of you!
Love Mom and Dad
Where did the four years go?



James Michael Ramos,

Your accomplishments so far in life speak for themselves. You have been a student body president, National Honor Society member, represented our country overseas and a state champion in youth and high school hockey. Whenever an opportunity has been presented to you, you have always taken advantage of it with success. Congratulations on your graduation from the University of Notre Dame and your next journey that leads you to Minnesota. We love you and already miss you.

Love, Dad, Mom, Vicki, Brittany, Jeremy and Riley



*You dreamed of a dome of gold;
and heard echoes of fame; traditions to hold;
nowhere but Notre Dame!*

We love you, Mom & Dad

Michael,
You seized every moment of Her Golden Opportunity.
You Honor Her Legacy.
You Are ND!
Love,
Mom, Dad, & Anthony



Congradulations, Ali Kay.
You're the tops!



Never-ending love from The Proud Family:
Grammie, Dad, Mom and Courtney

Congratulations, Jonathan!

Magna Cum Laude

The Hamilton Award For Management

*"Just want you to know how proud we are of you,
How much your graduation means to us...
We feel your pride in all the things you've managed to get done...
Enjoy the day and bask in its bright sun.
The honor's yours, but we'll all share the fun."*
By Turlough O'Carolan, The Ancient Music of Ireland

We hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles,
to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities,
and to the most special places your heart has ever known.

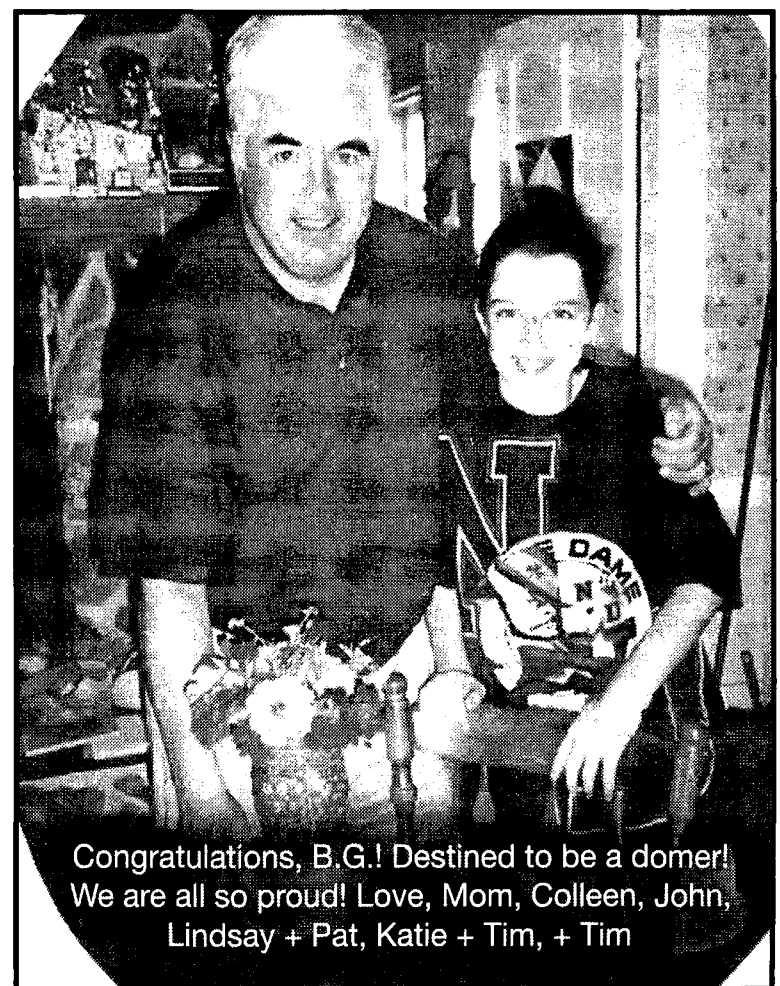
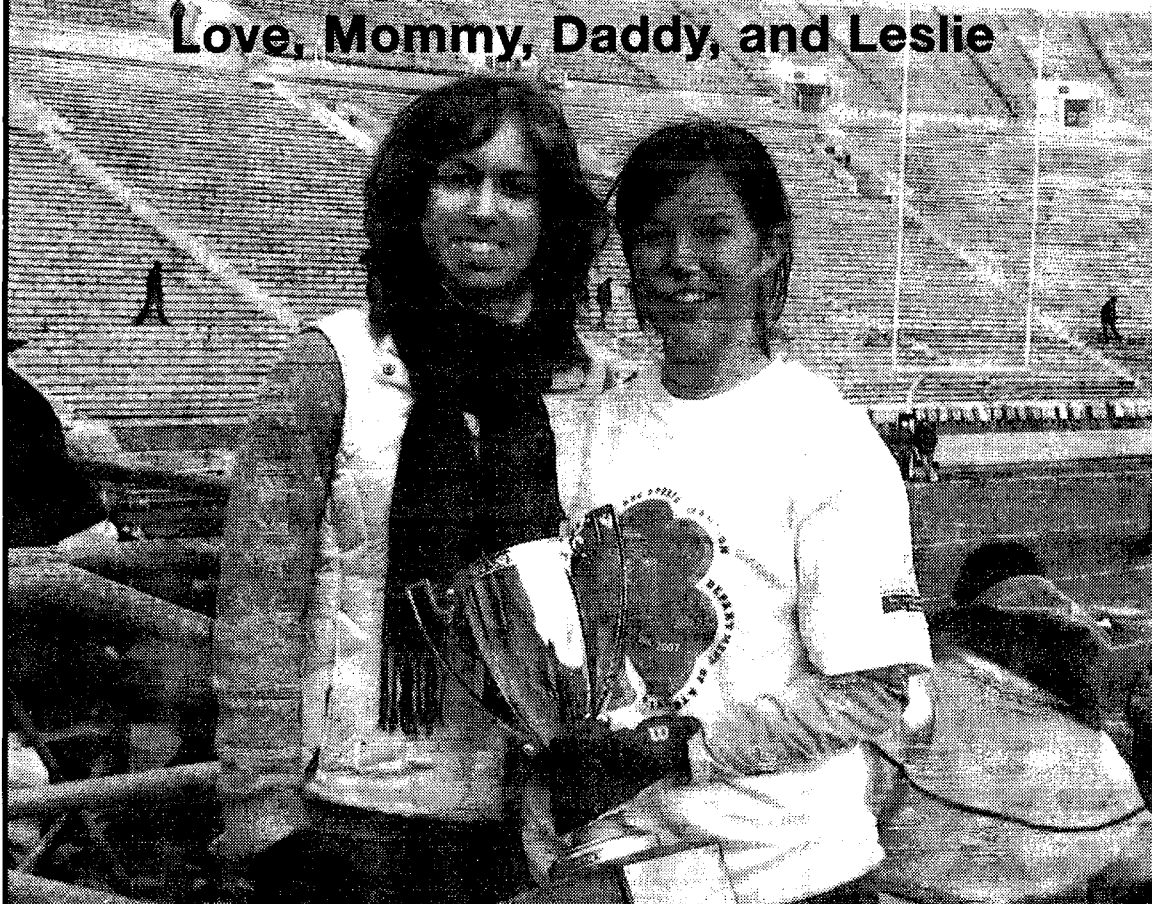
To happy endings and new beginnings!

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Lisa

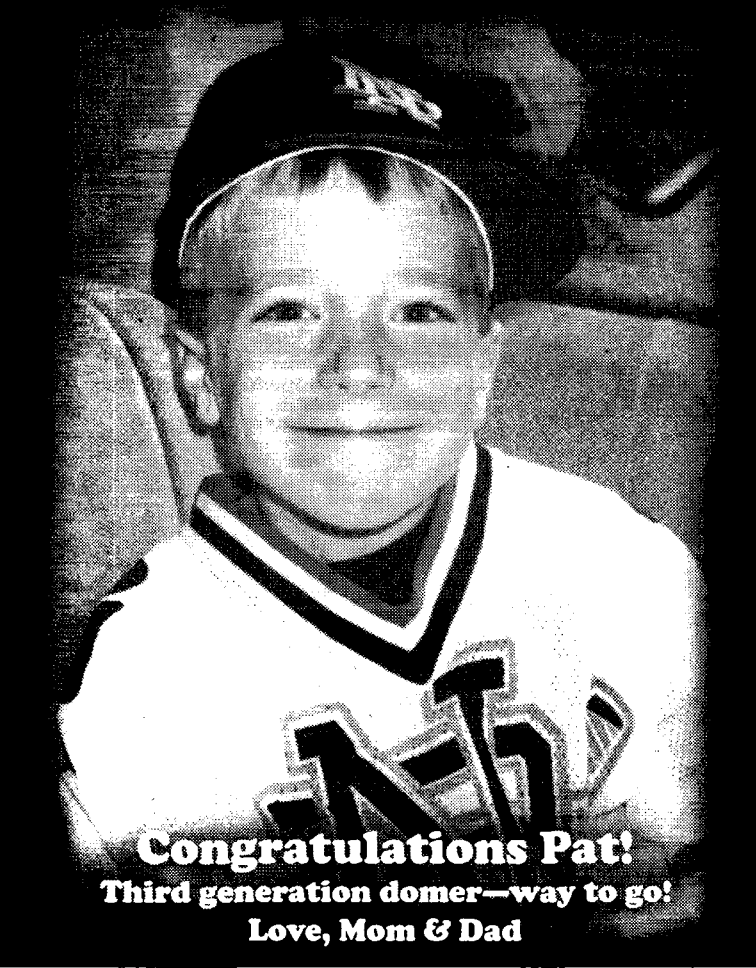


Congratulations Katie!
Even at an early age you gave
us hints of what's to come.
We love you.
Mom & Dad


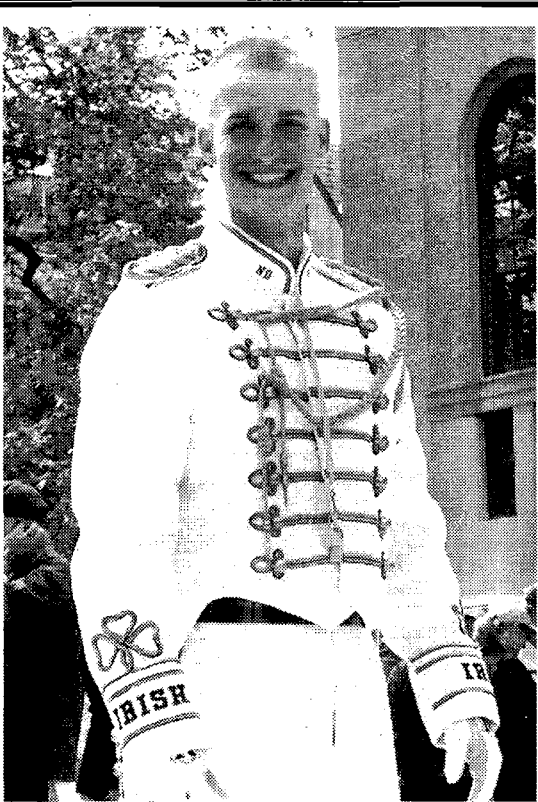
Congratulations Caroline!
Love, Mommy, Daddy, and Leslie




Congratulations, B.G.! Destined to be a domer!
We are all so proud! Love, Mom, Colleen, John,
Lindsay + Pat, Katie + Tim, + Tim



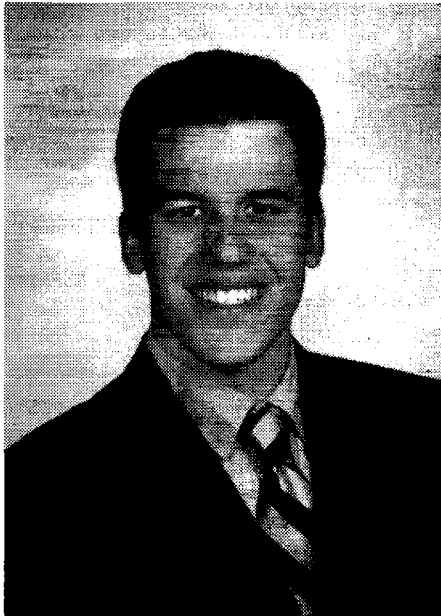

Congratulations Pat!
Third generation domer—way to go!
Love, Mom & Dad



Congratulations on your graduation!
We are very proud of you.
Love, Dad and Mom



Congratulations,
to our
#1 Texas son,
Michael
Love,
Mom and Dad




Mr. B

We never thought we'd be prouder than the day you were born...we were wrong. Our pride in you has increased every day since then and will only continue to grow as you move on to make your mark in the world. We love you.

Congratulations Alumni Domer!

Love, Mom and Dad



May your life's journey continue to be a "joyride" with sass and class! We are so proud of your accomplishments at Notre Dame!

Boo

As you begin the next chapter of your life, here are a few words to live by in order to achieve true success.

Try anything once as if you will not fail.

Live every day as if it is your last.

Love as if you will never be hurt.

Dance as if no one is watching.

Sing as if no one is listening.

Always do the right thing even if no one is watching.


Tell the people you care about "I love you" every day.

Always remember that every day is a gift.

Go out and become a success!

We are very proud of you!

Love, Aunt Sue, Jackie and Pebbles.





From "suds" to
"suds"... you've
come a long
way, babies!



Congratulations
we love you
guys!

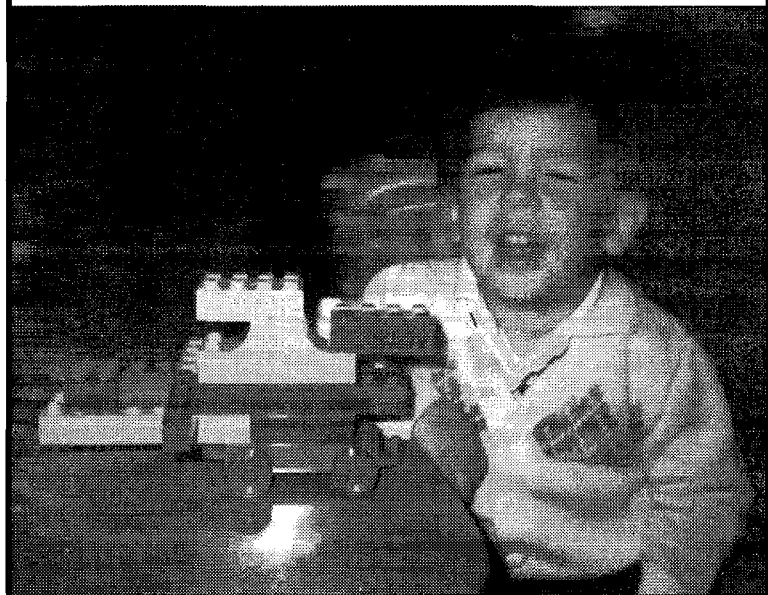
Dan, Congratulations!



O'Neill Hall, Ed Mack, "STU", lax tryout, Bengal Bout Captain
& 2007 heavyweight champion, thong bookstore B-ball, OIT,
GREAT FRIENDS, 716 Washington St., WVFI,
Biology...Watching the journey has been great!

Love Mom, Dad, Andrew, Vince and Artie

Always knew you'd
be an engineer!
Congratulations, Domer!
Love, Mom + Dad



Kerri, "We" did it!!

Congratulations, Mom & Dad



We're SO proud of you, Chris!!!

*Love & best wishes as you head
off to medical school!
Mom & Dad,
Becca, Kevin & Michael
Grandma & Papa
Grandma & Grandpa Davis
& all
your aunts, uncles, & cousins*

Christopher S. Davis
BS 2007 University of Notre Dame
MD 2011 Penn? Ohio State? Michigan? Yale?
"Take a deep breath..."

Congratulations ALL 2007 ND Grads!

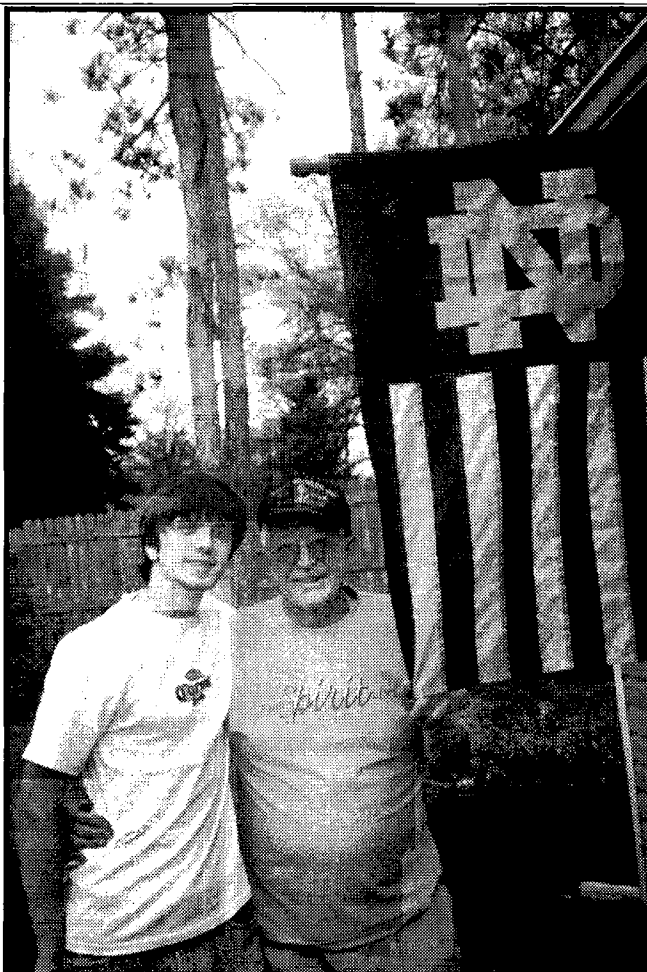
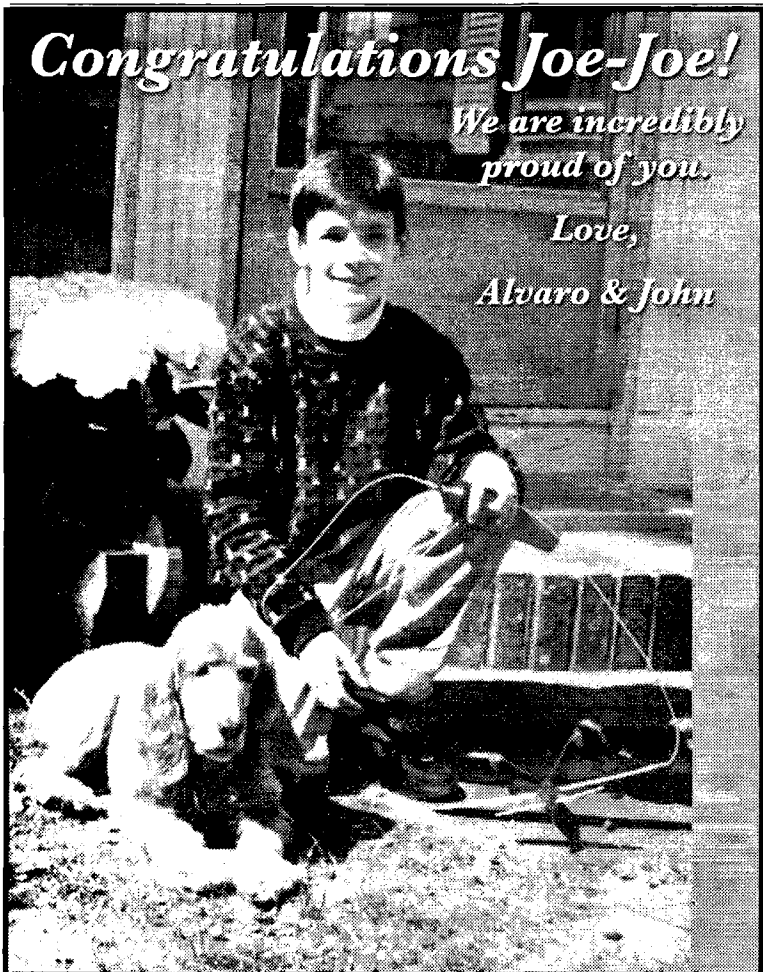


Congratulations Patricia!

May the luck of the Irish be
with you always!

Love, Dad, Mom, Ally, Meg, Billy



Congratulations Joe-Joe!*We are incredibly proud of you.**Love,
Alvaro & John*

Congratulations Nick!
You are awesome. This is dedicated to you and your biggest "Irish" fan - Grampa Z. He is very proud of you.

Thanks for the memories. Best of luck at U of M. May God Bless You.

**Love -
 Mom, Dad, Alexis,
 Chris, Sammy,
 and Angela!**

FRANCISCO / FRANKIE

YOU HAVE EMBRACED THE SPIRIT OF NOTRE DAME DURING YOUR LIFE AT THE UNIVERSITY.

WE ARE PROUD OF YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS AS YOU HAVE EVOLVED TO BECOME A MAN WITH HIGH ETHICAL VALUES AND A GREAT SENSE FOR SERVICE TO OTHERS.

IT IS GREAT TO CALL YOU SON, GRANDSON OR BROTHER.

THE WORLD IS YOURS GO FOR IT, AND EXCELL

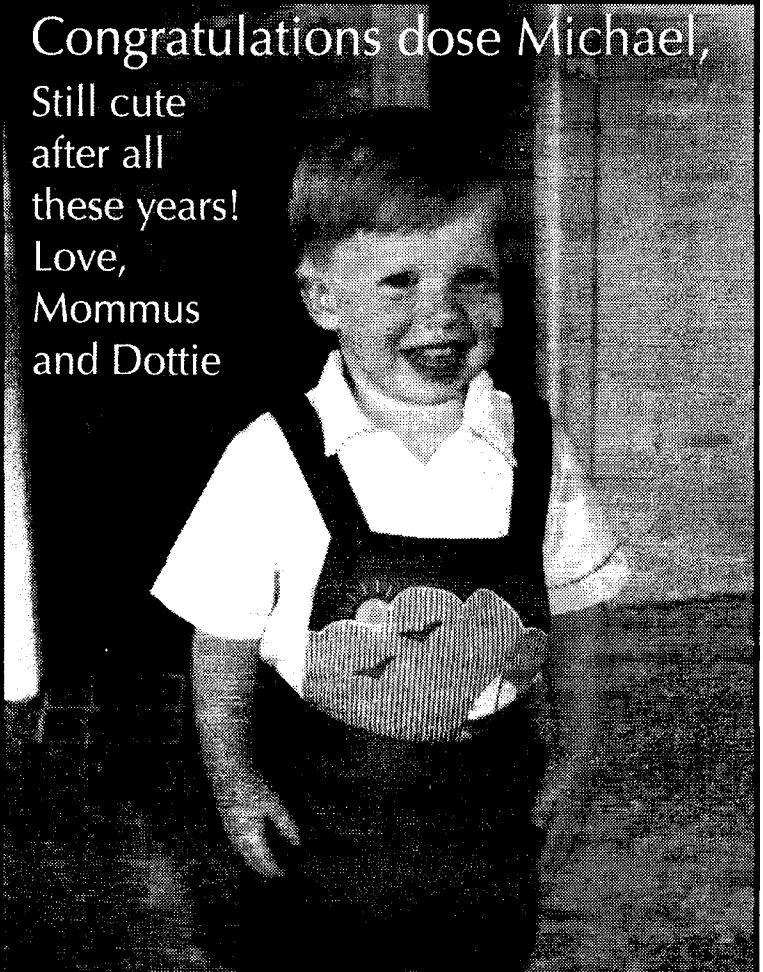
WITH ALL OUR LOVE,
 MAMI, PAPI, DIANAMARI AND MIMI



**Congratulations Tricia
 (Grannie's Princess)!**
**Love, Mom and Dad
 James and Grannie**

**Congratulations dose Michael,**

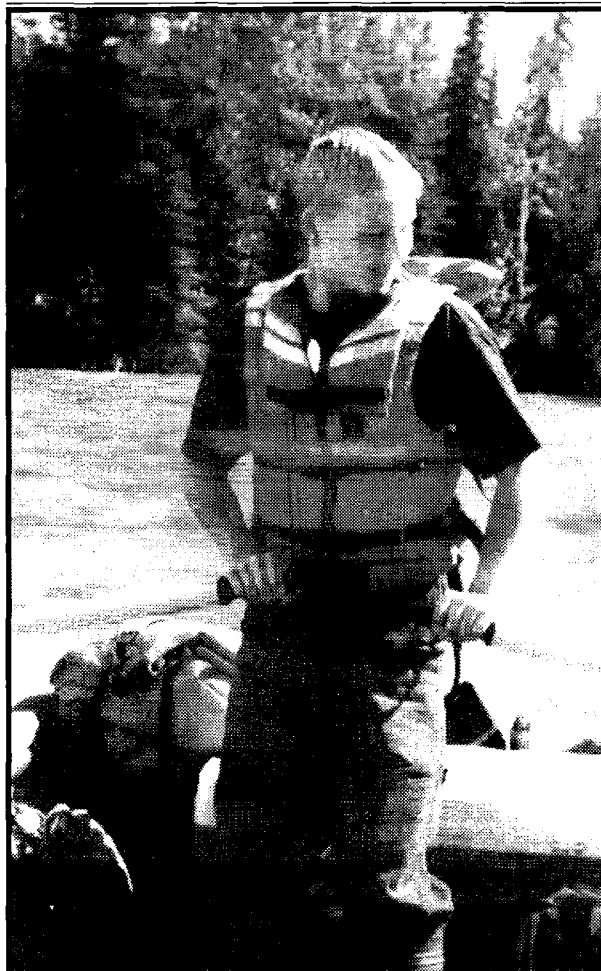
**Still cute
 after all
 these years!
 Love,
 Mommus
 and Dottie**

***Congratulations Christopher!***

We are so proud and happy with your achievements. God has blessed you in countless ways, have faith in God and yourself. Love with all your heart and soul. Our pride in you is surpassed only by our love.


Congratulations we are with you always.

*Love,
 Mom, Dad, Reggie,
 and Steph*



"The voyage of the best ship is a zigzag line of a hundred tacks."
(Ralph Waldo Emerson).

You make our hearts pop,
Love Mom, Dad,
Reggie, Buddy and,
of course, Galoot, who says,
"way to go little guy."



Congratulations Michael,
What a great choice you made
going to N.D. It has changed
your world forever.
Love Mom & Dad

CONGRATULATIONS TIFFANY J. ROBERTS NOTRE DAME CLASS OF 2007

The Captain and his Mrs.
Tell all who can be seen.
A precious girl has breathed her first.
Christened Tiffany Joleen.

The year was 1985.
The month was sunny June.
The day was lucky number five.
The time was after noon (4:52 p.m.).

Tiffany started life quite strong.
Her weight was seven-nine.
Her length was close to twenty-one.
Her appetite was fine.

The mother held up nicely.
The father's smile is broad.
The brother's got a playmate.
We all give thanks to God.




Our baby's almost twenty-two.
The years have gone so fast.
From toddler, teen, to cap and gown.
We smile at what has passed.


The journey has been marvelous.
First word, first step, first date.
Her studies at the Golden Dome,
Provided a brand new slate.

The slate's been filled with memories.
Frosh "O", SYRs, and summer service
Include the trip to Italy,
And a fiancé who was nervous.

The future's an adventure.
But one thing's safe to say.
The parents have unlimited love,
For their baby, Tiffany J.

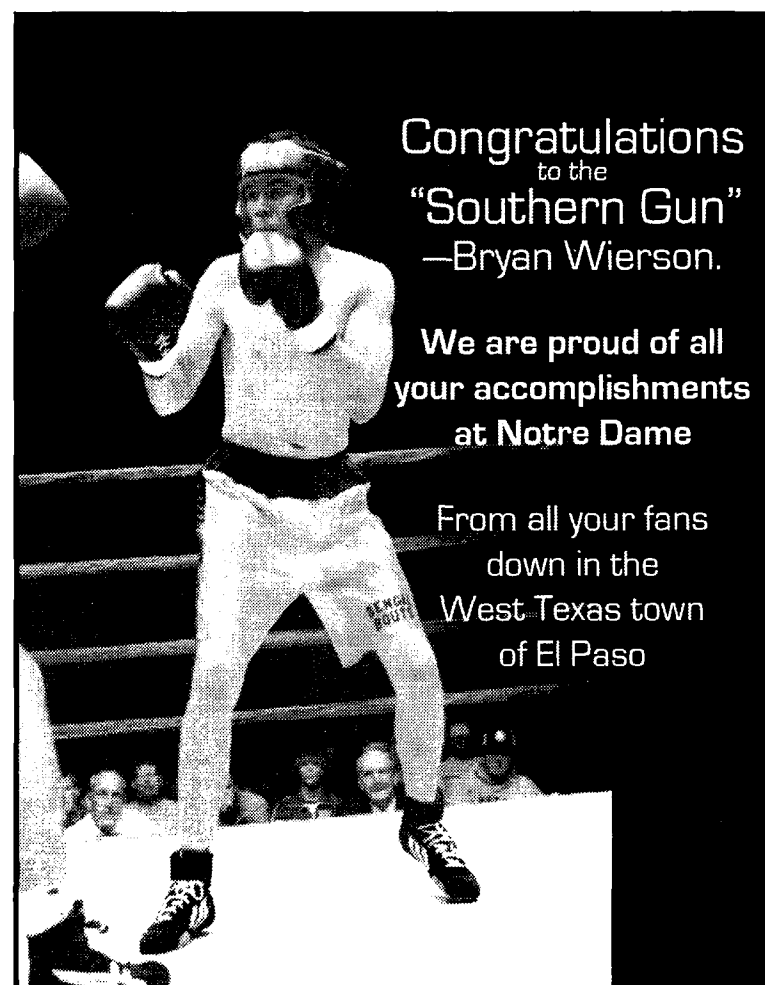


Angela, We are so proud of all you have accomplished.
May Our Lady continue to watch over you as She has
for the past four years. Congratulations!
Love, Mom and Dad GO IRISH!



"An innocent girl arrives on Earth."
Educere ~ Q.E.D; Love from your (extensive) family!
Marissa May Vita Buck

"A strong, confident, educated woman enters the World."



Congratulations
to the
"Southern Gun"
—Bryan Wierson.

We are proud of all
your accomplishments
at Notre Dame

From all your fans
down in the
West Texas town
of El Paso

Get ready world! Here comes... The Best of The Irish!

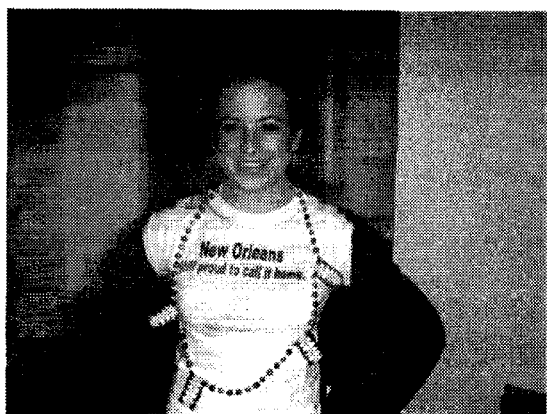


Top: Trish Conneely, Katie Riemersma, Katie McCourtney, and Theresa Coughlin
Bottom: Sarah Tebeast, Christina Dunn, Jaclyn Dooner, and Katie Mooney

Congratulations!

-The Dooners

Erin Nolan RN



Congratulations on a great finish
at St. Mary's...we love you!
Dad, Mom, Bradley & Kelly



Congratulations
Emily Obringer ("Em")

You will always be
a special part of our family

Love, The Schramms

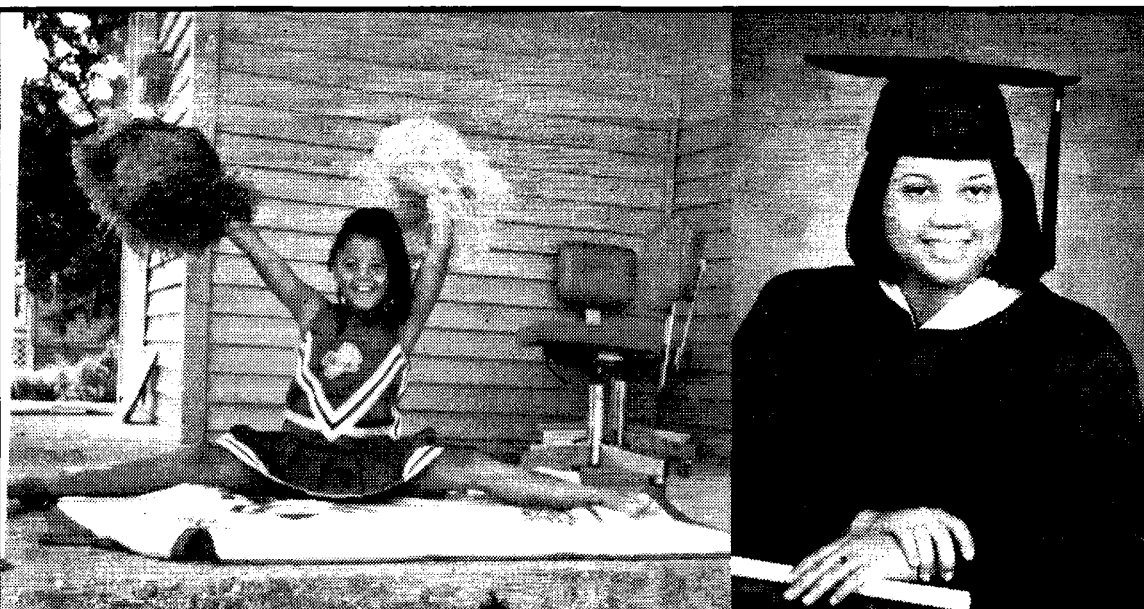
Hey Billy

We are so proud of you
Keep on drummin'!

Love, Mom, Dad,
Maggie, Laura & Katie



Thanks Pop Pop for looking after
your girl under the Golden Dome.
Love and Congratulations!
Mom, Dad, Lauren, Mer and Allie



Congratulations Saretha!!
You have made us so proud!!
Continue working toward your goals...
They are definitely within your reach!

Way to go, baby girl!

Love, Mom, Dad, & Family

Congratulations Rebecca!

We always
knew you were
going places!
We're so proud
of you.

Love,
Mom & Dad



CONGRATULATIONS GUYS—

The sky's the limit!

Love, Mom & Dad



Congratulations,
Joey. We are very
proud of our
Domer!

Love,
Mom, Dad & Chris



Yo Vinnie!



Congrats & Much Love

Mom, Dad, Joey, Mick & Meredith

JRich

1. INTRO
2. I GOTTA FEEL ME
3. KEEP ON TALKIN
4. HOW IT IS
5. HANDS UP
6. IMAGINE
7. LET IT RAIN ft. Tamara LeVae
8. I WANNA FLY
9. LAID BACK ft. Talley
10. GET LOW
11. LOST DIRECTIONS ft. Pat Alexander
12. WHERE I COME FROM ft. The Natural
13. ROLLIN THRU ETERNITY
14. PARANOIA
15. NEED A CHANGE ft. Marcus Jackson
16. LET IT BURN ft. Renard & Peco
17. UNDER PRESSURE ft. Talley
18. SPIRITUAL WARFARE

JRICH ~~Spiritual Warfare~~

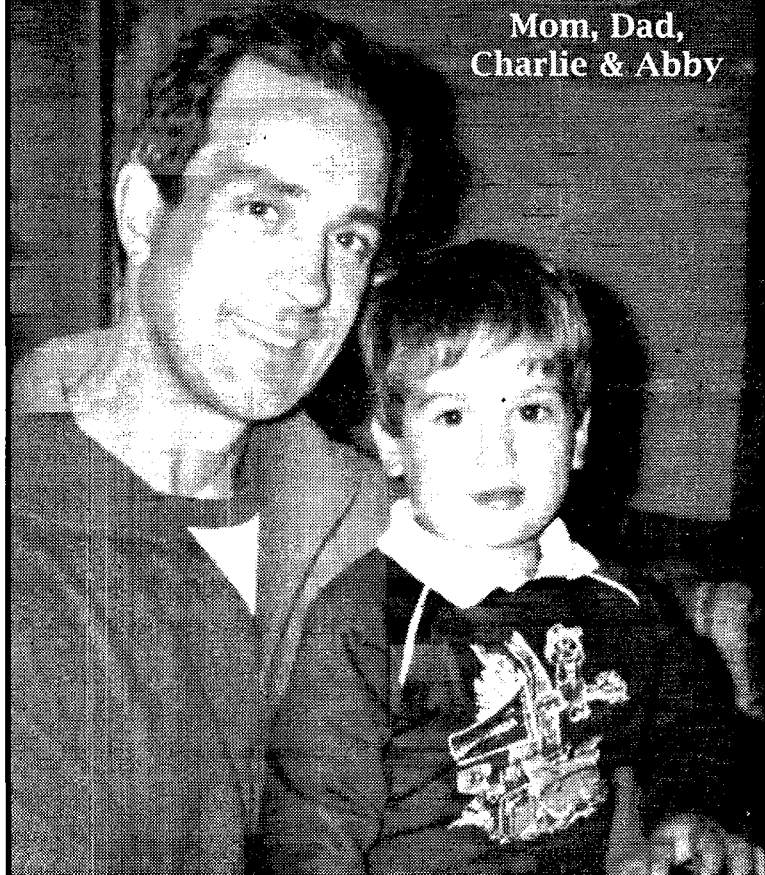
Spiritual Warfare

AND ALL THIS TIME WE THOUGHT
YOU WERE IN YOUR DORM ROOM,
STUDYING HARD!
MAKING MUSIC IN CONFINED
SPACES IS NOT ALL THAT BAD!
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR
FIRST CD RELEASE
"SPIRITUAL WARFARE"
AND GOOD LUCK
AT THE
UNIVERSITY
OF DAYTON
LAW
SCHOOL!

TIME TO SHINE!
...LOVE MOM

Congratulations Dan!

Mom, Dad,
Charlie & Abby



Congratulations Abby!

You continue to
amaze and inspire
us as you
graduate from ND
and continue on
your journey to
become an M.D.!

We love you!
Mom, Dad, Sarah,
Kate, Greg and
Thomas.

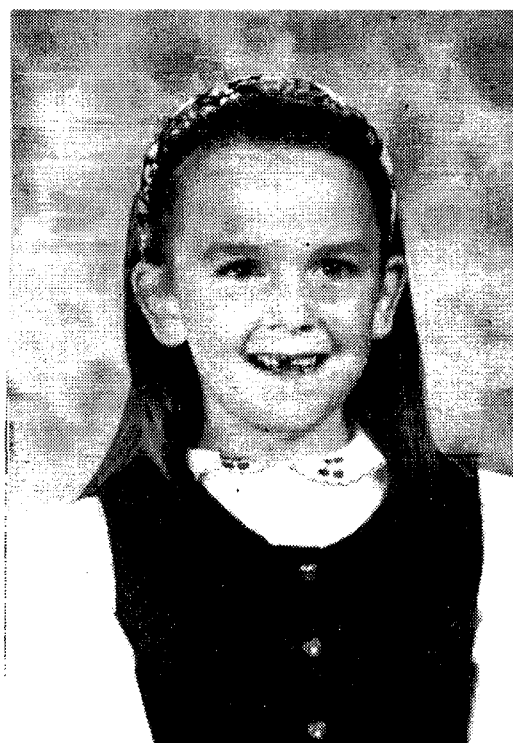


WAY TO GO, MATTER!!



Love, Mom, Dad, Melissa & Mom-Mom

Congratulations Michele! You always dreamed of being a domer! You achieved your dream! Now be a domer who makes a difference! Keep on smiling!
Love, Dad, Mom & John



Then and now, you are the best!
Congratulations Julie!
Love, Mom & Dad

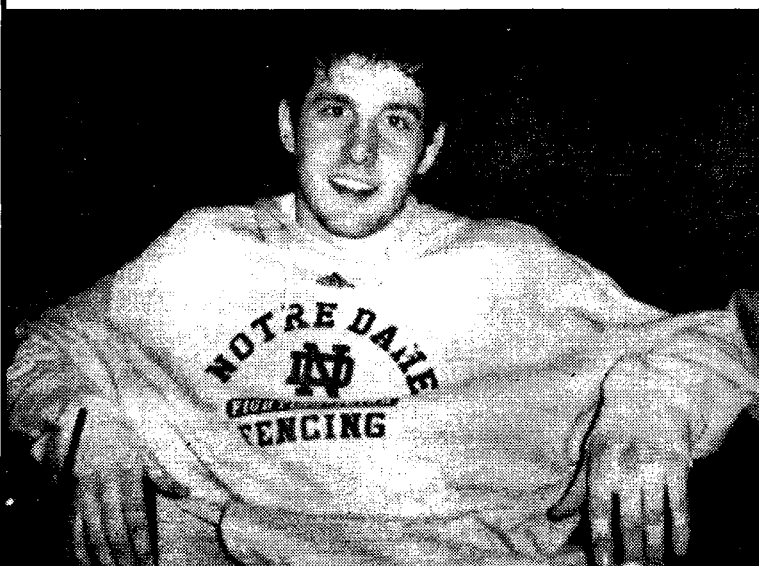


Congratulations, Katie –
We are so proud of you
and your work.
All of our love always,
Mom, Dad,
Kelly, Trisha and Alissa



Here come
the Irish!
Congratulations
Jean!
Love,
Mom & Dad

Frankie,
Dreams do come true!
Congratulations!



With much love,
Mom and Dad



Katie, Thank you for allowing us
to share in your Notre Dame
experience!



To Francesca, a/k/a Princess I,
Hey Diddle Diddle,
Once you were so little,
And now you're a Notre Dame grad!



We're so proud of you,
And all that you do,

Your Noni,
Your Mom and your Dad



You've Come a Long Way, Bobby!
Congratulations!
Love, Mom, Dad, Danny & Tommy



Gina Tesi

Congratultions!
We toast your success
today
And Always...

We are proud of you!!!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Aldo, and
Monica

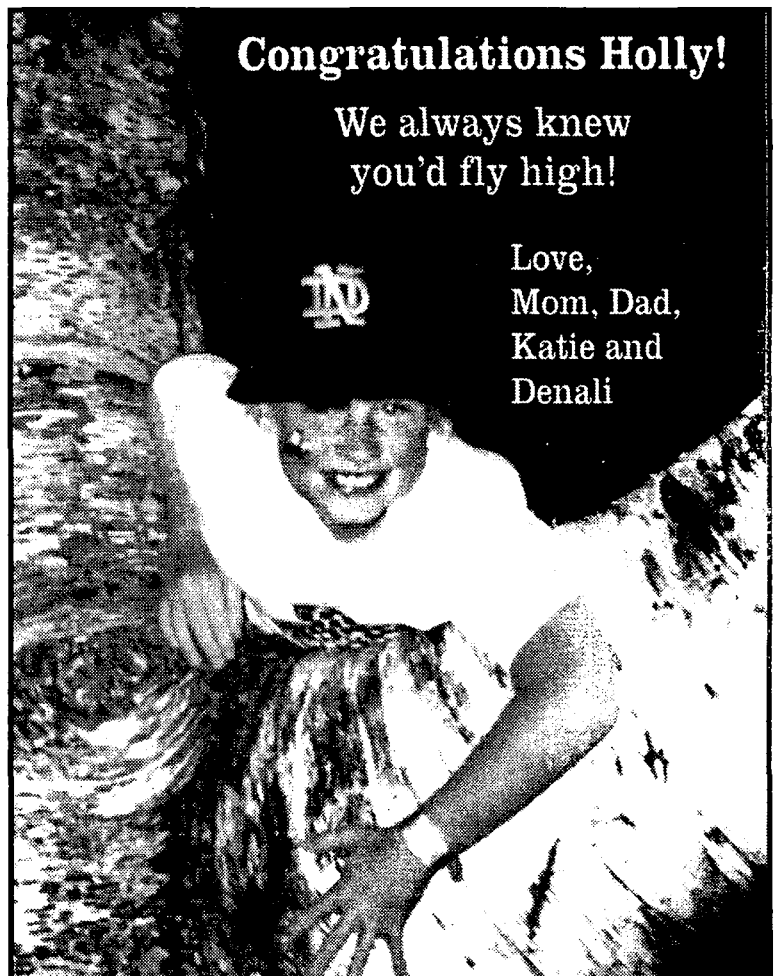
Mary Anne,
Congratulations! You did it!



We're so proud of you.
GO IRISH
Love, Mom and Dad



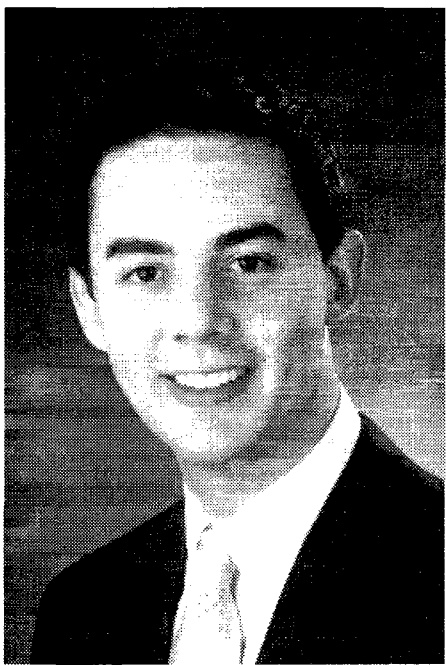
It's something unpredictable, but in the end it's right.
We hope you had the time of your life.
Congratulations Christian. Love, Mom, Dad & Jillian



Congratulations Holly!

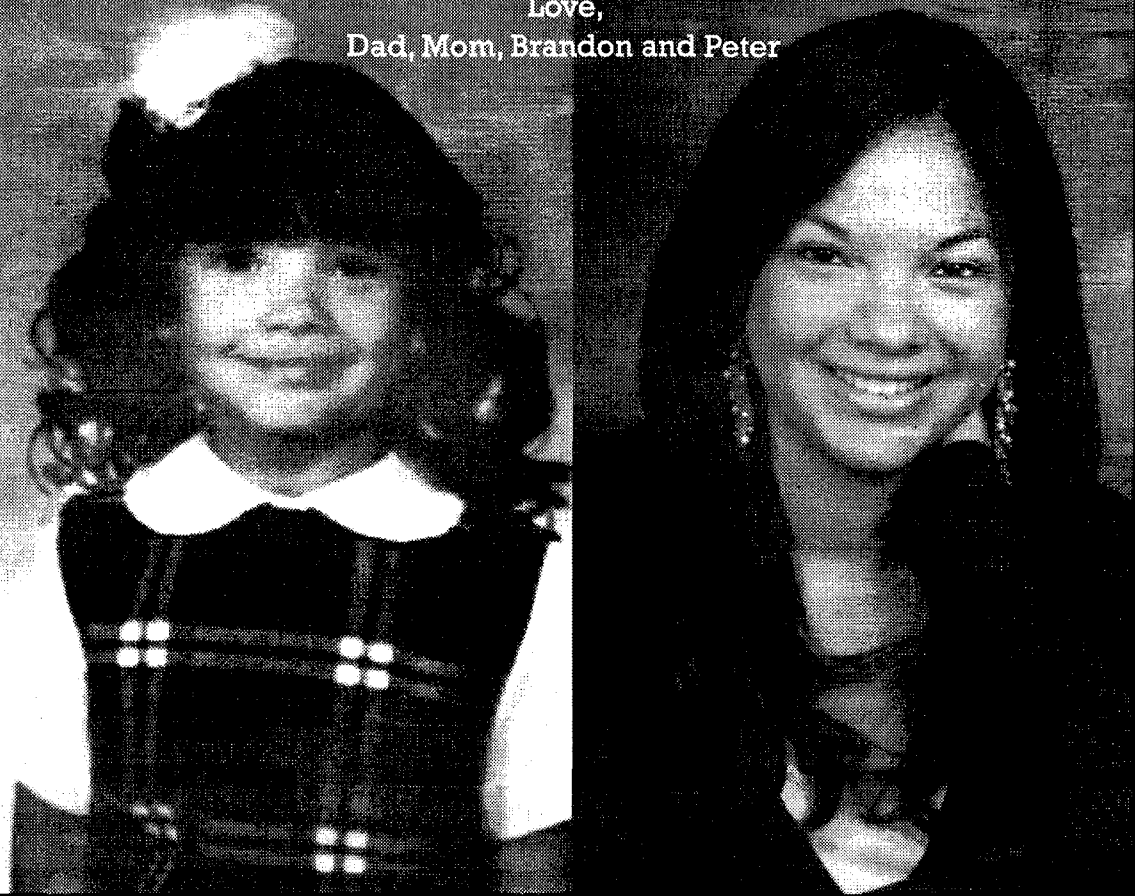
We always knew
you'd fly high!

Love,
Mom, Dad,
Katie and
Denali

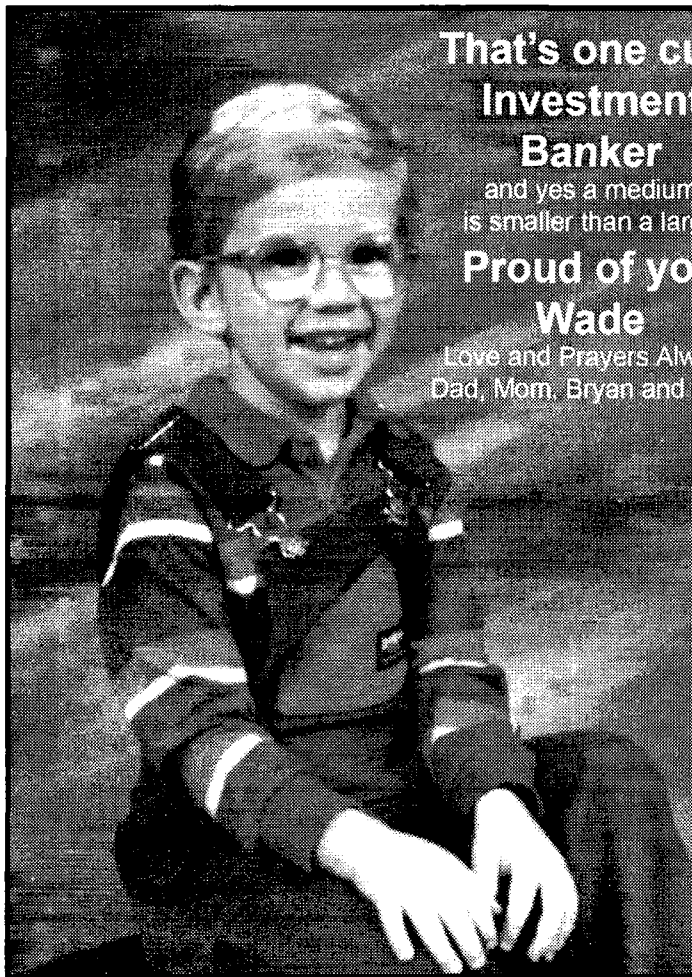


Congratulations Mijo,
We are so very proud of you!
All our love,
Dad & Mom
Nana & Pampa

Congratulations Baby Girl! You know what to do. Keep doing it. Si Se Puede!!
Love,
Dad, Mom, Brandon and Peter



That's one cute
Investment
Banker
and yes a medium
is smaller than a large
Proud of you
Wade
Love and Prayers Always
Dad, Mom, Bryan and Katie



Congratulations BARR! Time to let go of Peter's (ND '09)
hand and move on as Mary (ND '11) moves in.
Love, Mom & Dad



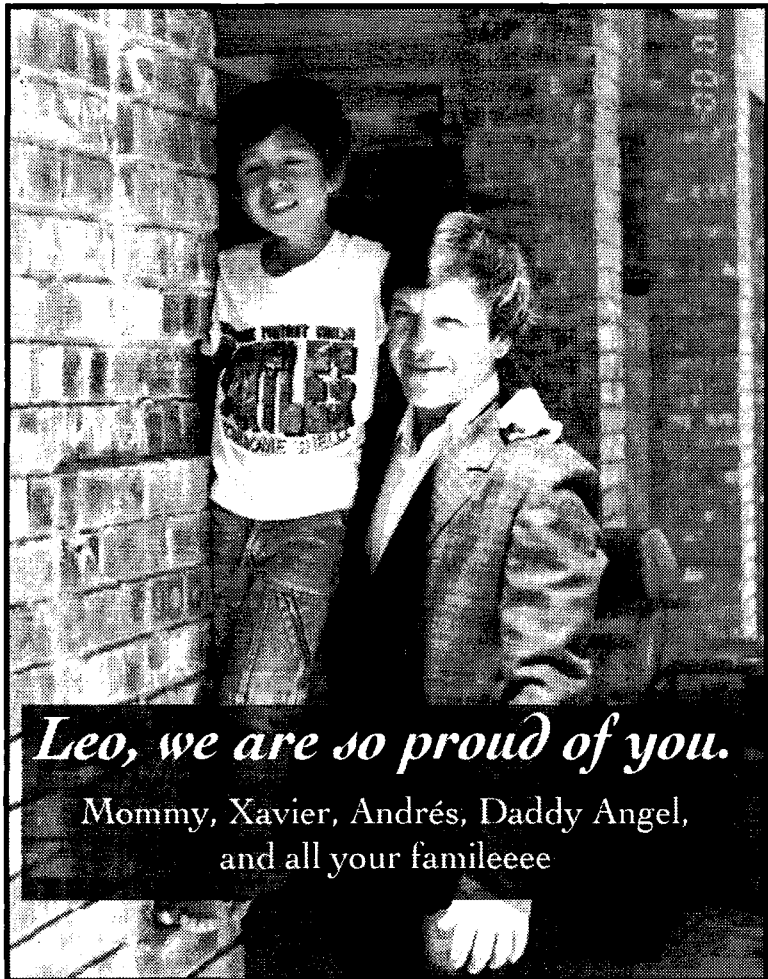
CONGRATULATIONS
ADRIENNE- FROM
PRESCHOOL TO
COLLEGE
GRADUATE- WE ARE
SO PROUD OF YOUR
ACCOMPLISHMENTS
AS A STUDENT AND
AS A WONDERFUL
DAUGHTER.

LOVE, MOM & DAD

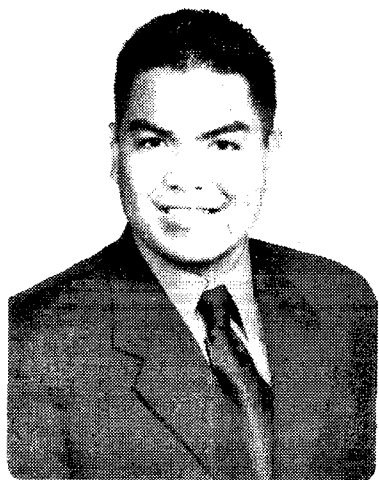


Leo, we are so proud of you.

Mommy, Xavier, Andrés, Daddy Angel,
and all your familieeee



Congratulations



JOSEPH MICHAEL NAVA

B.S. Electrical Engineering

B.A. Theology

Class of 2007

"Our only desire and our one choice should be this: I want and I choose what better leads to God's deepening his life in me." - St. Ignatius of Loyola

Congratulations JOE !

We are very proud of you and all your accomplishments. You are an amazing son and a great brother. God bless you.

LOVE,

Mom & Dad
and Omar

Back to crayons, "Teach"!

"To teach is to touch lives forever."

Congratulations on your many accomplishments, Christina.

We are so very proud of you.
Lots of Love,
Mom, Dad & Britt



Congratulations Jorie!

We are proud of you.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Callie,
Emmie and Tacie.



For each petal on the shamrock
This brings a wish your way-
Good Health, Good Luck, &
Happiness for today & everyday.



Katie Bug,

We love you and are very proud of you.

Congratulations!

Big hugs

Mom, Dad & Dan

Congratulations Menaka!



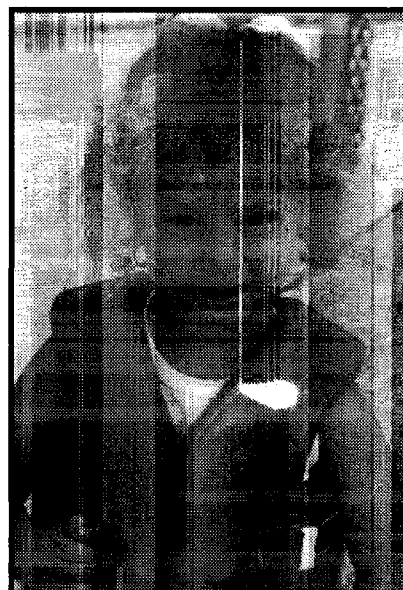
You've always made us proud!

Love,
Mom, Dad
and Arun



*May your days be filled with blessings
Like the sun that lights the sky
And may you always have the courage
To spread your wings and fly!
May the leprechauns be near you
To spread luck along your way
And God Bless and Congratulations to you
Our son on your Graduation Day.*

*Love always
Mom and Dad*



"IF I COULD REACH UP AND HOLD A STAR FOR EVERY TIME YOU'VE MADE ME SMILE, THE ENTIRE EVENING SKY WOULD BE IN THE PALM OF MY HAND" - ANONYMOUS

CONGRATULATIONS!
LOVE,
MOM & DAD
GOVAN & SHAWN

Congratulations



Congratulations, Kimberly!

*You've worked so hard and
accomplished so much.
We are very proud of you!*
Love, Mom and Dad



You will always
be our all star!
Congratulations!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Katie
and Eileen

Congratulations, Katie!

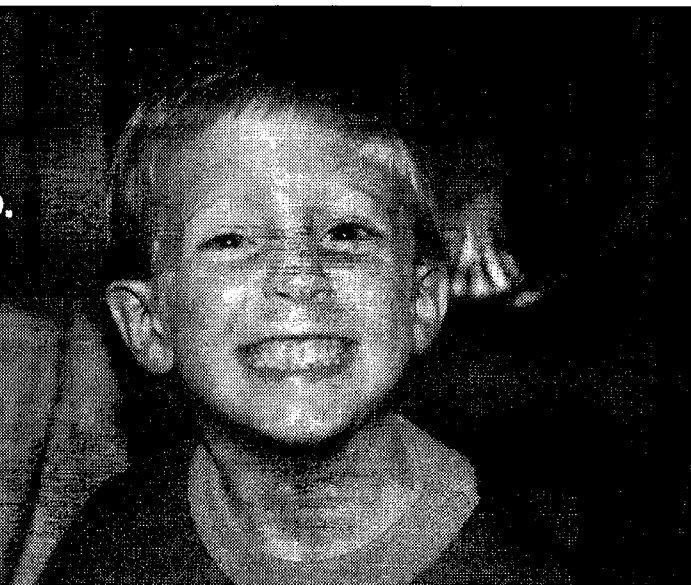
The years have gone by in
such wonderful moments...
Go forth and shine - your
world awaits, and you
deserve the best! You have
worked so hard & achieved
so much & we are
oh-so-proud!
Love,
Mommy, Dad and Chris



P.J.

**Congratulations on 4
wonderful years at N.D.
Always keep those
"Irish" eyes smiling!**

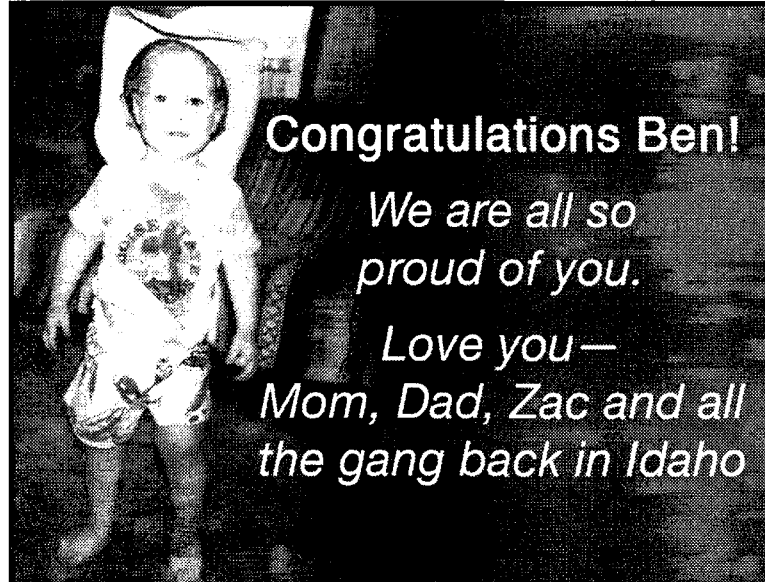
Love,
Mom, Dad, Kiera,
Me Mom & Poppy



Congratulations, Tony!

We know you're a little sad to be
leaving home for good, but your future
is very bright! Now it's your turn to
carry the ball!

Love,
Mom and Dad



Congratulations Ben!

*We are all so
proud of you.*

*Love you—
Mom, Dad, Zac and all
the gang back in Idaho*

Congrats to
Amanda Michaels!

Who said English Majors
lack a sense of humor?

Our Phi Beta Kappa
Bubba!

Love, Mom, Dad, Meg



Congratulations KEITA !!!
よく頑張ったね。

Thank you very much to Professors,
Friends, Alumni Hall father,
Chefs in S. Dining and all
Notre Dame people.

We never forget your kindness.

With Love Keiichi & Nobuko Miyamura

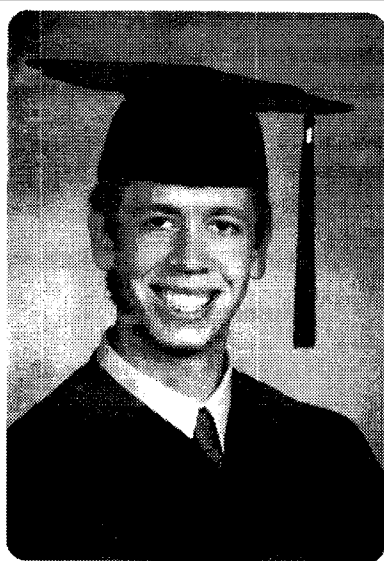
Congratulations
"Mr. Nice Guy"!



We are so very proud of you.
Love, Grandma & Grandpa Dolan

Good Luck

Congratulations
Dave!



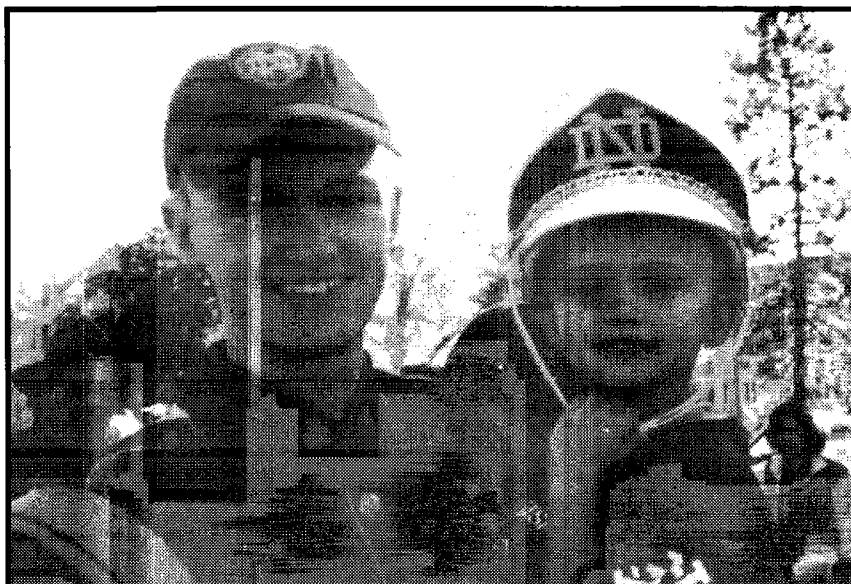
We are so proud
of you!
God Bless You
always.

Love,
Mom, Dad,
Katherine,
Jonathan, and
Kristen

**We are so
proud of
my Uncle
Lance.**

Love,
Cade

(also Dad, Mom,
Ashley, Caleb,
and Aubrey)



*Congratulations to our
Dana!*

**We love you
infinitely
and
beyond...**

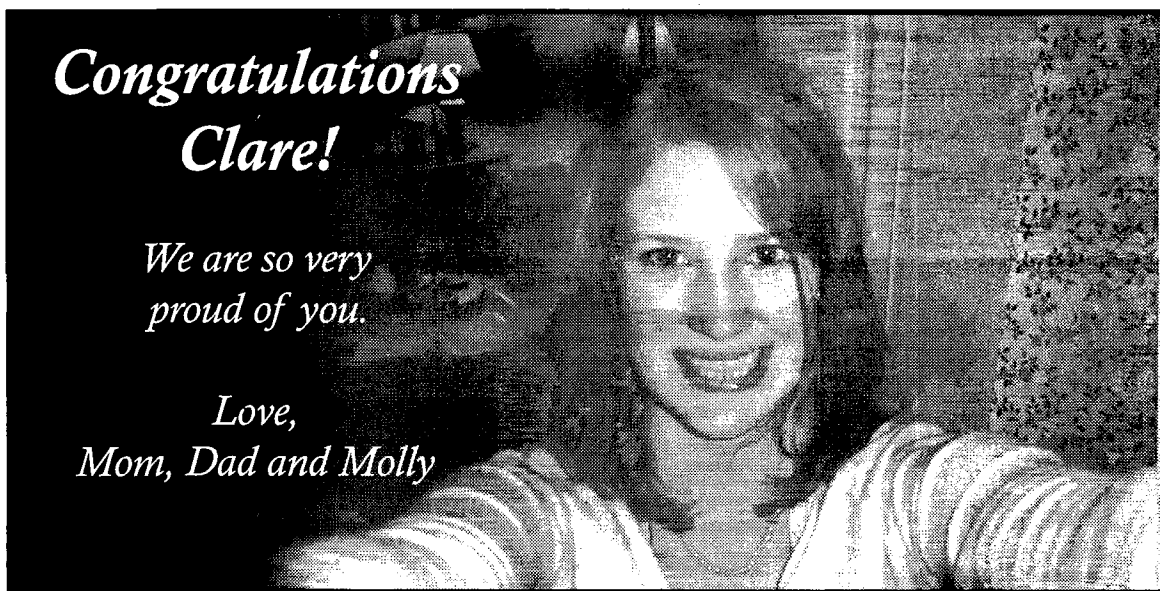
Love,
Mom, Dad, & Frankie



Congratulations
Clare!

*We are so very
proud of you.*

Love,
Mom, Dad and Molly



JENNIFER—
YOU ARE A BLESSING,
AND WE ARE SO
PROUD OF YOU.

CONGRATULATIONS!

—LOVE,
MOM AND DAD



Belles

— Then, now, always

Pamela Herbst SMC '82
Meaghan Herbst SMC '07

A proud tradition



You danced into our
hearts 23 years ago!
We're so proud of you!
Congratulations,
Nicole!
Love you!
Mom and Dad



Dear Michael,

Your commitment in learning and in life are reflected in the diploma you are about to receive. Notre Dame has become part of you. Keep in your heart the spirits of service and truth that we, your Uncle Ray, and Notre Dame have taught. Always dream big in your goals and strive to reach them – you will achieve. You will always have the love and support of your family and friends.

With pride and love,
Mom, Dad, Abby, and Aunt Marian



And walk among long dappled grass,
And pluck till time and times are done
The silver apples of the moon,
The golden apples of the sun.

W.B. Yeats

Our love and congratulations to you Maeve!
Mom, Dad, Deirdre and Siobhán



RICO,
We have been,
we are &
we always will be
so very proud of you!
Love, Mom & Dad



"Hey Baby!"
Look at you now!
We love you Lindsay.
Congratulations & love,
Mom & Dad



Ali,
May the good Lord be with you
Down every road you roam...
May sunshine and happiness
Surround you when
you're far from home...
May you grow to be proud
Dignified and true
And do unto others
As you'd have done to you...
Be courageous and be brave
And in our hearts
you'll always stay
Forever young, forever young,
Forever young, forever young
Love, Mom and Dad



Congratulations

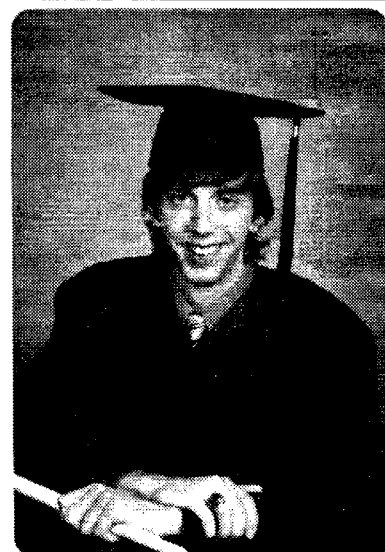
Annie!

Love,
Dad, Mom,
Casey, Laurie
& Meg



Congratulations
Dylan,
You continue to
make your family
proud.

LOVE MOM, DAD,
SAGE & COLTON



Congratulations, Tony!

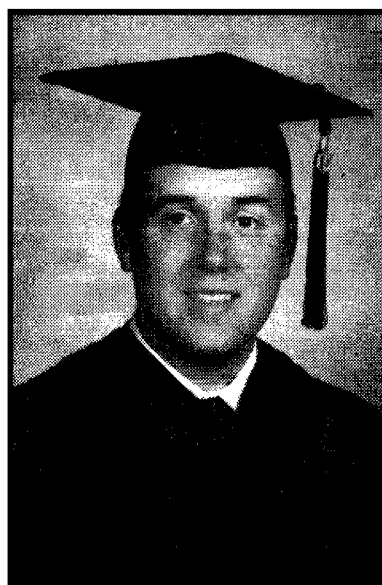
We know you're a little sad to be
leaving home for good, but your future
is very bright! Now it's your turn to
carry the ball!

Love,
Mom and Dad



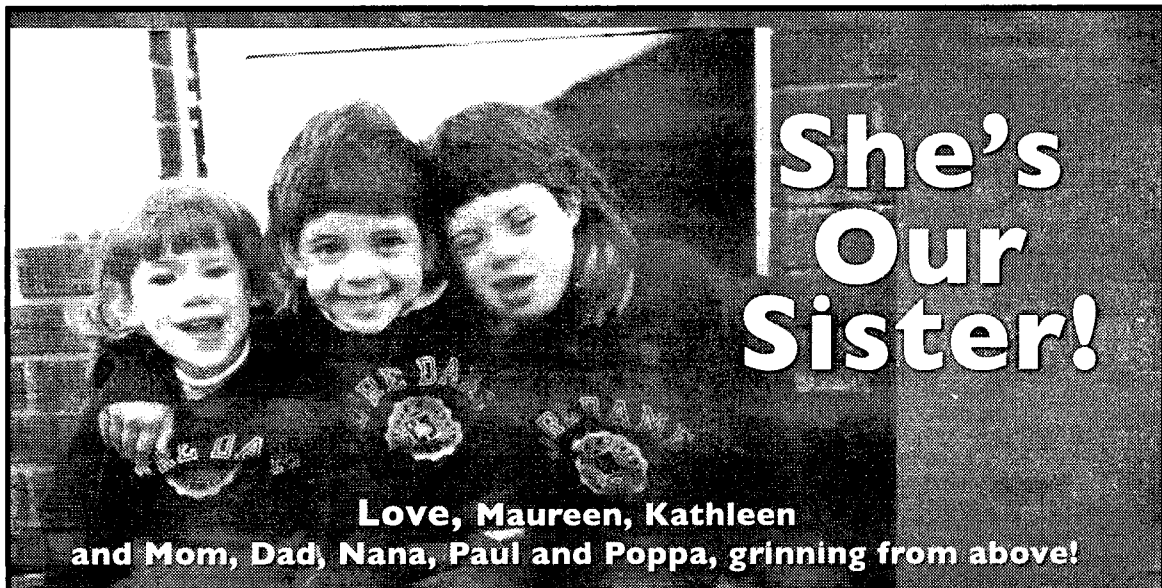
**Congratulations
Steve!**

Keep living
YOUR dreams!
Love,
Mom and Dad



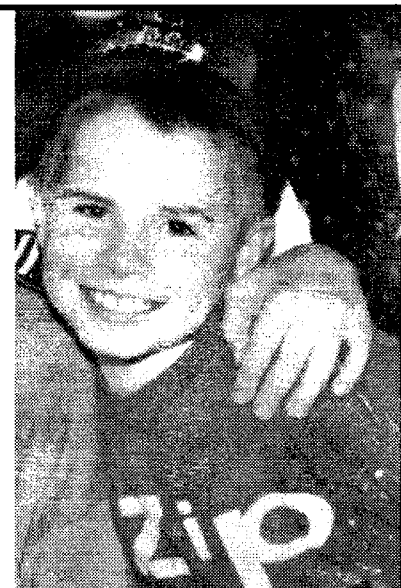
**She's
Our
Sister!**

Love, Maureen, Kathleen
and Mom, Dad, Nana, Paul and Poppa, grinning from above!

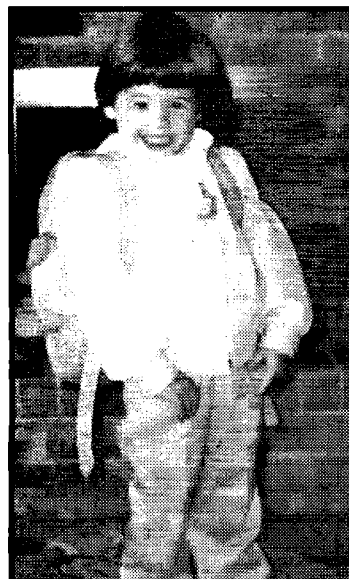


Congratulations,
Michael!
You made
your N.D. dream
come true!

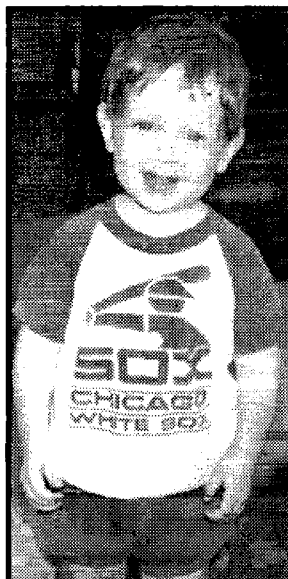
Love,
Mom, Dad,
Tim & Mary Caitlin



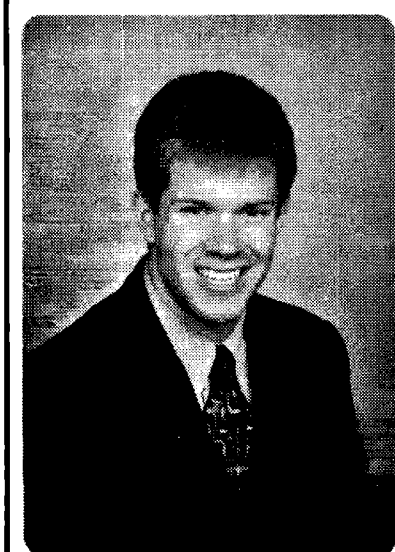
Congratulations



Danielle,
from the first day
of preschool, you have
been an inquisitive girl
who loves to learn.
We are proud of your
accomplishments
at N.D.
**Your future
is bright!**
Love, Mom & Dad

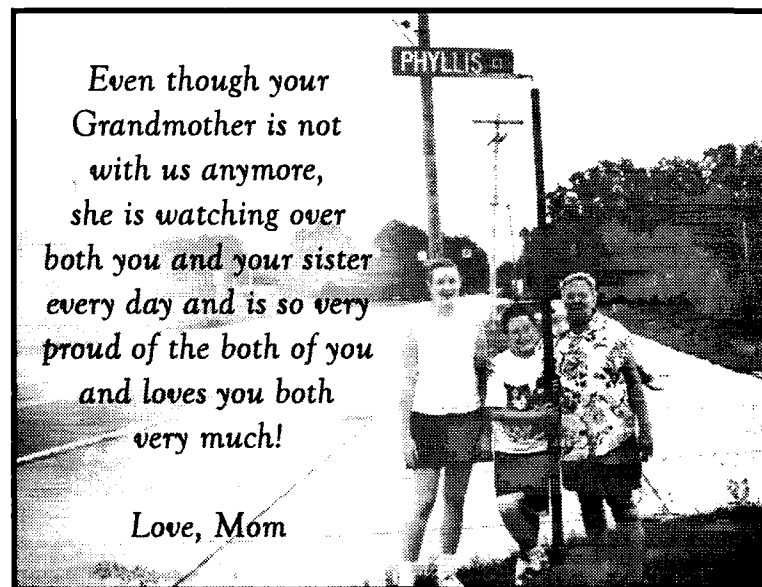


☘☘☘
**CONGRATULATIONS
JIM !!!**
WE'RE SO PROUD OF YOU
LOVE,
MOM, DAD, PETE & ANN
☘☘☘



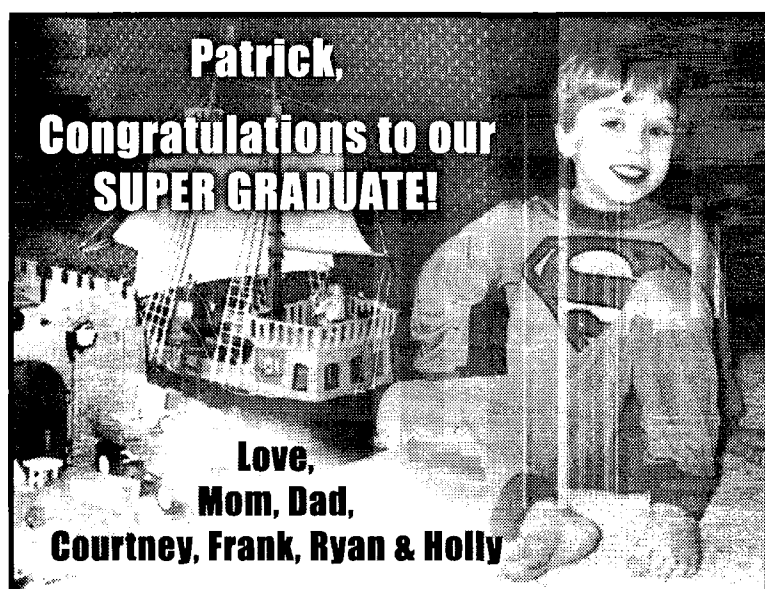
Congratulations Neill!
You have always
exceeded our
expectations and been
a source of such joy.
Go Irish!

With Love,
Mom and Skip,
Dad and Carol



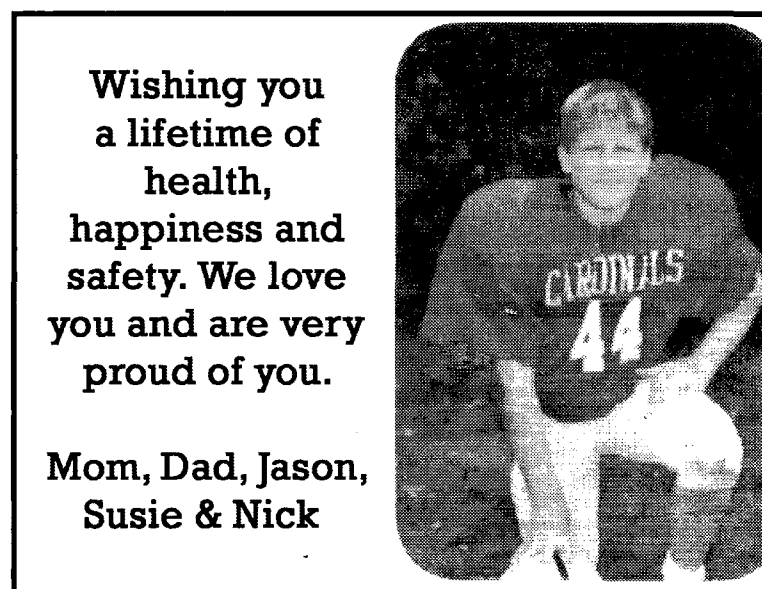
Even though your
Grandmother is not
with us anymore,
she is watching over
both you and your sister
every day and is so very
proud of the both of you
and loves you both
very much!

Love, Mom



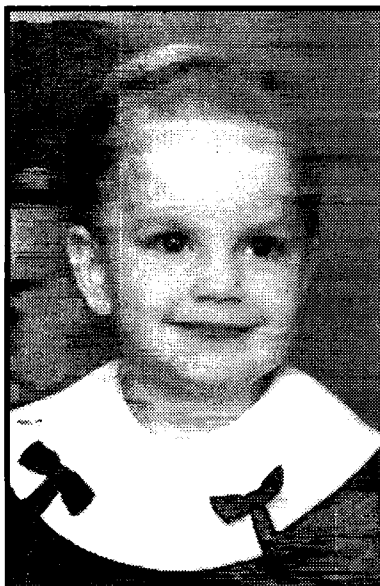
Patrick,
**Congratulations to our
SUPER GRADUATE!**

Love,
Mom, Dad,
Courtney, Frank, Ryan & Holly



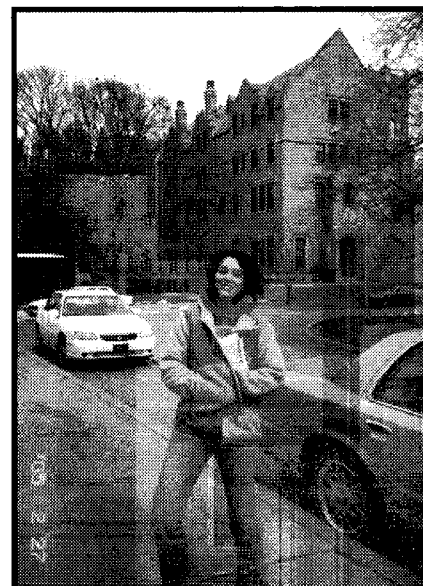
Wishing you
a lifetime of
health,
happiness and
safety. We love
you and are very
proud of you.

Mom, Dad, Jason,
Susie & Nick



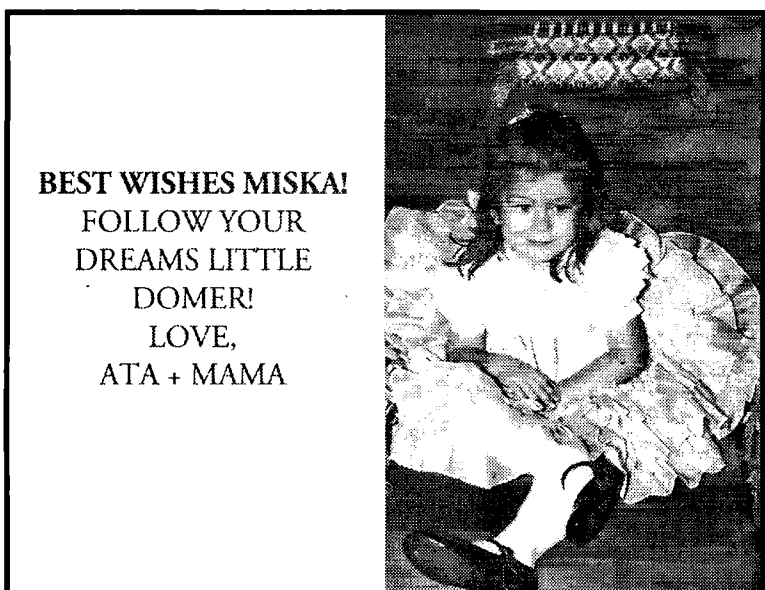
Congratulations
Lern! We are all
so very proud of
you!

Love,
Dad, Mom,
Charles, and
Karli

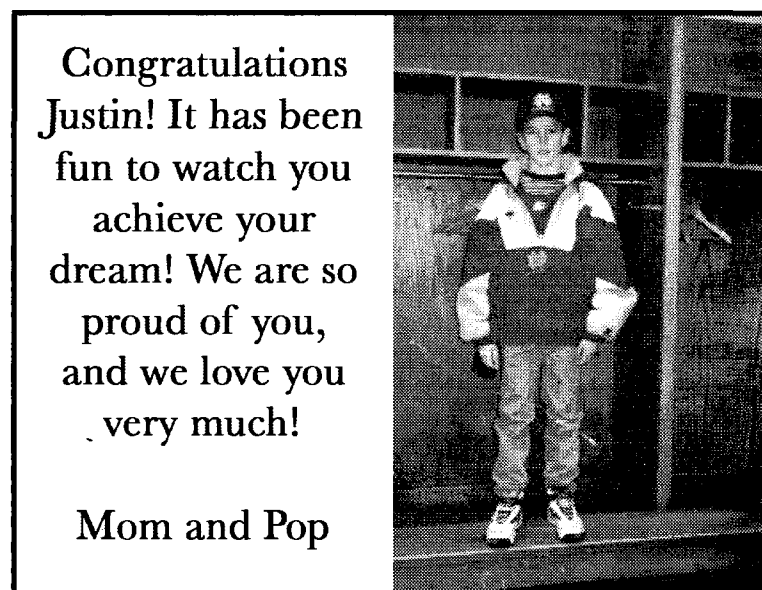


From the first day
at LeMans to
graduation, SMC
has helped shape
you into the
amazing woman
you are today! We
are blessed to be
your parents.

Love, Mom & Dad

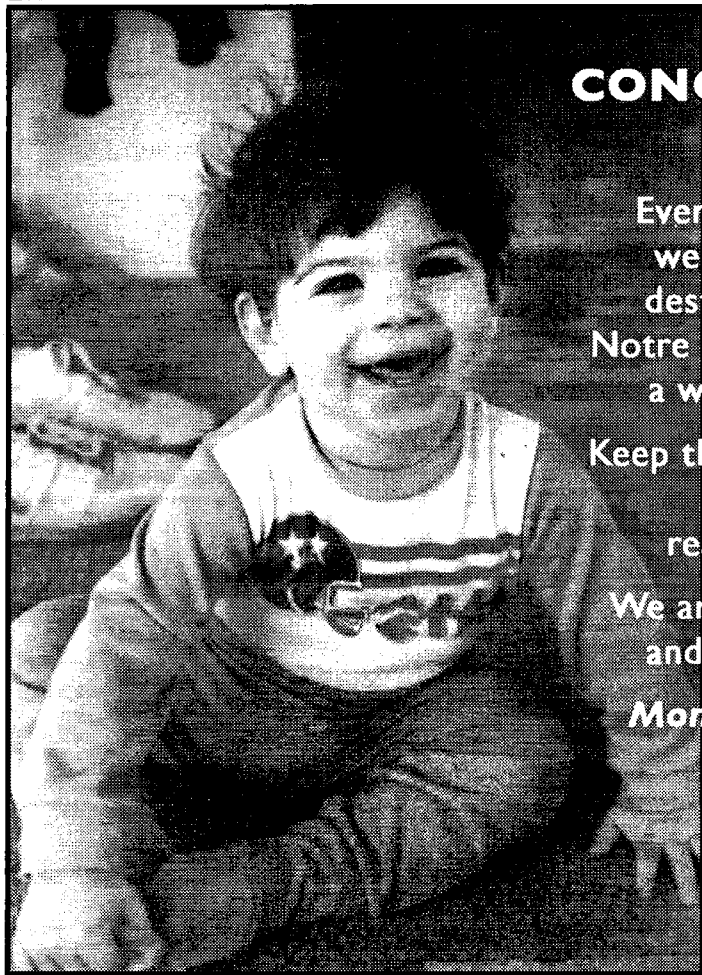


BEST WISHES MISKA!
FOLLOW YOUR
DREAMS LITTLE
DOMER!
LOVE,
ATA + MAMA



Congratulations
Justin! It has been
fun to watch you
achieve your
dream! We are so
proud of you,
and we love you
very much!

Mom and Pop



CONGRATULATIONS MICHAEL!

Ever since you were born,
we knew that you were
destined for great things.
Notre Dame has certainly been
a wonderful part of this.
Keep that great sense of humor
and always keep
reaching for the stars.

We are so very proud of you
and love you very much!

Mom, Dad, and Danielle



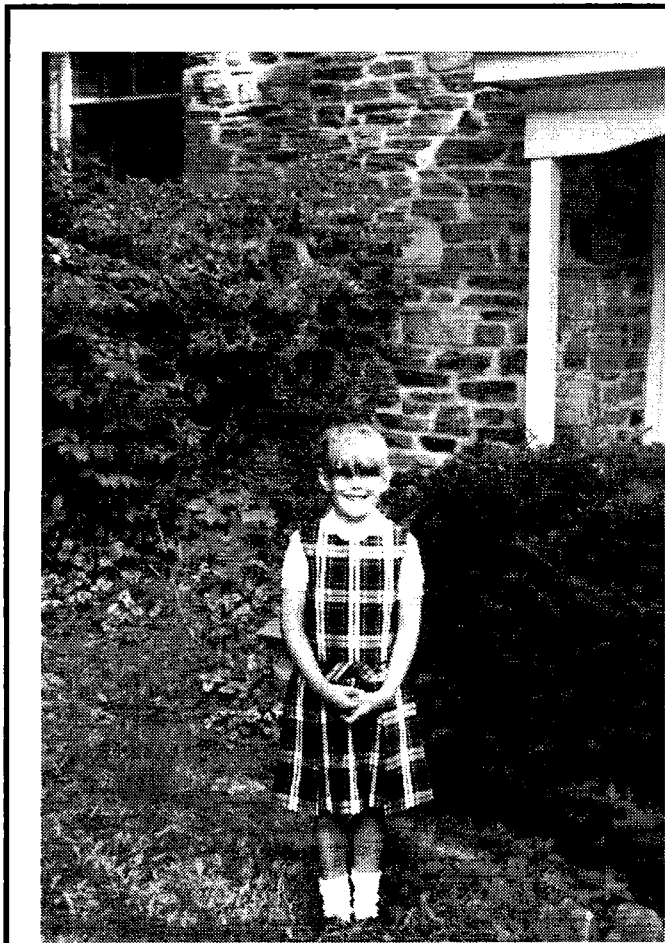
**Becca,
Irish Eyes
Are Smiling!
Go Irish!**

**Love,
Mom, Dad,
Scott &
Grammy**



**Congratulations
Sweetheart! You
did your Irish
heritage proud!**

**Love, Mom, Dad
& Family**



We are so
proud of you!
You have
worked so hard
to achieve your
goals, you
deserve all the
best life has to
offer.

We love you!
Mom, Daddy, Lizzie,
Mom Mom, Pop,
Grandma, & Grandpa



**SUPER K,
WAY TO GO
FOR THE
GOALS!**

**LOVE,
TEAM W.**

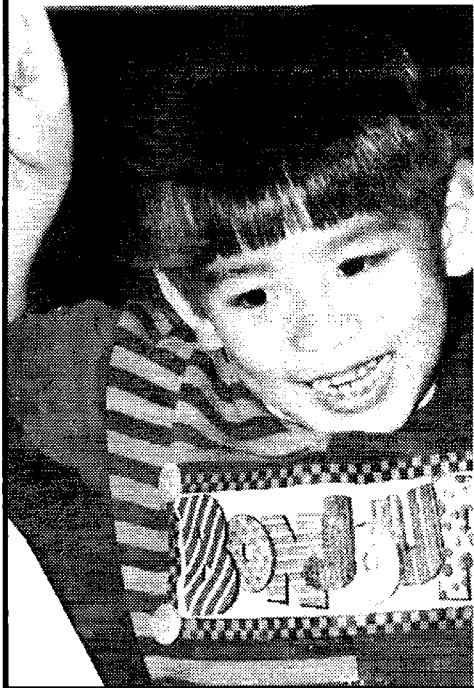


**J. Mike, It's a jungle out there!
Congratulations!**

**Love, Mom, Dad,
Billy, David & Medi**

Congratulations Christopher!!!
Because of your great perseverance and the
excellent support of the University of Notre
Dame, you deserve to feel wonderful about what
you have accomplished.

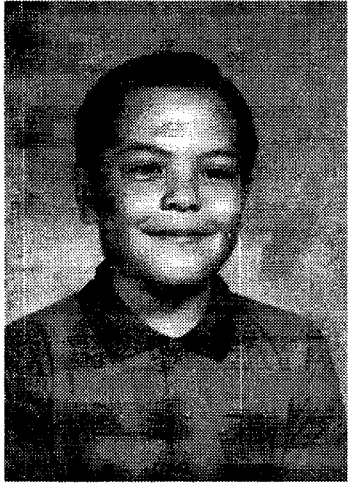
Love, Mom, Dad, Jennifer, Norlan, Cedric and all
in the family circle



To our own Little Rudi

With the name Erin,
Blue and Gold had to
be in your future. You
wouldn't take no for an
answer!

**Love,
Mom and Dad**



BJ,
It was a long haul
but you made it!
We're proud of you!
Congratulations!!!

We love you,
Mom, Dad, Jeff

Congratulations
Meg! We are so
very proud of
you!

Love,
Mom and Dad



*You climbed
another height—
Congratulations
our Honey Girl!
We are so very
proud of you.
¡Te queremos
mucho!
Dad & tu Mami*



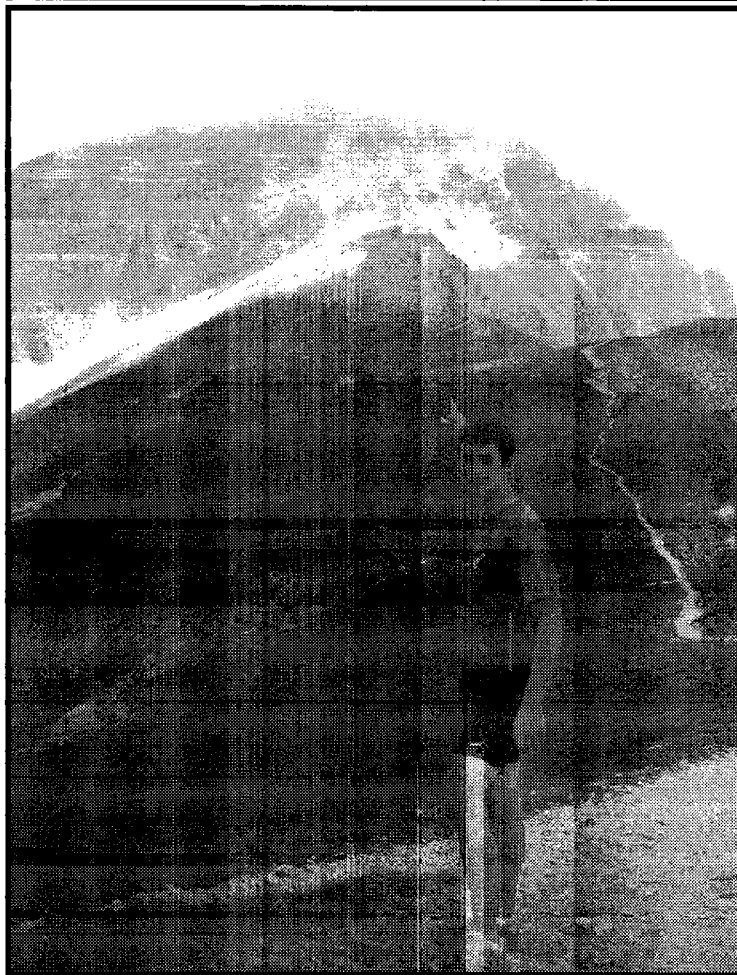
**Congratulations
Rachel!**
Follow your
heart and live
your dreams.

With love and pride,
Mom & Dad



TJ,
You've been a
champion
from the start.
We're so
proud of you.
Congrats!

Love,
The Family



**Congratulations
Michael!**

You are a
wonderful son
and brother.
We are very
proud of you.

Love,
Mom, Dad,
Christina, Joey

**34748 ACCESSORY
WHEELS**, 24 pieces

BRIO

34741 AXLES
38 pieces

34749 COG WHEELS
Now cog wheels—two small
and two large—for learning
more about gears. (1" and
3 1/2"/2.5 cm. and 9 cm.)

34580 CARPENTERS BELT
A young builder will be ready for work with this
belt which holds a hammer, wrench, screw-
driver, pliers, and ruler. Adjustable belt has
sturdy buckles.

*"Children are
natural builders."*

**"The soul is
healed by being
with children."**

—Dostoevsky

**We couldn't be prouder!!
Go Irish!**

Love, Mom, Dad, Matt & Sean

Dear PJ:

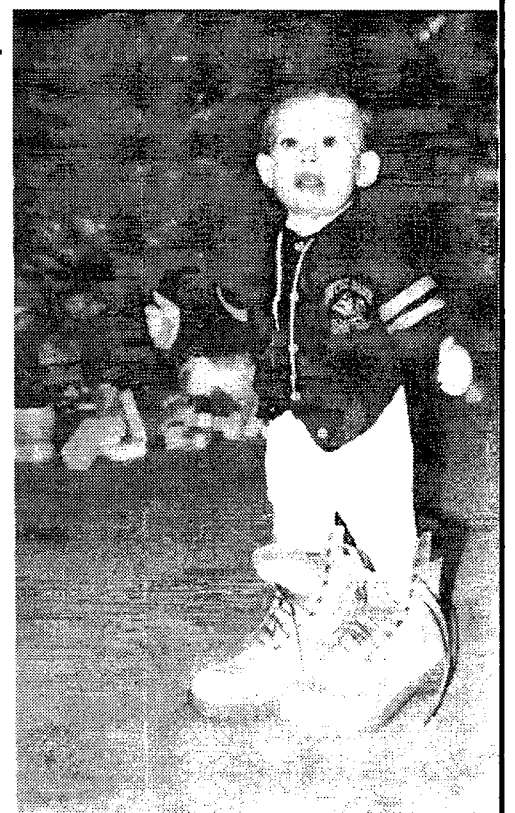
*You always dreamed of going to
Notre Dame and filling "big shoes" ...*

*You've made us all very proud of your
achievements ...*

*Congratulations on making your
dream come true!*

Love,

Mom, Dad, Rob, Annie and Drew





*May your day be filled with blessings
Like the sun that lights the sky
And may you always have the courage
To spread your wings and fly!
May the leprechauns be near you
To spread luck along your way
And God Bless and Congratulations to you
Our son on your Graduation Day.*

*Love always
Mom and Dad*

Congratulations
Megan!

We are so
proud of you!

Love,
Mom and Dad



*Congratulations
Felish!*

*We're so proud of the
great things you've done
at St. Mary's!
Go Belles!*

*Love you,
Mom & Dad xox*



Estephani,
In Spirit with
Our Lady
Mucho Cariño
Grandma Chita



Congratulations
Ashley Martin!

We're so proud of you!

Love, Mom, Dad & Alexis (Lucy & Heisman)



Congratulations

Perryn!

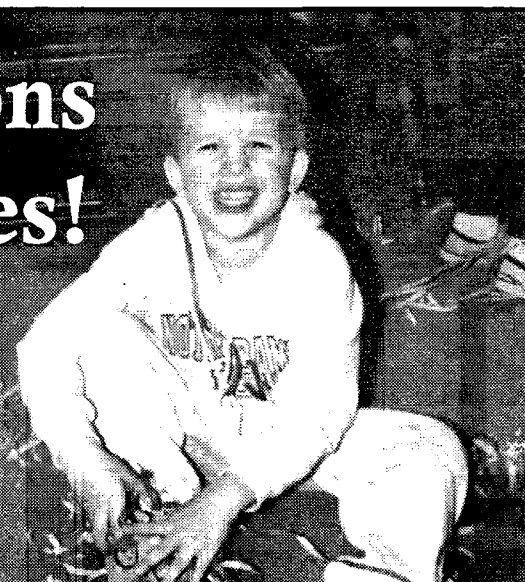
You always were
determined whether
reaching for your toes
or the stars! We're very
proud of you!
Mom & Dad



Congratulations
Matthew Gries!

You Are Now A Domer!

Love,
Mom and Dad



Hey Will,

We're not
surprised.

We always
knew you'd do
great things.

We are so
proud of you!

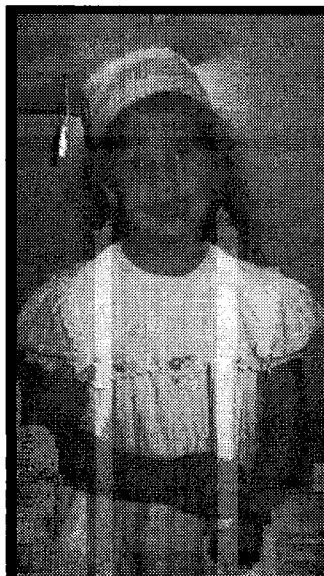
Love,
Mom, Dad, Jimmy



Congratulations, Megan!

**Our little graduate is
all grown up.**

We love you,
Daddy, Mommy, & Jake



Hooray
Tessie!

*You've become
a Notre Dame
Alum. We are
very proud of you!*

Love,
Mom, Dad
& Melissa



Our Missy:

There is only one happiness
in life, to love and be loved.

Thank you for allowing us to
love and be loved by you.

We are so proud of you!!

Mom, Dad and Bri
2007



Congratulations, Christine!

Go Irish!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Kate and Matt



Congratulations

Congratulations
Theresa!

We are very proud of
your success!
Wonderful memories,
Awesome friends,
Exciting future.
Best wishes always!

Love,
Mom and Dad, Grandpa
Dick and the Family

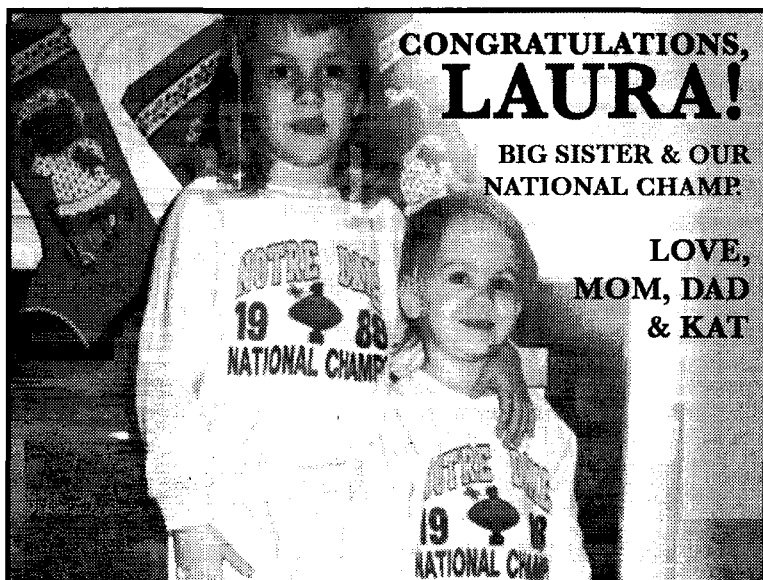
GO IRISH!!!!



**Wishes DO
come true!**

God bless you, Kevin,
and may the wind be
always at your back.

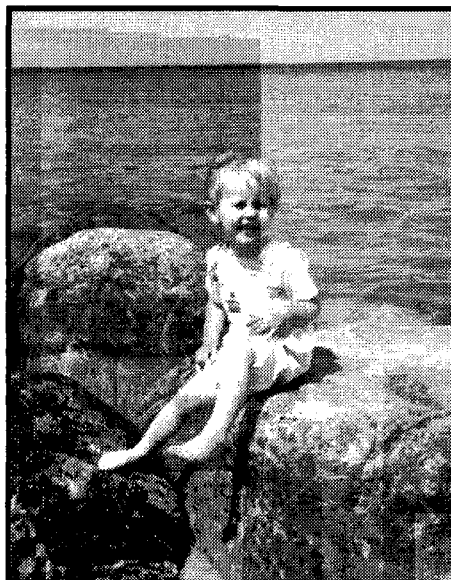
Love,
Dad, Mom,
Dan, Pat and Kate



**CONGRATULATIONS,
LAURA!**

BIG SISTER & OUR
NATIONAL CHAMP

LOVE,
MOM, DAD
& KAT

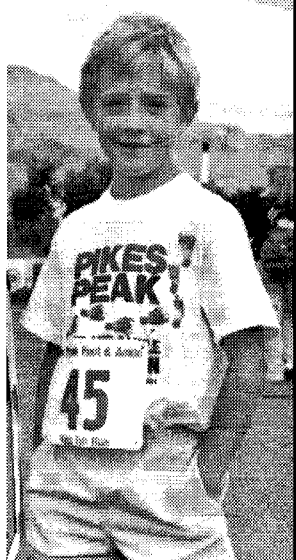


Hey Ems!
Congratulations!
We're all proud
of you!

Love,
Mom, Dad,
Greta, Laura &
Andrea & Pedro

Congratulations
Mike!
You've done it!

Love, Dad, Mom,
Bridget, Megan & Ted



Dear Evan—

You've sure come
a long way since
St. Paul's Preschool!!!

Hang on to your happy
memories of Notre Dame
and always remember,
no matter where
life takes you...

WE LOVE YOU.

Dad, Mom,
Meara & Janine
Go Irish!



Allison,
Where have all the
years gone?
Congratulations,
we are so very
proud of you.

Love,
Mom, Mike,
Bradley, Candace
& Morgan



Congratulations Lisa!!

You've changed a lot
since freshman year!!!
Love, Mom and Dad

Congratulations
Chanchita,

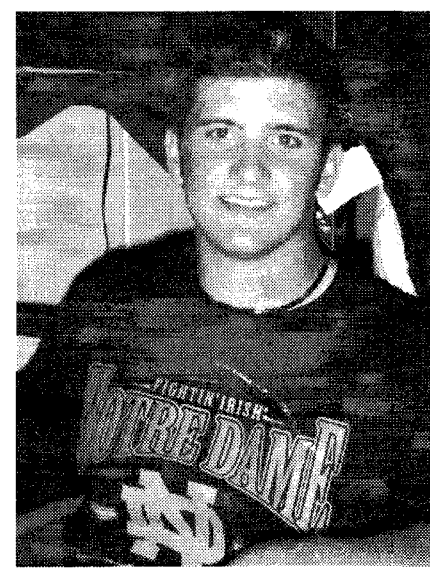
Know all our
pride and love go
with you every
step of the way!

beijos,
Mom and Dad



It's been an
amazing 4
years!
We are so
proud of you!
Congrats and
Go Irish!

Love,
Mom, Dad &
Michelle



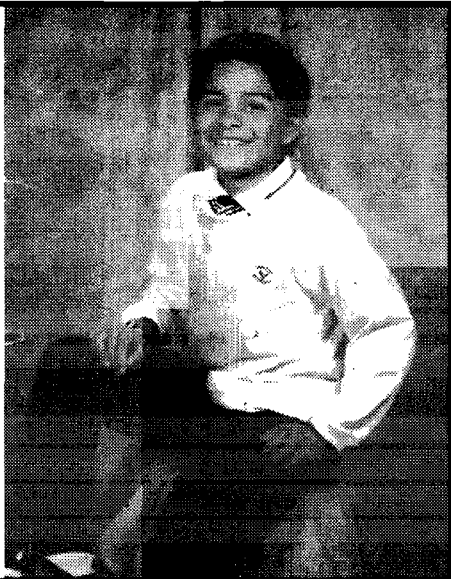
Congratulations Josh!

Your will and persistence has led you
to the road which you are now headed.

The Lord has given you knowledge
through out these four years.

You have been called to fulfill a task
given to you since birth.

Son, always remember:
"With God's Love, everything is possible."
We are proud of you and we love you.
Mom and Dad.



**Congratulations
Runt!**

**You made it
with no sweat!**

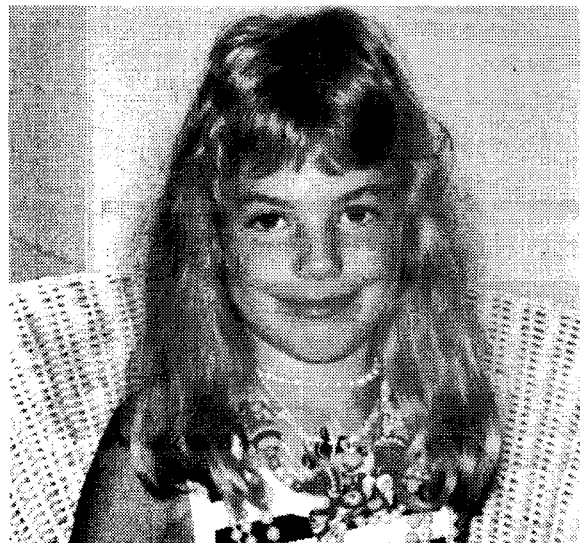
**Love,
Dad, Mom & Jamie**



Congratulations Colleen!

**"Go confidently in the
direction of your
dreams. Live the life you
have imagined."** THOREAU
We are so proud of you!

**Love,
Dad and Mom
Erin and Meghan**



*He sang of love and tragedy,
and legends of his home.
and of the lovely lady who
stood on a golden dome.*

*His journey made him weary and
He longed for simple rest;
But weakness did not stop the man;
Or slow him on his quest.*



Congratulations, Evan!

**Your loving family,
Mom, Dad, Cary and Laura**

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2007

Congratulations Seniors!

Congratulations
Mike (Coughlin)!
It's 17 years later
and you're
graduating again!
Good luck in
Colorado!

Love,
Mom



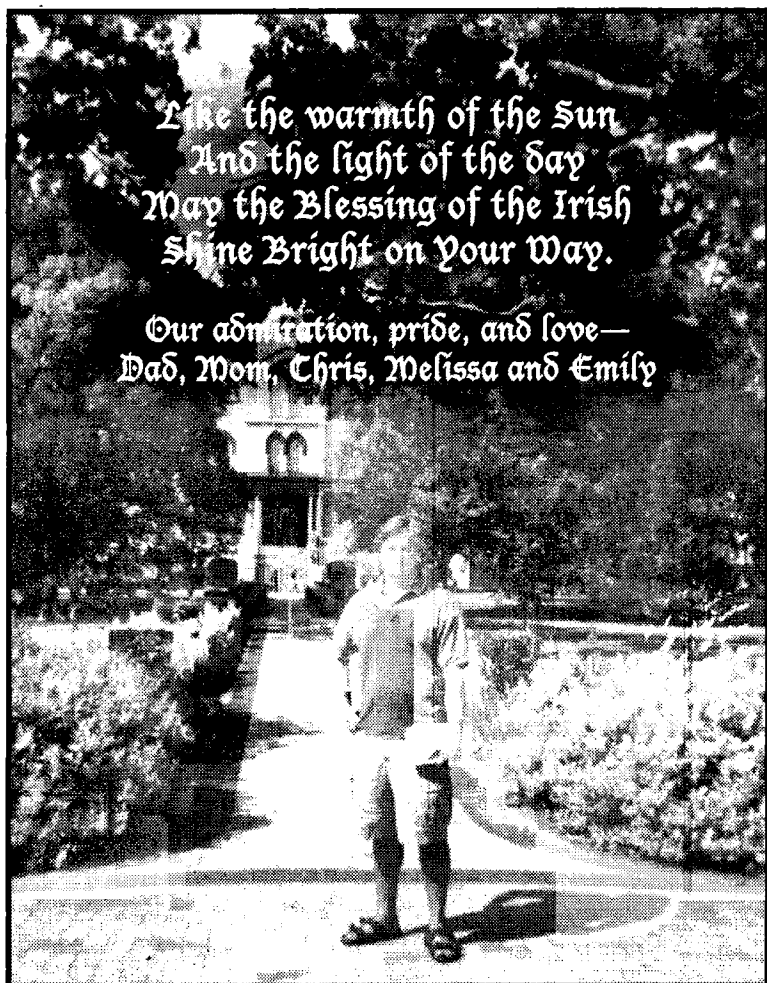
On February 10, 1985, God
blessed us with a son named
Brendan. The man he has
become, and the way he lives
his life is a blessing to God
and a blessing to us.
We love you, Brendan.

Love,
Mom & Dad



Like the warmth of the Sun
And the light of the day
May the Blessing of the Irish
Shine Bright on Your Way.

Our admiration, pride, and love—
Dad, Mom, Chris, Melissa and Emily



Congratulations
Andy! We wish
you the best.
(nice jacket)

Love,
Mom and Dad

