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COMMENCEMENT

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OBSERVER

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CORRECTIONS

The Observer regards itself as a professional publication and strives for the highest standards of journalism at all times. We do, however, recognize that we will make mistakes. If we have made a mistake, please contact us at (574) 631-4541 so we can correct our error.

# “What Though the Odds”

Alumna Haley Scott DeMaria prepares to address graduates on facing the unexpected

By SAM STRYKER

Assistant Managing Editor

When Haley Scott DeMaria received a call earlier this year from University President Fr. John Jenkins, she had some idea about what their conversation would entail.

But the last thing she expected was for Jenkins to ask her to give this year's Commencement address.

“We had conversations in the past months about different things, so when I got the phone call there were 10 other items I thought the conversation would be about,” she said. “If I put commencement speaker on there, it would probably be about [number] 998.

“[I was] stunned, really. I was surprised. Once the shock wore off, I was very honored.”

DeMaria, a member of the Class of 1995, suffered a broken back and was paralyzed when the bus carrying her and the rest of the Irish women's swim team slid off the Indiana Toll Road and rolled over 20 years ago. Doctors told DeMaria she might never walk again, but she beat the odds, regaining the ability to walk and returning to swim for the Irish the following year.

DeMaria said she hopes she can give a special speech to this year's graduating class because, like them, she once walked the campus as a student.

“I think one of the unique things about having an [alumna] speak is I understand many of the things they are experiencing because I have been there,” she said. “The main thing I would like to get across is what it means to be a Notre Dame graduate – what it has meant in my life and what it will mean in their lives in ways they have no idea.”

One of the main concepts DeMaria said she wants to convey in her address is to be prepared for the unexpected in life.

“I think one of the main ideas, and really one of the main themes of how I live my life, is that understand-



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

**Haley Scott DeMaria, a 1995 alumna, will speak to graduates at the Commencement ceremony on Sunday. DeMaria said she wants to be remembered for the speech she gives.**

ing that you can plan, and you can be prepared, and you can know exactly what your life is going to be and chances are, that's not what is going to happen,” she said. “And then that is okay. How do you go through life having a great game plan or life plan, but also knowing life doesn't always turn out the way that you think it will.”

DeMaria said Notre Dame graduates are fortunate because the University prepares students well for life after college.

“Not in a doomsday way, but so many of the tools that we have here as a Notre Dame student will apply to ways in life that we don't even know,” she said.

DeMaria, who gives talks up to five or six times a month, said this speech will be “different” and “bigger” than any she has ever given. However, she still plans to draw on her personal experiences to communicate the core message of her address.

“Many of the talks that I give are about my story and what we experienced as a

university, as a swim team, my personal journey — certainly physically and the faith aspect of it,” she said. “There will be some of that. I know that's certainly one of the reasons I was asked to speak.”

However, DeMaria said she recognizes this speech is different due to her audience.

“But graduation is not about me, it's about the graduates,” she said. “So I'll take what I've learned and certainly share some of that, but really use it to apply in a meaningful way to the graduates.”

In speaking to people during the past weeks leading up to her address, DeMaria said she has distinguished two types of commencement speakers — those who are remembered for their name, and those who are remembered for the speech they give. She said she hopes to fall into the latter category.

“I'd rather leave the graduates with two or three or four key words or messages

that they hear, they listen, they remember. They may not totally get it now, but at some point in their lives they will,” she said. “That's my goal.”

Reflecting on this notion, DeMaria said her own class expected to have a “big-name” commencement speaker, as it was the 150th graduating class of the University. But students were initially disappointed with the selection of a relatively unknown speaker.

“We ended up with the first African-American female provost at a major research university,” she said. “It was an interesting choice at the time, but it was Condoleezza Rice. It's been good for me to understand everybody's different perspectives.”

Ultimately, DeMaria said she is excited to return to the University once again to serve in a new role.

“I truly look forward to addressing the class,” she said.

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## COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND SCHEDULE

### SATURDAY

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| 9:00 a.m.  | <b>ROTC Commissioning Ceremony</b><br>DPAC—Leighton Concert Hall                      |
| 10:00 a.m. | <b>Graduate School Commencement Ceremony</b><br>Compton Family Ice Arena              |
| 10:00 a.m. | <b>Mendoza College of Business Graduate Ceremony</b><br>Joyce Center—Purcell Pavilion |
| 12:30 p.m. | <b>Law School Ceremony</b><br>Hesburgh Library—Reflecting Pool                        |
| 1:00 p.m.  | <b>Service Send-Off Ceremony</b><br>Hesburgh Library—Reflecting Ppool                 |
| 5:00 p.m.  | <b>Commencement Mass</b><br>Joyce Center—Purcell Pavilion                             |
| 6:45 p.m.  | <b>Graduation Dinner</b><br>North and South Dining Halls                              |

### SUNDAY

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 7:30 a.m. | <b>Notre Dame Stadium Opens for Guest Seating</b>                           |
| 9:00 a.m. | <b>Commencement Ceremony</b><br>Academic Procession                         |
| 9:30 a.m. | <b>Commencement Ceremony</b><br>Conferring of Bachelor and Honorary Degrees |
| Afternoon | <b>Departmental Commencement Cermonies</b>                                  |



# Seniors react to choice of 2012 Commencement speaker

By KRISTEN DURBIN  
News Editor

When Notre Dame administrators took more time than usual to announce the 2012 Commencement speaker, senior Jeremy Lamb said he hoped the delay meant his class would be addressed by a prominent orator.

“While in my head I sort of knew [the delay] probably meant the University was having some trouble finding someone to agree to fulfill this role, I couldn’t help but hope that maybe, just maybe, the delay was due to the University going after a really ‘big fish,’ so to speak,” Lamb said.

But when the University announced 1995 alumna Haley Scott DeMaria would deliver the 2012 Commencement address, Lamb said his initial reaction to the news was “one of confusion.”

“When [I] first learned of her selection, I did a quick Google search,” he said. “As petty as this may sound, I was disheartened a bit by the fact that my commencement speaker did not even have a Wikipedia page.”

Senior John Heid said DeMaria’s relative obscurity also influenced his initial reaction to the announcement.

“When I first heard, I did not even know who it was until I read the little blurb about it on the Notre Dame website,” Heid said. “I was not happy with the choice.”

A member of the Irish women’s swimming team, DeMaria suffered a broken back and was paralyzed when her team’s bus slid off the Indiana Toll Road during a snowstorm in 1992. After doctors told her she might not walk again, DeMaria made an astounding recovery, even returning to swim for the Irish the following year.

Despite the inspirational power of DeMaria’s story, Lamb said he

thinks Notre Dame could have explored other options in filling the role of commencement speaker.

“I fully acknowledge the tremendous strength that she displayed in her emotional and physical recovery from an event worse than most of us can imagine,” he said. “However, I feel that, if it were the University’s desire to select an individual who has overcome unimaginable personal tragedies or obstacles, there were other options.”

As classmates of deceased students Samuel Marx, Declan Sullivan and Xavier Murphy, the graduating seniors have dealt with significant personal losses during its time at Notre Dame. In this respect, Lamb said, DeMaria was an “appropriate” choice to speak at Commencement.

“Our class, more than most others, has had a great amount of experience with tragedy and loss,” Lamb said. “However, I think our class has done an outstanding job of dealing with our own losses and growing from them. In other words, I think maybe the primary lesson that Ms. DeMaria has to offer is one which our class has learned on its own.”

Lamb said he thinks the University chose DeMaria as the speaker to reinforce the Notre Dame community overall instead of focusing specifically on the members of the Class of 2012.

“I respect the fact that she is an alumna, but is that necessary?” Lamb said. “Is that going to make her any more relatable for us? It just seems as though maybe the University is trying to take a day that should be 100 percent about us as a class and turning it into something that really just points back to the University as a whole.”

Both Lamb and Heid said the University’s reputation as a widely renowned institution is not re-

flected in the selection of DeMaria to join the ranks of recent Notre Dame commencement speakers as President Barack Obama, news anchor Brian Williams and former U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates.

“The fact that the 2012 Commencement speaker will probably be the least notable of the last couple decades, in a group consisting of presidents, CEOs, archbishops and national media figures, didn’t really sit well with me,” Lamb said. “Our University should be able to attract some prominent individuals to speak, whether their prominence be due to commercial success, political prowess or simply social fame.”

“Certainly, [DeMaria] is characteristic of the Notre Dame spirit,” Heid said. “But at the same time, it is not fair that previous classes have had presidents, cardinals and governors, and we get somebody that nobody has ever heard of ... As a prominent university, we deserve prominent speakers.”

For senior Nneka Ekechukwu, DeMaria’s lack of widespread recognition will not take away from the significance of her remarks at Commencement.

“I’m looking forward to our speaker and the message she has for us,” Ekechukwu said. “While she is obviously not of the same caliber as having the President, for example, she is someone that has experienced a lot and is sure to have a lot of insight and advice for all of us that are soon to be new alumni of this University.”

Ekechukwu said the selection of DeMaria challenges the expectation of inviting household names as commencement speakers.

“I think her selection as our speaker is showing everyone that there is not one set type of speak-

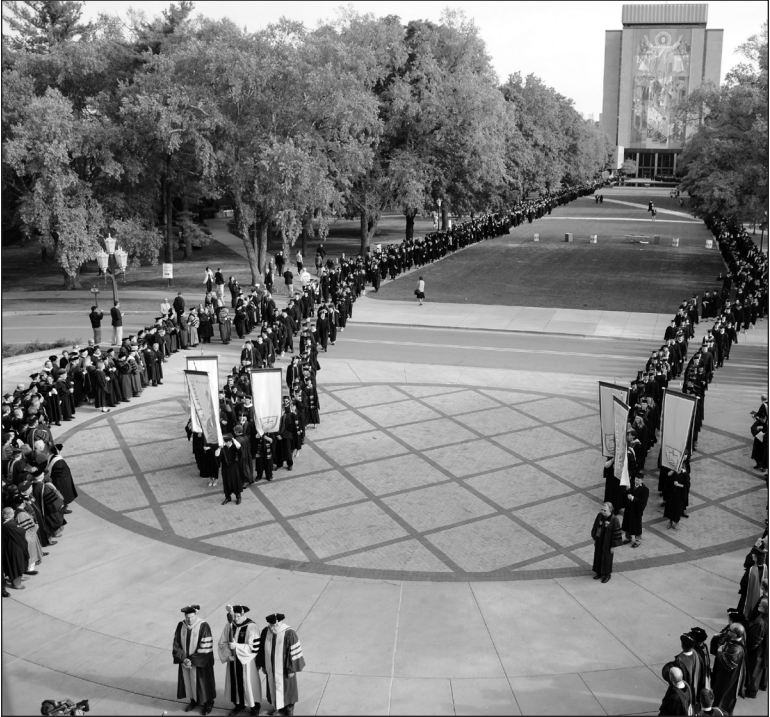


Photo courtesy of Notre Dame News and Information

Students and faculty line up for the 2010 Commencement ceremony, held May 16, 2010, in Notre Dame Stadium.

er that a university has or should have,” Ekechukwu said.

The primary role of a commencement speaker does not necessarily have to be providing advice to new graduates, Lamb said.

“Many believe that the purpose of a commencement speaker is to offer advice and insight into how the ‘real world’ works,” he said. “However, my personal opinion is that the commencement speaker should serve primarily to please the graduating class, to excite and entertain them. It is in this capacity that I think the University may have been able to find someone better suited.”

Despite any disappointment in the selection of a relatively unknown speaker, Lamb said the 2012 Commencement address

merits discussion.

“I mean absolutely no disrespect to Ms. DeMaria. I think she has had to go through a lot and has emerged as a successful and strong woman,” Lamb said. “I think this year’s choice of commencement speaker is fairly unique, and therefore deserves an equally unique discussion.”

Although his original opinion of DeMaria as a commencement speaker has not changed, Heid said the end result matters most in this situation.

“If she delivers a good speech, I will be satisfied,” he said. “Whether or not she will is an open question.”

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# Gone but not forgotten

Deceased members of the Class of 2012 leave their mark on their classmates, future students at Notre Dame

By MARISA IATI  
Associate News Editor

Although three members of the Class of 2012 will not walk at commencement, their legacies continue to shape Notre Dame's campus.

Sam Marx, a resident of Duncan Hall, passed away from cancer July 29, 2009, following his freshman year.

Senior Tighe Beach, a friend of Marx, said he was inspired by Marx's positive outlook on life.

"Sam dared to be happy," he said. "He dared to revel in the beauty of life, despite the poor hand that life dealt him. He was truly a renaissance man. In his short time at the University, Sam changed the lives of those around him forever."

During the academic year following Marx's death, senior Mike Oliver organized Duncan residents to participate in The Bald and the Beautiful event in Marx's honor.

"He was battling cancer for a number of years, so my sophomore year, I decided that we really needed to get Duncan involved and bring that awareness to the cause," Oliver said. "A lot of the current sophomores that knew Sam decided to shave their heads."

Since the first year when 45 residents participated in the event, Oliver said Duncan Hall has continued to be involved.

Oliver said approximately 80 men from Duncan participated in the 2012 event and raised more than \$8,000 for the St. Baldrick's Foundation.

"This year especially, a lot of the people we asked to shave their heads didn't know Sam," Oliver said. "It was just really neat to see his life go on and live on through the event."

Former Duncan rector Fr. Thomas Eckert said Duncan's participation in The Bald and the Beautiful is a testament to Marx's impact on the hall.

"Each year the Duncan Highlanders turn out in huge numbers to shave their heads, raising thousands of dollars for children's cancer research," Eckert said. "Because we had the opportunity to know Sam and the whole Marx family, Highlanders for generations to come will do their part in fighting cancer."

Senior Luke Mansour said spending time with Marx was al-

ways a source of comfort during Mansour's difficult transition to college.

"The things I learned from him in a few months were as valuable as the education I've received at Notre Dame," Mansour said. "He truly loved life and did more in his years than many do in a lifetime ... The time I spent with him here will always be one of the highlights of my life."

After Declan Sullivan died in a scissor lift accident Oct. 27, 2010, Notre Dame and the Indiana Department of Labor launched a campaign to promote aerial lift safety.

The UpRight! Campaign provides safety information for those who work with aerial lifts at universities, colleges and high schools around the country.

The campaign originated after Notre Dame reached a settlement with the Indiana Department of Labor in July 2011. Developing a nationwide education program about scissor lift safety was a component of the settlement.

Declan's father, Barry Sullivan, said he was pleased the University began the initiative. He said he created a video message for the campaign's website encouraging people to take lift safety seriously.

"We're just very pleased with the way that the University has treated us and everything that they've done for us since Declan died," Barry said.

The University also installed a remote video system in March 2011 for its football practice fields, eliminating the need for elevated scissor lifts to film practices.

Shortly after Sullivan's death, current senior Marc Anthony Rosa said describing his friend was an "impossible task." (Editor's note: Rosa is a columnist for The Observer's Viewpoint section.)

"He's an unbelievably unique soul that, when you meet him, he's completely addicting to be around," he said. "He's nonstop energy. He's like no one else you've ever met. Although he may not be here, his soul [will not] leave this campus and the people who've known him."

The senior class overwhelmingly supported honoring Declan's memory through the Class of 2012 Senior Legacy Fund, senior fund co-chair Sylvia Banda said. The fund will benefit the Declan



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Students raise their arms to form an 'X' at the Notre Dame-Navy game last November. Zahm House organized the "Raise an X for X" campaign when Xavier Murphy was in the hospital.

Drumm Sullivan Memorial Fund.

"Donations to the Senior Legacy will assist students who are not only in financial need, but who also have demonstrated the traits that made Declan original, whether through a particular interest in filmmaking, service to underprivileged youth, creative writing or other passions," Banda said. "The response to this fund has been wonderful."

Before senior week, approximately 600 donors contributed more than \$30,000 to the Senior Legacy Fund, Banda said.

Barry Sullivan said he and his family were touched Declan's classmates chose to commemorate his memory.

Fifth-year student and former Zahm House resident Xavier Murphy passed away after a short battle with leukemia Oct. 11, 2011.

Zahm rector Corry Colonna said although Murphy was quiet, he was involved in most of the hall's activities, especially its athletic teams. Murphy was lived an active faith life and participated in Zahm's religious liturgies, he said.

"It was a quiet leadership, a qui-

et presence, but one where every time you saw him he had a great big smile on his face that I think sort of spoke volumes of how much he loved Notre Dame, and loved Zahm and loved the people that he was with," Colonna said. "His positive energy and his love of life and his strong faith, those were ways that he contributed most to all of our lives."

A few weeks after Murphy's death, Zahm organized its "Raise an X for X" campaign, asking students to make an "X" with their arms during the football broadcast. Colonna said the hall began

the initiative when Murphy was in the hospital so he could see the student body show its support for him on television.

After Murphy's death, Colonna said he and Murphy's friends decided to expand upon the campaign. Zahm recruited five co-sponsors

to promote the program, Colonna said.

"It was amazing to me when, not only the student body section, but everyone in the entire stadium, stood up and raised their arms in tribute to Xavier," he said. "I think

that was a real beautiful moment of prayer ... And his parents said more than once how much he would have loved all of that."

Senior Daniel Duffey, a friend of Murphy's, said the "X" Zahm residents usually raise to distinguish themselves from the rest of the student body meant much more the day of the campaign.

"The joining of the entire Notre Dame nation to 'Raise an X for X' showed that we were not only members of Zahm, Fisher, or Dillon, Lyons, [Breen-Phillips] or Cavanaugh, but loyal sons and daughters of Notre Dame paying tribute to one of our own," he said.

Colonna said Zahm sold T-shirts and bandannas as part of the campaign. He said \$5,000 of the money raised went to a scholarship fund in honor of Murphy organized by his high school, Guerin Catholic in Anderson, Ind. Zahm also donated more than \$2,000 to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life and the Murphy family, Colonna said.

"Raise an X for X" showed what Xavier meant to Zahm and Notre Dame, Duffy said.

"Because of the profound impact he had on our community, Zahm will never forget Xavier Murphy," he said. "And from now on, whenever we raise an 'X' in Notre Dame Stadium, I know Xavier's raising one right back at us from heaven."

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*"[Declan is] an unbelievably unique soul that when you meet him, he's completely addicting to be around."*

Marc Anthony Rosa  
senior

# Graduating students celebrate Senior Week traditions

By ANNA BOARINI  
News Writer

For one class-free week, seniors have the opportunity to stay on campus and celebrate their four years at Notre Dame with their friends.

Senior class president Anne Huntington said Senior Week is a perfect way for seniors to have fun and spend a great week together.

"The way we saw Senior Week and what we wanted to do was to get as many members of the Class of 2012 together to celebrate our four years of friendship, fun and studying," she said. "It is a way for us to try and hit on all the different aspects of our time here together one last time."

Some Senior Week traditions

are carried over from year to year, but this year's schedule of events has changed slightly, Huntington said.

This year, the kick-off barbecue was moved off campus to the College Football Hall of Fame, she said.

"We thought a change of venue would be cool and since the College Football Hall of Fame is leaving, and we're all leaving, we thought we would rent out the space and check it out," she said.

On Tuesday night, the Senior Class Council hosted 'Margaritaville' at Legends nightclub on campus.

Huntington said previous Class Councils have planned trips to Cedar Point and the Indiana Dunes. However, these trips have not been well-attended due to weather and

costs, so they were removed from the Senior Week schedule this year, she said.

"We were trying to cut costs and thinking about what was best for 2,000 people and not the 350 that could go," she said.

Despite these changes, Huntington said most traditions continued, including Monday's Commencement Ball. Senior Class Council estimated there were more than 1,500 attendees at the ball, Huntington said.

"[The Commencement Ball] is a really fun night where your classmates show up at a dance, all dressed up and have a really good time," she said.

Senior Ryan Geraghty attended the Commencement ball and said it exceeded his

expectations.

"The ball was surprisingly fun," he said. "It wasn't all fancy and too high-strung ... I got to see all my friends and people who I haven't seen since Frosh-O."

The senior class also traditionally attends a Chicago Cubs game each year, and that tradition continued this year, Huntington said. She said the trip would be expanded upon, offering seniors time to enjoy the city outside of Wrigley Field.

On campus, seniors had the chance to get a behind-the-scenes look at some famed locations they could not access as undergraduates, Huntington said.

"We offer seniors a chance to see places on campus ... like the tunnels, the 14th floor

of the library, the stadium press box and locker rooms," she said.

Huntington said the final traditional Senior Week event is the seniors' last visit to the Grotto and Basilica.

"This is always the Thursday night before Commencement," she said. "It's time for the class to come together one last time to pray and reflect before Commencement."

Huntington said the last Grotto trip can be a very emotional experience for graduating seniors.

"It's usually the kicker. If you haven't cried yet, you're going to cry there," she said. "I cried last year and I wasn't even graduating."

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# FOUR YEARS IN REVIEW

Friday, May 18, 2012

The top Observer news stories from the 2008–2012 academic years

ndsmcobserver.com | page 5



## Obama speaks at Commencement

May 17, 2009

After months of controversy, President Barack Obama delivered the University's 164th Commencement Address, asking graduates to seek common ground on abortion and other divisive issues facing the country.

Obama acknowledged the controversy surrounding his visit to campus and noted the irreconcilable differences in the abortion debate.

"Your class has come of age at a moment of great consequence for our nation and the world — a rare inflection point in history where the size and scope of the challenges before us require that we remake our

world to renew its promise; that we align our deepest values and commitments to the demands of a new age," he told the Class of 2009.

University President Fr. John Jenkins invited Obama to speak at Commencement and receive an honorary degree in March of 2009 — a decision that sparked protests from students, alumni and groups unaffiliated with the University.

The student group ND Response, formed days after Jenkins' announcement, staged demonstrations and submitted a petition to Jenkins criticizing his decision.

Yet a count by The Observer in April

showed that out of 345 Letters to the Editor authored by students, 74 percent were in favor of the invitation and 29 were against Jenkins's decision.

In an interview with The Observer, Jenkins said he was "honored" when Obama accepted the University's invitation.

"Presidents from both parties have come to Notre Dame for decades to speak to graduates about our nation and our world," Jenkins said. "They've given important addresses on international affairs, human rights, service, and we're delighted that President Obama is continuing that tradition."

## University, College lose five students in four years



The Class of 2012 saw the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's communities lose five students over its four years on campus.

Following his freshman year at Notre Dame, Sam Marx passed away after a battle with leukemia. Fellow Duncan Hall residents commemorated Marx's life and passing by participating in The Bald and the Beautiful campaign to benefit cancer research.

Elizabeth "Lizzy" Seeborg passed away Sept. 10, 2010. Friends said Seeborg, a first year student at Saint Mary's, always had a smile on her face.

Junior Declan Sullivan died

Oct. 27, 2010, after the scissor lift from which he was filming football practice fell. Sullivan, a Fisher Hall resident, was a student videographer for the football team. Friends remembered him as fun-loving and outgoing.

Sophomore Sean Valero died in April 2011. Friends from Keenan Hall described Valero as easygoing and a dedicated student.

Fifth-year student and former Zahm House resident Xavier Murphy died after a short battle with leukemia in Oct. 2011. Zahm residents honored him with their "Raise an X for X" campaign.

## Eddy Street Commons opens



Eddy Street Commons opened for business at the beginning of the 2009-2010 school year. Initial tenants Five Guys and Chipotle were followed by more restaurants, bars and retail outlets such as The Mark, O'Rourke's Irish Pub, Urban Outfitters, a Hammes Notre Dame Bookstore offshoot and Brothers Bar and Grill.

August 2009

## Off-campus party bust arrests spike



After a spike in off-campus arrests for underage drinking in fall 2009, the trend to arrest — rather than cite — students for underage drinking caught the attention of both students and the University.

The number of arrests declined after campus leaders began to meet with area law enforcement and educate students about local laws.

August 2010

## IOSHA fines Notre Dame



The Indiana Occupational Health and Safety Administration (IOSHA) found Notre Dame guilty of six violations in the 2010 death of junior Declan Sullivan.

The University later settled with the state, agreeing to contribute to Sullivan's memorial fund, to pay \$42,000 in fines and to establish an educational program focused on scissor lifts.

March 15, 2011

## University responds to healthcare mandate



In early 2012, the Department of Health and Human Services issued a mandate requiring religiously-affiliated institutions to cover employees' contraceptive medicine.

Despite revisions following correspondence between the U.S. and Notre Dame administrations, the University's self-insured status left its predicament unchanged.

February 2012

## Mendoza ranks No. 1 for third year



For the third consecutive year, Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business was named top undergraduate business school by Bloomberg Businessweek magazine.

Mendoza interim dean Roger Huang attributed the ranking to the "unique Notre Dame spirit" incorporated into tracking at the College.

March 22, 2012

## University debates LGBTQ issues



Administrators were called to review the University's non-discrimination clause and the club status of AllianceND, Notre Dame's unofficial gay-straight alliance, in the spring of 2012.

The University declined to add LGBTQ individuals to the non-discrimination clause and deferred its decision on AllianceND to the fall.

April 2012



Jenkins requests healthcare exemption; fifth-year student dies; community remembers Declan Sullivan;

# The Year

## 2011♦

Observer Staff Report

University modifies sexual assault policy

The University adopted a new sexual assault policy in July as a result of a nationwide change in Title IX procedure and a Department of Education investigation at Notre Dame.

The Office of Civil Rights circulated a “Dear Colleague” letter in April that called for all colleges to more strongly implement Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, which prohibits sexual discrimination at institutions that receive federal funds.

Associate Vice President for Residential Life Heather Russell became the University’s Deputy Title IX coordinator. In that role, she is the main point of contact for all sexual assault investigations.

With the changes recommended by the “Dear Colleague” letter and the Department of Education, the new policy is more condensed and structured. Russell said the new system encourages reporting of sexual assault.

“When we’re doing this right ... the number of people reporting is going to go way up,” she said. “I don’t think that’s because there is anything new under the sun. I believe it’s because we are actually creating a system that people think works and a culture of reporting, and some people who have been silent in the past will come forward.”

Remembering 9/11, 10 years later

Throughout the week of the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s communities commemorated those affected by the events. In addition, the University held an outdoor Mass on South Quad, where celebrant and University President Emeritus Fr. Edward “Monk” Malloy estimated between 8,000 and 10,000 were in attendance. Saint Mary’s honored victims of the attack with a candlelight vigil that night.

The Kroc Institute for Peace Studies hosted a panel focused on Middle Eastern relations and peacebuilding in the post-9/11 world the Friday before the anniversary of the attacks. St. Mary’s fine arts students and faculty later remembered victims with an exhibition of music, dance and poetry.

Jenkins requests HHS exemption

University President Fr. John Jenkins wrote an open letter to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) on Sept. 28 requesting that Notre Dame be exempt from the condition of the recent healthcare act requiring employers to provide contraceptive services in their minimum health insurance packages.

Under the law that was to take effect in August 2012, only religious employers would be exempt from providing services

that contradict their conscience. Houses of worship, such as churches, would have been exempt, but religious universities like Notre Dame would not.

In his letter, Jenkins asked HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius to change the definition of religious employers to include Catholic universities.

“I am writing to urge you to broaden the proposed definition of ‘religious employer’ to ensure conscience protections that will allow this university to continue its work as ‘a Catholic academic community of higher learning’ — words taken directly from our mission statement,” Jenkins wrote in his open letter.

Jenkins said as it stood, the mandate would put the University in an “impossible position.”

“This would compel Notre Dame to either pay for contraception and sterilization in violation of the Church’s moral teaching, or to discontinue our employee and student health care plans in violation of the Church’s social teaching,” he wrote.

2011-2012 Forum focuses on education

The 2011-2012 Notre Dame Forum, titled “Reimagining School: To Nurture the Soul of a Nation,” brought together American educational leaders in a year-long discussion of the challenges and questions that shape the national debate about K-12 education.

The first of several Forum events took place Sept. 26, when former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush gave an interactive address titled “The Architect: Radical Education Reform for the 21st Century.”

A Sept. 28 panel discussion titled “The Conversation: Developing the Schools Our Children Deserve” featured four prominent voices of K-12 education reform: Bishop Gerald Kicanas of the Diocese of Tucson and chair of Catholic Relief Services; Wendy Kopp, founder and CEO of Teach for America; Juan Rangel, CEO of Chicago’s United Neighborhood Organization and Randi Weingarten, president of the American Federation of Teachers.

On Nov. 18, New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie spoke about the legal issues relating to education, including charter schools, the education gap and the effect of the current state and local fiscal crisis on public education.

New York University professor Diane Ravitch, a distinguished education historian, spoke April 10 about the current state of American public education.

Fifth-year student dies of cancer

Xavier Murphy, a fifth-year student and resident of Zahm House, died Oct. 11 after a short battle with leukemia. He was 22.

Murphy, originally from Anderson, Ind., graduated with a degree in political science with the Class of 2011, but he remained on campus in the fall to take a class and intern

with the football team.

The Notre Dame community honored Murphy at the Oct. 29 football game against Navy by making an “X” with their arms as part of Zahm’s “Raise an X for X” campaign.

Zahm House sold T-shirts and bandanas as part of the campaign. The hall donated \$5,000 of the money raised to a scholarship fund in honor of Murphy organized by his high school. The dorm also donated more than \$2,000 to the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life and the Murphy family.

Senior Daniel Duffey, a resident assistant in Zahm and a friend of Murphy, said “Raise an X for X” showed what Xavier meant to Zahm and Notre Dame.

“Because of the profound impact he had on our community, Zahm will never forget Xavier Murphy,” he said. “And from now on, whenever we raise an ‘X’ in Notre Dame Stadium, I know Xavier’s raising one right back at us from heaven.”

One year later, community remembers Sullivan

A year after his death, the University commemorated student Declan Sullivan in several ways. Sullivan died in a scissor lift accident Oct. 27, 2010, while filming a Notre Dame football practice. He was 20.

In August 2011, Notre Dame and the Indiana Department of Labor launched a campaign to promote aerial lift safety. The UpRight! Campaign provides safety information for those who work with aerial lifts at universities, colleges and high schools across the country.

The campaign originated after Notre Dame reached a settlement with the Indiana Department of Labor in July 2011. Terms of the settlement included the development of a nationwide education program about scissor lift safety.

Declan’s father, Barry Sullivan, said he was pleased the University began the initiative. He taped a video message for the campaign’s website encouraging people to take lift safety seriously.

The senior class chose to honor Sullivan through the Class of 2012 Senior Legacy Fund. The fund will benefit the Declan Drumm Sullivan Memorial Fund, which assists students who are in financial need and share some of Sullivan’s interests, such as creative writing, service to underprivileged youth and filmmaking.

Prior to Senior Week, approximately 600 donors contributed more than \$30,000 to the Senior Legacy Fund, senior co-chair Sylvia Banda said.

HHS announces compromise

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced Jan. 20 that religiously affiliated institutions would be exempt from a new law requiring employers to provide contraceptive services as part of

their minimum health insurance packages. The ruling, however, is unclear regarding self-insured institutions such as Notre Dame.

The decision came following an interim ruling in August 2011.

On Feb. 10, President Barack Obama announced a modification to the HHS mandate, where insurance companies, and not religiously-affiliated institutions, will be responsible for providing contraceptive services. Notre Dame is self-insured but works with Meritain, a third-party administrator, to process the University’s claims and provide administrative services, according to University Spokesman Dennis Brown.

Jenkins said the accommodation was a “welcome step” by the Obama administration.

“The widespread concerns expressed by Catholics and people from other faiths have led today to a welcome step toward recognizing the freedom of religious institutions to abide by the principles that define their respective missions,” he said in a Feb. 10 statement. “We applaud the willingness of the administration to work with religious organizations to find a solution acceptable to all parties.”

ND responds to incidents of discrimination

Within one week in February, both the Black Student Association and the African Students Association had fried chicken parts placed in their mailboxes in the LaFortune Student Center. The student body was informed of the incidents in a Feb. 24 email.

The subsequently formed “Call to Action” committees formulated a plan intended to correct a campus culture in which discrimination can persist.

Members of the Notre Dame community also met in a March 5 town hall meeting to discuss the incidents and to address the need to foster a more inclusive University community.

Senior Brittany Suggs, former chair of the Black Student Association, said there was an increase in reporting instances of discrimination and an increase in faculty members’ availability in assisting students with reporting after the town hall meeting.

Student government will implement programs to inform community members about diversity issues in the fall, student body president Brett Rocheleau said.

Vice President for Student Affairs Fr. Tom Doyle said the Office of Student Affairs will emphasize training the residence halls’ Freshman Orientation staffs in racial sensitivity. The University will also focus on enforcing hiring practices that build this sense of community, Doyle said.

Businessweek ranks Mendoza No. 1 for third year

The Mendoza College of Business pulled a

### 2011

#### NOTRE DAME YEAR-IN-REVIEW

**Sept. 28:** Jenkins requests HHS exemption

Following the issuance of a Department of Health and Human Services mandate requiring religiously-affiliated institutions to cover the costs of employees’ contraceptive medicines, University President Fr. John Jenkins wrote the department requesting exemption from the law.

**Sept. 26:** Education Forum kicks off

The 2011-2012 Forum, titled “Reimagining School: To Nurture the Soul of a Nation,” began in Sept. Speakers included Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, Catholic Relief Services chair Bishop Gerald Kicanas and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie.

**Oct. 11:** Student loses battle with leukemia

Fifth-year student Xavier Murphy lost a short battle with cancer on Oct. 11. After graduating with the Class of 2011, Murphy remained at the University to take a course and intern with the football team. Zahm House residents led a campaign “Raise an X for X” during football season initially to show support during his fight with the disease and later to honor his memory.

**Jan. 20:** University denied HHS exemption

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced a change in the rule regarding religiously affiliated employers and mandated insurance coverage of contraceptives. The rule remained unclear regarding self-insured employers such as the University.

### 2012



“Call to Action” issued on discrimination; Jenky homily sparks debate; Doyle replaced; ND considers LGBTQ issues

# in Review

## ♦2012

hat trick when Bloomberg Businessweek magazine named it the top undergraduate business school in the nation for the third consecutive year March 20.

Robert Huang, interim dean of Mendoza, said the spirit of Notre Dame is the “secret sauce” that leads to the continued success of the program.

“It’s the spirit that faculty has for helping students, the spirit of career services and student services at the University level and ways they go out of their way to help students, the spirit of Mendoza students to work hard and the spirit of alumni and friends of Notre Dame for the College,” Huang said.

Huang said the college will use its No. 1 ranking to show that Mendoza will continue to do the “right thing” and put its students’ best interests first.

“Being No. 1 is a responsibility because we are in the limelight,” he said. “It’s an opportunity to show the world who we are and what we stand for, which is that you can be good professionally and academically while being true to your values and traditions at the same time.”

### Rocheleau, Rose win single-ticket race

Juniors Brett Rocheleau and Katie Rose won the Feb. 8 election for student body president and vice president, respectively, in the first single-ticket election in recorded student government history.

The pair won the election unopposed with 57.3 percent of the 2,382 votes cast, vice president of elections for the Judicial Council Caitlin Ogren said. Forty-two percent of voters abstained from voting for the Rocheleau-Rose ticket.

Rocheleau said his administration hopes to advocate for the student body in matters of consequence and convenience.

“We want to hear the pulse of the students as well as act on it,” he said. “We want to hear what drives them, what’s really important to them, and we want to advocate on those issues.”

The Rocheleau-Rose platform included goals of improving the constituent service capacity of Notre Dame, increasing safety for all students, deepening relations with the city of South Bend, modernizing the University and connecting with the global community.

### Parsons, Casey win office

Juniors Maureen Parsons and Meghan Casey were elected March 2 to represent the Saint Mary’s student body as president and vice president, respectively, for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Parsons and Casey, who beat juniors Taylor Hans and Betsy Hudson in the student body election, said they plan to create a mentor program for first-year students to improve their transition into the College and

unify students of all class years.

The pair also aims to work with College administration to develop a master calendar for Saint Mary’s that can be used by students, faculty and staff.

### Admissions more competitive than ever

Notre Dame accepted fewer students for the Class of 2016, as an unprecedented number of admitted applicants chose to attend the University last year.

The rise in exceptional applicants and fall of available spots led to increased selectivity in the admissions process, Don Bishop, associate vice president for undergraduate enrollment, said.

A total of 16,952 high school seniors applied this year, and 3,850 were admitted for an acceptance rate of 22.7 percent. Last year, a total of 16,520 students applied, and the University accepted 4,019 for an acceptance rate of 24 percent. Two years ago, 29 percent of students were accepted.

The University waitlisted 2,500 applicants last year, but none were accepted due to the high number of admitted applicants who chose to attend Notre Dame, Bishop said.

The median ACT score of accepted students for the Class of 2016 was 33, and the median SAT score of 1460 increased by 17 points over the Class of 2015, Bishop said.

Due to the excellent qualifications of legacy applicants, 24 percent of students admitted for the Class of 2016 were legacy, Bishop said.

### Community responds to Jenky homily

In April, at least 143 Notre Dame professors and faculty signed a letter addressed to University President Fr. John Jenkins and Richard Notebaert, University Fellow and chair of the Board of Trustees, requesting Bishop Daniel Jenky of the Diocese of Peoria, Ill., to renounce controversial statements he made in an April 14 homily, or to resign from the University’s Board of Fellows, of which he is a member.

The letter also requested the University issue a statement distancing Notre Dame from Jenky’s “incendiary statement.”

In his homily, Jenky criticized President Barack Obama’s health care policy and its impact on the Catholic Church. Jenky compared the impact of such policy to other historical challenges the Church has faced, citing the regimes of Adolf Hitler and Joseph Stalin as examples.

Professors and faculty received an email statement signed by Jenkins and Notebaert in response to the letter. The statement thanked the professors and faculty for the letter, but declined to comment on Jenky’s homily.

Pro-life activist Randall Terry visited Notre Dame’s campus to host a press conference and deliver a letter to Jenkins. He

and 13 other cosigners called on the professors and faculty who submitted the letter to Jenkins and Notebaert to repent or “have the decency to resign.”

### Doyle replaced at Student Affairs

Fr. Thomas Doyle will be replaced as vice president for Student Affairs after serving for only two years, the University announced May 1.

Erin Hoffman Harding, vice president for strategic planning, will take over for Doyle on Aug. 1. University President Fr. John Jenkins made the decision to replace Doyle, University Spokesman Dennis Brown said.

“Erin brings with her to this new position a wide range of extraordinary skills that will serve the University well,” Jenkins said in a press release. “I am likewise grateful to Tom Doyle for his excellent leadership and service over the past two years.”

Doyle will serve as a faculty fellow in the Institute for Educational Initiatives, a pastoral minister and an adviser to the Office of Human Resources. Doyle said he has enjoyed his years as head of Student Affairs, especially the opportunity to form relationships with students and their families.

“It allows me to say to the cynics of the world that there’s hope,” Doyle said. “You get a chance to see students at their very best — and sometimes when you see them at their very worst, it’s the portal through which they’re going to become their very best.”

### University maintains clause wording

Amidst the mounting call for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) equality at Notre Dame, the University chose not to add sexual orientation to its nondiscrimination clause April 25.

University Spokesman Dennis Brown said it was “a collective decision” to maintain the current wording of the nondiscrimination clause, though University President Fr. John Jenkins ultimately made the call.

Brown emphasized Notre Dame does not discriminate or tolerate harassment on the basis of any personal characteristic, including sexual orientation.

“We think it is important for our faculty and staff and students to not only feel just comfortable here, but to know that if the need were to arise, that they have access to a full range of remedies, including legal remedies, if they were wronged in any way because of sexual orientation,” he said.

Sexual orientation is currently part of the University’s discriminatory harassment policy, which protects current students and employees experiencing harassment.

Including sexual orientation in the non-discrimination clause would protect prospective students and employees in areas such as admissions, employment, scholarships and athletics.

### GSA decision postponed

In the wake of increased student activism fueled by the Progressive Student Alliance’s 4 to 5 Movement, Notre Dame announced May 1 it would continue to consider approving a gay-straight alliance (GSA) as an official student club, deferring a decision until the fall.

The deferral marks the first time an application for a student club addressing lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) issues was not denied.

In an email to the co-presidents of AllianceND, the unofficial GSA that applied for club status, Director of Student Activities for Programming Peggy Hnatusco said the administration would consider the club’s approval in the context of existing resources and Catholic teaching.

“The University intends to review the breadth of structures and services currently provided to LGBTQ students and their allies by the University in the hopes of making the best decisions possible to support our students and the University community, all within the context of Catholic teaching,” she stated in the email. “I will review AllianceND’s application in the course of those discussions.”

University Spokesman Dennis Brown said University leaders will come together this summer to review the existing structures and services for LGBTQ students and their allies.

### Rees arrested on four misdemeanor counts

Junior quarterback Tommy Rees and senior linebacker Carlo Calabrese were arrested at an off-campus party on North Notre Dame Avenue during the early morning hours of May 3.

Rees, who started 12 games in 2011, was charged with four misdemeanors: illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor, battery and two counts of resisting law enforcement.

Calabrese was charged with a misdemeanor count of disorderly conduct for his actions following Rees’ apprehension, which included alleged threats of the linebacker saying “My people are going to get you,” to law enforcement. Prosecutors later charged Calabrese with a misdemeanor count of intimidation.

Rees, 19, recorded a .11 blood-alcohol content when he was booked at St. Joseph County Jail, according to the police report.

Initially, Rees was charged with a felony count of battery to a police officer, but prosecutors ultimately decided to drop the charge to a misdemeanor, aiding the quarterback not only legally, but also in his disciplinary case with the Office of Residence Life and Housing.

Rees had not yet appeared in court at the time this publication went to print.

#### March 20: Mendoza maintains top ranking

For the third consecutive year, Bloomberg Businessweek magazine ranked Notre Dame’s Mendoza College of Business as the top undergraduate business program.

#### Feb. 8: New student government heads elected

Juniors Brett Rocheleau and Katie Rose were elected to student body president and vice president after running unopposed. The election made University history as the first single-ticket race.

#### April 23: Faculty request apology from Jenky

Following a controversial homily by University Board of Fellows member Bishop Daniel Jenky, 143 faculty members signed a letter to University President Fr. John Jenkins requesting a formal apology from the bishop and that the University distance itself from Jenky’s remarks. In an email sent to faculty members, Jenkins declined to comment on the homily.

#### April 25: Administration declines to amend clause

The University chose not to add sexual orientation to its non-discrimination clause in April. The Student Activities Office later postponed its decision on official recognition of AllianceND, campus’s unofficial gay-straight alliance.

#### May 3: Quarterback arrested on misdemeanors

Notre Dame football quarterback Tommy Rees was arrested on May 3 on four misdemeanor counts. Charges included illegal consumption of alcohol by a minor, battery and two counts of resisting law enforcement. Senior linebacker Carlo Calabrese was also arrested on a count of disorderly conduct and later charged with intimidation.



# University, College honor Class of 2012 valedictorians

Two graduating Saint Mary's College seniors share top spot



Photo courtesy of SMC Media Relations

Seniors Annie Bulger, left, and Krystal Holtcamp were named co-valedictorians for the Class of 2012. Bulger is a mathematics major and Holtcamp is a biology major.

By JILLIAN BARWICK  
Saint Mary's Editor

Two valedictorians will leave a unique legacy at the College when they address the Saint Mary's Class of 2012 at Saturday's Commencement ceremony.

Seniors Annie Bulger and Krystal Holtcamp were named co-valedictorians for the Class of 2012. Both students earned perfect 4.0 grade point averages during their time at the College.

Bulger, a mathematics major from Minneapolis, Minn., who graduated in December 2011, said she is grateful for the opportunity to represent Saint Mary's and the rest of her department.

"This is such an honor to be co-valedictorian with Krystal," Bulger said. "I am really glad to be able to represent the math department at Saint Mary's. I love my fellow math majors and all of the professors in our department."

Holtcamp, a biology major with a concentration in molecular and cellular biology from Mentor, Ohio, said she was "completely surprised" when she heard the news.

"The day I found out I was going to be co-valedictorian with Annie was a very interesting one," Holtcamp said. "I had just completed my senior comprehensive and had learned that I had been accepted to Butler University's physician assistant program. Hearing about being co-valedictorian was just fantastic."

Since Bulger completed her time at Saint Mary's in December, she has worked a full-time job at One:Ten Communications in South Bend, where she builds websites for the company.

"During the summer following my sophomore year, I was granted a Summer Ex-

periential Learning Grant with One:Ten Communications through the Career Crossings Office," Bulger said. "I greatly enjoyed the chance to learn more about computer programming and technology from my fellow employees at One:Ten, and I was fortunate to be able to continue working after I graduated as a full-time employee."

Holtcamp will begin the University of Toledo's physician assistant program after graduation.

"It is a 28-month program where I will receive my Master's degree," Holtcamp said. "After that, I hope to be able to head closer to home in Cleveland and work at the Cleveland Clinic. I am really open to anything though."

Both Bulger and Holtcamp said they are excited and ready to head off into the

next chapters of their lives, but will miss the experiences they have had at Saint Mary's.

"I chose to come to Saint Mary's in large part because of what I saw in the professors," Bulger said. "I saw that

they were at Saint Mary's because they were passionate about their students and passionate about doing all that they could to enable their students to learn."

Holtcamp said she could not choose just one part of her time at the College she

would miss the most.

"In my time here, I have been blessed with so many experiences that I will remember for the rest of my life," Holtcamp said. "Each of these experiences comes from different parts of my Saint Mary's education, including the encouraging professors that have helped me academically, the ministries that have expanded my faith, the powerful, influential body that Saint Mary's women represent and the friends and family that have been with me through everything."

Above all, Bulger said she hopes her classmates remember to take the time to talk with people and to appreciate the daily interactions they have with others.

"While doing missionary work between my sophomore and junior year of college, I spent a great deal of time just talking to the people in the neighborhood and hearing about what they had to say," Bulger said. "It really taught me that I do not want to miss out on the depth people have and the interactions I come across."

Holtcamp said her speech will focus on relishing the day her fellow graduates will share as classmates during commencement Saturday.

"Getting rid of the worries we have for the future and the regrets we have from our past is what counts," Holtcamp said. "Looking at the moment we are in now as graduates of Saint Mary's College is an amazing accomplishment in itself."

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O'Brien builds foundation on research

By JOHN CAMERON  
News Editor

For 2012 valedictorian Michael O'Brien, the sense of community and core values during his class's time at the University will be the foundation of a positive outlook of the "real world" he and his peers soon face.

"I think [in my address] I'm maybe a bit more realistic about what's next for us, about the realities of the world outside of Notre Dame, which, as we've seen, is pretty filled with divisiveness," he said.

O'Brien, a political science major from St. Charles, Ill., is attuned to the social and political state of the world, as he has been working hard on research on international relations set to be published this summer.

This summer I'll be working with [political science professor] Sebastian Rosato on an article that will be published by the Nobel Institute, which is pretty cool," O'Brien said. "Then we'll try to publish it in a U.S. journal of international relations."

O'Brien said he considers this and other research opportunities he has taken advantage of at Notre Dame to be the most rewarding part of his University experience.

"In terms of academics, [my most valuable experience] was writing a senior thesis," he said. "It was a long, extended project that forces you to pick up skills in research and argumentation on your own."

Between his dedication to his research projects and maintaining a 4.0 grade point average, O'Brien said finding balance was a priority throughout his collegiate career.



O'Brien

"[Notre Dame offers] good opportunities to balance your life," he said. "Football on Saturdays, research projects, different courses, even finding things to do in South Bend."

O'Brien said he found respite from the rigors of his academics in extracurricular activities and leadership roles around campus, including serving as president of College Democrats.

"[College Democrats is] something I got involved with early by working with the Obama campaign freshman year," he said. "The other thing I really enjoyed was being vice president of service for Circle K. It was really gratifying ... and we had a great variety of students that worked together."

O'Brien, who recently earned a full-tuition Rubenstein Scholarship to the University of Chicago Law School, said he attributes his academic achievements to his pursuit of his interests, not just what was practical or easy.

"It's just about being really passionate about what I do," he said. "I don't think I would have been successful if I came in and did business or chemistry because I don't feel the same draw to those things. My work excited me, and that's an important part of doing well."

For underclassmen and members of the incoming freshman class, O'Brien suggests a similar approach

to academics and college in general.

"I'd say they should take seriously the many different opportunities Notre Dame gives you and to try your hand at all of them," he said. "Look for new things in

your interdisciplinary requirements, sciences, philosophy and theology to see what catches your interest. Also, take advantage of the different research and service opportunities Notre Dame has ... just to seek balance in your life. And have fun."

Contact John Cameron at  
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*"[Notre Dame offers] good opportunities to balance your life."*

Michael O'Brien  
valedictorian

*"Look for new things in your interdisciplinary requirements, sciences, philosophy and theology to see what catches your interest."*

Michael O'Brien  
valedictorian

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# Graduating seniors set to enter into service work

By NICOLE TOCZAUER  
News Writer

While many graduates prepare to enter the traditional work force, roughly 10 percent of the class of 2012 are set to pursue service work after graduation. Graduating senior Annie Boyle is one such student looking to make the leap into something different.

Boyle said her experiences at Notre Dame helped her decide to volunteer after graduation.

“I have committed to a year with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC) in the Northwest. I’ll be working at a Catholic Charities organization in Spokane, Wash.,” she said. “My Summer Service Learning Program (SSLP) had perhaps the greatest influence on my decision to commit to post-grad service.”

Boyle’s SSLP took her to a camp for children and teens with physical disabilities for eight weeks. She said the atmosphere at Notre Dame and the opportunity to interact with service-oriented individuals was also influential.

“The kids that I met during my SSLP exhibited more positive energy than most individuals that I know. Each had a great capacity for finding joy in life’s everyday activities, despite the physical challenges that these activities often posed,” Boyle said. “They became my own little role models for living in gratitude.”

Boyle said she looks forward to the sense of community in the

JVC.

“I’m looking forward to meeting and learning from people with different life experiences than my own,” she said. “I’ll be living with five to six other volunteers.”

Boyle said her work with the JVC will help her prepare for other challenges and positions in life as she continues to be engaged with social issues.

“I think that a year, or more, of full-time service allows grads not only to deepen their awareness of social issues and work toward positive change, but also to achieve a better understanding of their personal strengths and values,” she said.

Erica Michelle Severson, a 2011 graduate who works as a patient navigator for breast cancer patients with the Redeemer Ministry Corps, said her choice to enter volunteer service gave her time to discern a future career in medicine, dentistry or other allied health fields.

“Professional school is a very large commitment, so before I put a large amount of time and money into it, I wanted to be sure of the profession I chose,” she said. “Doing service is also a fabulous way to learn more about yourself in an environment you normally wouldn’t be exposed to.”

Severson said the mission of Redeemer Ministry Corps is to “Care, Comfort and Heal.” Volunteers serve in ministries throughout the Holy Redeemer Health

System and the local community, she said.

Spending the summer after her sophomore year in an Summer Service Learning Project (SSLP) at Matthew 25, a free medical and dental clinic in Indiana, helped her with the decision, she said.

“I felt honored to help serve so many patients and provide them with comfort during their suffering,” she said. “The experience allowed me to witness the trials of those who are uninsured and develop a greater understanding of poverty.”

Severson said she plans to return to school for a masters program before pursuing dental school.

“After my experience working in a health system, I want to coordinate positive changes in healthcare,” she said. “I would love to found a non-profit organization or work for one in the future.”

She said graduates entering volunteer service should be patient and flexible, especially as their job tasks change throughout the year.

“Every action you perform might not be the most valuable or significant contribution, but it is necessary to perform to the work you’re doing,” Severson said. “Remember this year is a learning experience.”

Many seniors who are participating in service work after graduation discerned their path of volunteerism with the help of the Center for Social Concerns



Photo courtesy of Erica Severson

**Boston College graduate Alissa Vigil, left, and 2011 alumna Erica Severson serve at the Redeemer Ministry Corps in Philadelphia.**

(CSC).

Michael Hebbeler, director of Student Leadership and Senior Transitions at the CSC, said the Senior Transitions Program is designed to assist students who hope to integrate social concerns into their postgraduate careers.

“The CSC is committed to helping students discern their vocation, whether it’s through seminar immersions, summer service-learning programs, theological reflection, the study of Catholic Social Teaching or local volunteer service,” he said.

Hebbeler said a special commencement ceremony will be held in honor of students entering volunteer service on May 19 in

the Leighton Concert Hall of the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center. Speakers will include University President Fr. John Jenkins, Bill Lies, CSC executive director and Katie Bergin, a 1994 graduate who volunteered with the Holy Cross in Chile.

Hebbeler said students entering post-graduate service work should be open to where the experience may take them.

“Recognize that the greatest challenges and sorrows just might lead to the greatest growth, to celebrate the joys, and to trust,” he said.

Contact Nicole Toczaue at [ntoczaue@nd.edu](mailto:ntoczaue@nd.edu)

# University to award 11 honorary degrees at Commencement

By KRISTEN DURBIN  
News Editor

Notre Dame will award 10 honorary degrees at this year’s commencement ceremony, in addition to the honorary degree given to commencement speaker Haley Scott DeMaria.

DeMaria, a former Irish swimmer who made a remarkable recovery from injuries sustained in a team bus accident, will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. Other recipients will be honored with degrees in science, law and engineering.

Dick Ebersol, a longtime television producer for NBC, will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. His career credits range from “Saturday Night Live” to the Olympics, including eight of the top 10 most-watched television events in U.S. history. Ebersol was also instrumental in acquiring the rights to televise Notre Dame home football games on NBC. He temporarily dropped out of Yale in 1967 to become television’s first-ever Olympics researcher, and he has worked to make NBC the home of the Games since 1992. For 22 years, Ebersol also led the network’s coverage of professional baseball, basketball and football, including several Super Bowls.

Jude Banatte, head of programming for Catholic Relief Services (CRS) in Haiti, will receive an honorary doctor of science degree. Banatte gained international recognition for his leadership in the response to Haiti’s 2010 earthquake. In the aftermath of the quake, Banatte visited hospitals, assessed medical needs and helped search for survivors and medical supplies. He has also led CRS initiatives to provide temporary shelter for quake victims and traveled as an advocate for the country’s needs. A Haitian native, he earned a medical de-

gree in 1991 and immediately joined CRS.

The University will also award mathematician Luis Caffarelli an honorary doctor of science degree. A leader in the field of partial differential equations and their applications, he has taught at the universities of Minnesota, Chicago, and Texas and New York University and Princeton University. He currently serves as a professor of mathematics at the University of Texas at Austin. His work has made significant scientific contributions in the areas of homogenization, nonlinear elliptic equations and free boundary problems. Caffarelli received the American Mathematical Society’s Leroy P. Steele Prize for Lifetime Achievement in 2009.

Former Dean of the Mendoza College of Business Carolyn Woo will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. After leaving her position as dean in 2011, Woo is now president and CEO of Catholic Relief Services. In 1981, she joined the faculty at her alma mater, Purdue University, where she later served as director of the Krannert School of Management and associate executive vice president for academic affairs. She began her tenure as Mendoza’s dean in 1997 and became a leader in integrating Catholic faith and business excellence, a relationship solidified by Mendoza’s focus on ethics and its top ranking among undergraduate business schools for the past three years.

Archbishop Wilton Gregory will be honored with a doctor of laws degree. The leader of the Archdiocese of Atlanta, Gregory served as president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops during his tenure as bishop of Belleville, Ill., in 2001, making him the first African-American ever to head an episcopal conference. Pope John Paul II appointed him archbishop of Atlanta in 2004. He has

written extensively on the liturgy and on Church issues, including pastoral statements on the death penalty, euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide.

Notre Dame will award alumnus Kevin Hasson an honorary doctor of laws degree. A leading legal advocate of religious freedom, Hasson is founder and president of the Becket Fund for Religious Liberty, a nonpartisan public-interest law firm that represents people of all faiths, from Anglicans to Zoroastrians. As a Notre Dame undergraduate, Hasson majored in economics and theology, and he received both a master’s degree in theology and a law degree from the University. He served in the Justice Department and advised the White House on church-state relations and constitutional issues under then-Deputy Assistant Attorney General Samuel Alito. He is the author of several works on religious liberty, including a book titled “The Right to be Wrong: Ending the Culture War over Religion in America.”

Muhtar Kent, chairman and CEO of The Coca-Cola Company, will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. Born in New York and educated in Turkey and London, Kent began his tenure at Coca-Cola in 1978 as a truck driver. He rose through the company’s management ranks in Central Asia and Europe until 1999, when he became president and CEO of the Istanbul-based Efes Beverage Group. He rejoined Coca-Cola after six years with Efes and was named CEO in July 2008.

Notre Dame alumnus Joseph O’Neill will be honored with a doctor of laws degree. A member of the Board of Trustees, O’Neill is the managing partner of O’Neill Properties, a Texas oil and gas production company founded by his father, also a Notre Dame alumnus and Trustee. His ser-

vice to the University includes a tenure as president of the Notre Dame Alumni Association and a member of the College of Engineering Advisory Council. He is also the benefactor of O’Neill Hall and was elected to the Board of Trustees in 2001.

Fr. David Tyson will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree. A member of the Board of Trustees and former president of the University of Portland, Tyson currently serves as the provincial superior of the United States Province of the Congregation of the Holy Cross, a position he has held since 2003. A Notre Dame alumnus, Tyson has served in several roles at the University, including admissions counselor, assistant rector, business professor, executive assistant to the president and vice president for student affairs. During his tenure

at Portland, Tyson led a major expansion of its campus, endowed teaching chairs and funding, including a tripling of the university’s endowment.

James Wagner, president of Emory University, will be honored with a doctor of engineering degree. An award-winning teacher, prolific author and advocate of liberal education, Wagner has taught engineering at his alma mater, Johns Hopkins University, and Case Western Reserve University, where he served as a dean, provost and interim president for five years. He became Emory’s president in 2003 and continues to engage in scholarship on the relationship between ethics, science and the role of the university.

Contact Kristen Durbin at [kdurbin@nd.edu](mailto:kdurbin@nd.edu)



## DIRECTOR OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

Saint Joseph Parish, a vibrant, Catholic, faith community of nearly 900 families and a large, K-8 grade school in South Bend, Indiana, seeks a **full-time Director of Marketing & Communications**. This Pastoral Team position furthers the mission of the parish by promoting St. Joseph Church and School through various marketing initiatives and by communicating news and the good things going on at St. Joseph Church and School to the parish membership, school community, school alumni, and the wider community through use of digital and print media, as well as through diocesan, Holy Cross, and local media.

**Qualified applicants** will be practicing Catholics with strong communication skills and creativity. Applicants must possess a bachelor’s degree, be proficient in writing/editing and design/layout, and possess web/computer aptitude. The successful candidate will also possess high organization skills, be willing to seek professional development opportunities, and be able to work well with others.

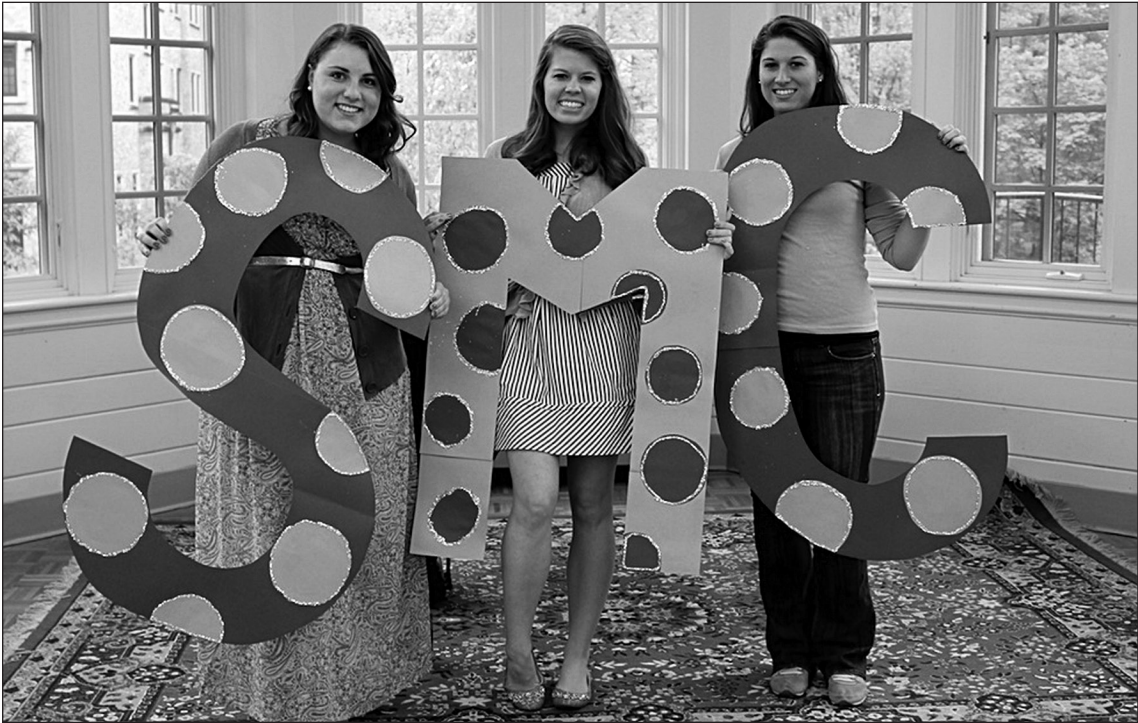
**Number of hours/week negotiable.** Salary is commensurate with education and experience. Visit [www.stjoeeparish.com](http://www.stjoeeparish.com) for a complete position description. Qualified candidates should send a cover letter and résumé with references to: Fr. John DeRiso, CSC  
Saint Joseph Parish  
226 N. Hill Street  
South Bend, IN 46617

Questions may be directed to Fr. John DeRiso, CSC, Pastor, at 574-234-3134, ext. 20 or [jderiso@stjoeeparish.com](mailto:jderiso@stjoeeparish.com).





# SMC class gift breaks record



Class Gift Campaign senior co-chairs Elizabeth Busam, left, and Jessica Gagnon, right, stand next to campaign advisor, Amy Dardinger, center. The class gift was presented May 14.

By CAILIN CROWE  
News Writer

The Saint Mary's Class Gift Campaign broke records this year by raising \$14,311.68, the largest student gift in the College's history, campaign advisor Amy Dardinger said.

This year, 207 seniors, 51.1 percent of the Class of 2012, contributed to the gift, Dardinger said, and students can continue donating until May 31.

Senior Jessica Gagnon, co-chair of the Senior Class Gift Committee, said donating to the Class Gift Campaign provides Saint Mary's students with an opportunity to show their support and gratitude to the College.

"It shows your dedication to Saint Mary's, and is a way to thank your school for four great years," she said. "Making a donation to the 2012 class gift is a great way to give back and allow future Belles to have the same opportunities as you."

Earlier in the year, the Class of 2012 voted to have their class gift contribute to either a scholarship fund or a donation to the Angela Athletic Facility, Dardinger said.

"A scholarship would be great, because a lot of our students are scholarship recipients, and this would give students the opportunity to give back and help current students," she said. "[Donating to] Angela would also be fantastic, because the building is in need of renovations and every little bit helps."

Tribute gifts comprise a significant portion of the Class Gift Campaign, Dardinger said. These contributions allow students to donate money to their class gift in honor of someone who has played an important role in their Saint Mary's career.

"Tribute gifts were a great motivating tool this year, because people wanted to honor those who meant a lot to their Saint Mary's experience," Dardinger said. "This year, 33 students chose to make a tribute in honor, memory or thanks for the support of someone special."

Gagnon said promoting donations of class-themed gifts of \$20.12 each helped break the class gift fundraising record.

"The Class of 2012 has done an extraordinary job of fundraising, and they've really

rallied over the last couple of months to make a significant gift to the College," Gagnon said. "Getting more girls to donate \$20.12 was a big improvement compared to years past, when students would only donate a couple dollars or spare change."

Parent support has also contributed to the senior class's fundraising efforts, Dardinger said.

"We also ask parents to honor their daughters by making a gift to the Class of 2012, and we had a fantastic response this year," she said.

The 2012 class gift will leave a strong legacy at the College, Dardinger said.

"Class Gift Campaign is important because it helps set up the future of the College," she said. "This current senior class will represent 2.5 percent of all alumnae when they graduate, so they have a lot of power to influence what happens to Saint Mary's in the future. Their class gift is the first gift current seniors are going to give to the College and one that they will remember forever."

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# University awards 2012 Laetare Medal

By KRISTEN DURBIN  
News Editor

Ken Hackett, former president of Catholic Relief Services (CRS), will receive the 2012 Laetare Medal during the 2012 Commencement Ceremony.

The Medal, established at Notre Dame in 1883, is the oldest and most prestigious honor given to American Catholics. It 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," according to a University press release.

University President Fr. John Jenkins praised Hackett's compassion and strong commitment to worldwide outreach throughout his tenure at CRS.

"Ken Hackett has responded to a Gospel imperative with his entire career," Jenkins said in the press release. "His direction of the Catholic Church's outreach to the hungry, thirsty, naked, sick and unsheltered of the world has blended administrative acumen with genuine compassion in a unique and exemplary way."

After serving CRS in various capacities since 1972, including a stint as its regional director for Africa and in several posts throughout Africa and Asia, Hackett was appointed president of CRS in 1993, according to the press release. He held the position for 18 years until his retirement in December. Hackett was succeeded by Carolyn Woo, former dean of the Mendoza College of Business.

Hackett, a native of West Roxbury, Mass., became interested in international service when he enrolled in the Peace Corps following his graduation from Boston College in 1968 because he said "it seemed like an interesting thing to do."

Hackett's experiences living in a Catholic mission and working in an agricultural cooperative project in rural Ghana demonstrated the "actual impact of American food aid on the health and well-being of very poor kids in a very isolated part of a West African country," he said in the press release.

After completing his Peace Corps assignment, he continued his commitment to service by beginning his CRS career in Sierra Leone, where

he administered both a maternal and child health program and a nationwide leprosy control program.

While serving as CRS regional director for Africa, Hackett addressed the agency's response to the Ethiopian famine of 1984-85 and supervised CRS operations in East Africa during the Somali crisis of the 1990s, according to the press release.

During his tenure as the agency's sixth president, Hackett oversaw the redoubling of CRS efforts to engage the American Catholic community in worldwide service work by reaching out to Catholic organizations, dioceses, parishes, and colleges and universities throughout the country. CRS also incorporated lay people into its board of directors under Hackett's supervision.

The organization, one of the world's most effective and efficient in global relief and development, now operates in more than 100 countries with a staff of nearly 5,000, according to the press release.

In addition to his service as CRS president, Hackett also served as the North America president of Caritas Internationalis, the coalition of humanitarian agencies of the Catholic Church. He continues to serve as an adviser to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and as a board member of the Vatican Pontifical Commission Cor Unum.

Hackett was awarded an honorary degree from Notre Dame in 2007. He also holds honorary degrees from Boston College, Cabrini College, University of Great Falls, College of Notre Dame of Maryland, Mount St. Mary's University, New York Medical College, Siena College, University of San Diego, Santa Clara University, Villanova University and Walsh University.

The Laetare Medal is named in celebration of Laetare Sunday, the fourth Sunday in Lent and the day Notre Dame announces its recipient each year.

The 2011 Medal was jointly awarded to Sr. Joan McConnon and Sr. Mary Scullion, founders of Project H.O.M.E. Previous recipients include President John F. Kennedy, Catholic Worker founder Dorothy Day, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin and jazz composer Dave Brubeck.

Contact Kristen Durbin at [kdurbin@nd.edu](mailto:kdurbin@nd.edu)

# Graduating seniors look to explore call to religious vocations

By TORI ROECK  
News Writer

After a long discernment process, several graduating seniors will explore the call to religious vocations after their time at Notre Dame.

Fr. Jim Gallagher, director of the Office of Vocations, said some students will enter the Congregation of Holy Cross, while others will join diocesan seminaries in their hometowns or different religious communities.

"The call isn't ever going to be a solid sense of 'Yes, this what I'm going to do for the rest of my life,'" Gallagher said. "It's more a sense of, 'I think there's something there, and I want to go and give at least a year or so to figuring it out.'"

Senior Chris Brennan said he has been discerning whether God is calling him to the priesthood since high school, prompting him to join Old College his freshman

year.

Brennan said his time in Old College cemented his desire to become a Holy Cross priest.

"It's the community, the community support and the familial bonds that you make," he said. "My best friends are in Holy Cross, and we're as close as brothers."

Living in Old College while still being a normal Notre Dame student helped in the discernment process, Brennan said.

"Being able to have the structured prayer life in college while still taking classes with other students was a great balance," he said.

Brennan, who lived in Moreau Seminary his senior year, said he will travel to Colorado Springs, Colo., for his novitiate year in the fall.

"I'm looking forward to growing in my spiritual life but also growing in self-knowledge and humility," he said. "To have that time to be on a mountain and hike and be

in the beauty of nature is a very unique opportunity. It's a gift."

Although Brennan said he is excited to pursue religious life, he is nervous about being asked to give spiritual advice.

"It's scary ... [to face] your own unworthiness," he said. "You're going to be telling people to do something that you yourself struggle with, and constantly being aware of your own sinfulness while still having to try to help others through that, even though you may know that they're holier and better people than you are yourself."

Despite his anxieties, Brennan said he is confident in pursuing a religious vocation.

"I look forward to being happy, being hopefully a joyful priest that inspires other people to love Christ," he said.

Senior Laura Thelen said she is returning to her hometown of Ann Arbor, Mich., to enter a semi-cloistered Dominican convent.

As a biochemistry major, Thelen said she wrestled with the decision to go to medical school or become a nun.

"I did the whole MCAT thing and almost applied to medical school," Thelen said. "I decided I just didn't feel confident enough about that ... Deep inside, I don't know how to explain it, but I really feel like God wanted me to explore [religious life]. Not that I think I'll be there forever, but that this is where I think He wants me to be for next year."

Thelen said the Dominican community she is joining is young and active, and most of the nuns teach high school.

"My community is really young and really fun and really crazy," she said. "They play sports all the time ... and they were on 'Oprah.'"

Joining the convent will be a formative experience, Thelen said.

"I'm really excited to get deeper into prayer," she said. "I really want to do what I feel called to.

... There's something that keeps pulling my heart onward."

Thelen said she is most nervous to be separated from her family and friends.

"It's scary to lose family and friends. I'll still see them, of course, but a lot less," she said. "It's scary being separated from the real world."

Gallagher said he advises those seniors entering religious life not to expect to discern their calling quickly.

"My advice is not to get too wrapped up in figuring out too quickly if this is what they're supposed to be doing," Gallagher said, "Enter into the year and let the rhythm of religious life help them develop their sense of self, their relationship with the Lord, and through that they'll gain a better sense of whether this is something that they're called to do."

Contact Tori Roeck at [troeck@nd.edu](mailto:troeck@nd.edu)



## SCENE'S

# I LOVE THE CLASS OF 2012

By KEVIN NOONAN and COURTNEY COX

Scene Editor and Associate Scene Editor

Freshman move-in and orientation for the class of 2012 began on August 22, 2008. It was a different world back then.

Lady Gaga's debut album, "The Fame," hit the stores just three days earlier, to disappointing early sales. George W. Bush sat in the oval office. Britney Spears was too crazy to be good anymore, and Charlie Sheen was just a wacky former 80s star on a television show that nobody really liked.

Robert Pattinson was the kid who died in the fourth Harry Potter movie, and people hated vampire movies only because of the "Underworld" series. Larry King and Oprah both had television shows, and the Kardashians only had one.

Nobody had ever heard of Justin Bieber, Katy Perry, Ke\$ha, Nicki Minaj, an iPad, Instagram, Pinterest or "Angry Birds."

A lot can change in the span of four short years, and the last four did not disappoint.

## 2008



**Aug. 22** Welcome to college.

You were so cute and innocent and naive back then.

**Sept. 13** Tina Fey does Sarah Palin

Two weeks after John McCain named Palin his running mate in the presidential election, Fey returned to Saturday Night Live for what was to be one of the most popular impersonations in SNL history, garnering nearly 6 million views online in less than a week.



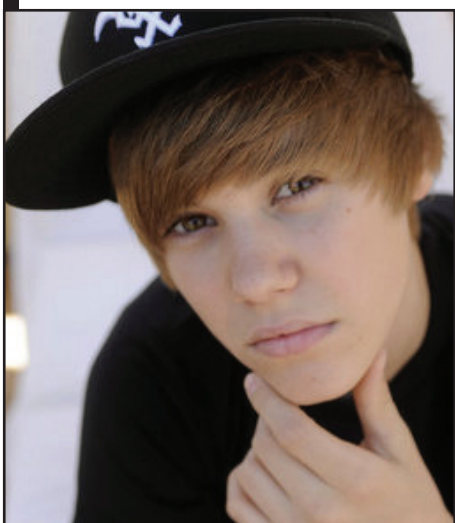
**Nov. 21** "Twilight" hits theaters

Stephanie Meyers says the idea for her series of vampire-romance novels came to her in a dream, which is exactly what the movies have been for the filmmakers, earning over two-and-a-half billion dollars to date at the box office. Of course, depending on whom you ask, the movies are more nightmare than dream.

## 2009

**May 18** Justin Bieber will make more money than you ever will

In May 2009, international teen heartthrob and pop superstar Justin Bieber was just another irrelevant Canadian in a world full of them. But then his first single, "One Time," hit the airwaves May 18, and the transition from 15-year-old singing covers on YouTube to megastar was almost instantaneous.



BRANDON KEELAN | Observer Graphic

**May 19** Glee hits Fox

In an unusual move by the network, the pilot episode of the series was aired on its own, with the rest of the series to follow in September. The cover of "Don't Stop Believing" featured in the episode became a hit and sold over 150,000 copies in the first week and when the rest of the series followed it came with week after week of delicious pop covers and dream guest spots.



**June 22** Everybody hates Jon and Kate

Reality television darlings Jon and Kate Gosselin announced their divorce only two years after their show, "Jon and Kate Plus 8" first aired. But that didn't mean they were ready to relinquish the spotlight. As they said, the show must go on, and they tried to make it go on as long as possible in some sort of sick "which one is least sympathetic" competition. At least Kate got that ridiculous side mullet chopped off.



**June 25** Michael Jackson dies

The King of Pop was planning a comeback tour and was rehearsing in Los Angeles when his health took a dramatic turn for the worse. The world went crazy, causing websites such as Twitter, Wikipedia, The Los Angeles Times, TMZ and even AOL Instant Messenger (which people still used, apparently) to crash for short periods of time.



**Sept. 13** "Imma let you finish"

Taylor Swift was in the middle of accepting the MTV Video Music Award for Best Female Video when Kanye West pulled a classic Kanye West. He climbed on stage, grabbed the microphone from Swift and uttered the now immortal words. His rant ran out of steam fast and ended awkwardly, showing once again he's not that great in live performances.



# SCENE

Friday, May 18, 2012

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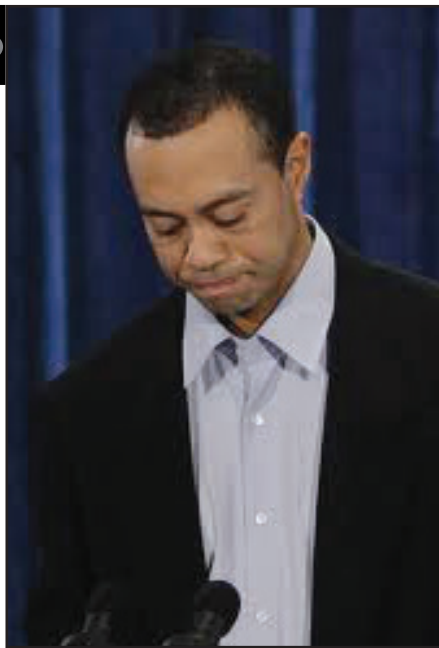
## Dec. 9 GTL enters common vernacular, America dies inside a little

MTV's hit reality show, "Jersey Shore," became an instant cultural phenomenon almost immediately on arrival. Snooki, Ronnie, Vinny, Sammi, Pauly D and The Situation introduced the world to the Guido lifestyle, a term that sounds and probably is wildly racist in some contexts but became instantly cool.

2010

## Feb. 19 Tiger loses his cool

Following months of tabloid speculation and more than a dozen women claiming affairs with him, Tiger Woods makes a televised statement admitting to spending the previous month-and-a-half in a sexual addiction therapy program. Woods, once the number one golfer in the world and highest paid player in professional sports between winnings and sponsorships, lost most of his lucrative sponsorships following the scandal and has won only one PGA Tour event since.

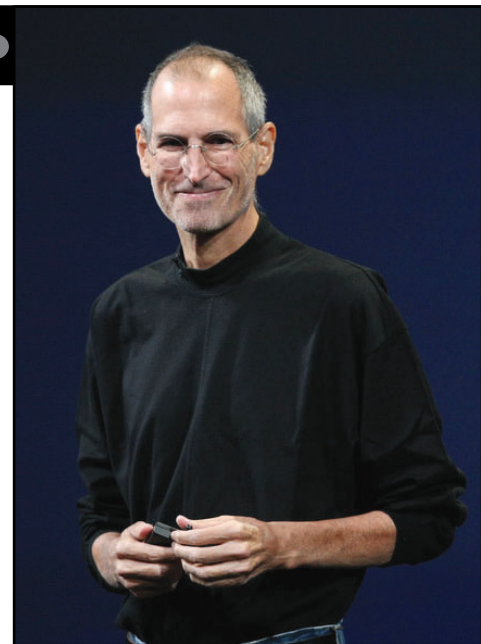


## May 7 Winning

Charlie Sheen is literally nuts. Though this was a generally accepted fact in pop culture, it wasn't really apparent just how off the wall insane Sheen was until his firing from CBS' "Two and a Half Men" in early March and his subsequent internet meltdown. There was something comical about watching someone fully expose their crazy with such reckless abandon, but the entertainment quickly waned and Sheen cleaned up his act, sort of.

## Oct. 5 End of an Era

Steve Jobs, the visionary founder of Apple and only person allowed to wear a turtleneck to a major business presentation, passed away after a battle with pancreatic cancer. He was a tech pioneer and brought the world some of the most revolutionary inventions of the last decade. Memorials sprouted up at Apple stores across the country in remembrance of the man who put the "i" in innovation.



2012



## Oct. 30 Rally to Restore Sanity and/or Fear

The Fall of 2010 was a bit of a crazy time for politics. The Tea Party craze was sweeping the nation, the midterm elections were at hand, and Glenn Beck was plotting a rally to "Restore Honor." It was perfect fodder for comedy. Thus Jon Stewart launched his "Rally to Restore Sanity" and Colbert hopped on the bandwagon with his "March to Keep Fear Alive." Washington was filled with fans bearing signs of reasonableness and/or fear and musical guests like Sheryl Crow and John Legend kept the crowd entertained.



## Feb. 18 Biebs and Selena make "Call Me Maybe" a hit

Believe it or not, "Call Me Maybe" was released in September of 2011, but it didn't reach mainstream attention until a homemade video of Justin Bieber, Selena Gomez, Ashley Tisdale and crew hit the web in February. It reached more than 36-million views and caused celebs like Katy Perry to film their own version of the video. "Call Me Maybe" even found its way into just about every mash-up created during the month of February.

2011

## Apr. 29 The Royal Wedding

Prince William, Duke of Cambridge and future King of England, and Kate Middleton were wed at Westminster Abbey in London in a ceremony that was viewed by millions across the globe, including more than 72 million on the YouTube stream. The wedding cost was estimated at over \$32 million in American dollars, and was the first wedding of British royalty since Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson in 1986.



## Mar. 23 Katniss kills at the box office

"The Hunger Games," Suzanne Collins' post-apocalyptic trilogy about teenagers fighting to the death was adapted into a feature film starring Academy Award-nominated Jennifer Lawrence. It received mixed reviews but brought Hunger Games mania front and center. The subsequent two films seem poised to make Lawrence and her co-stars Josh Hutcherson and Liam Hemsworth bonafide stars.



## May 20 Commencement

Have fun in the real world.

Contact Kevin Noonan and Courtney Cox at knoonan2@nd.edu and ccox3@nd.edu



## INSIDE COLUMN

Diploma?  
Don't need it

For the last 12 years, whenever I walked down the stairs at home, I passed a Notre Dame diploma. In 2003, that one increased to two, and eventually a third was added.

I always had trouble believing I would complete the set of four. I'm still not entirely convinced.

But even if I have failed at that task, today is here nonetheless, and as is said, how quickly does today turn into yesterday. Once today is yesterday, we will no longer be part of the elite group known as Notre Dame undergraduates. Instead, we will be part of the much larger population of Notre Dame alumni.

Supposedly, Notre Dame alums are an illustrious bunch. For years, we have heard about the networking, the clubs and the Alumni Association itself. By Sunday afternoon, we will be a part of it all.

In that respect, as we scatter around the country and the globe, we will still have common ties. But do we not have those anyways? To draw an extreme example, if I don't receive a diploma this weekend, would that truly separate me from my 2,000 classmates? Sure, I wouldn't be in the football ticket lottery and my class ring would be even more obnoxious than it was originally, but are these the things we came to Notre Dame for? We came for a thorough, well-rounded education. The University-required classes assured the well-rounded factor, and each of our majors was plenty thorough.

We came for good times. Finny's, Kildare's and Brothers treated us well. As did the Bahamas, the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica. Let's forget not about the lovely weather, the dining hall holidays and, sincerely, the marshmallow fight. We came for faith. Dorm masses have laid a foundation. Campus-wide masses have brought us together, both in celebration and in sorrow. The Grotto has welcomed us at all hours. Our faith has developed, even when we did not realize it.

We came for football. Well, this is awkward. Maybe we didn't win as many games as we wanted, but we did have sprinklers and snowballs, a rain delay and a night game. We came for friends. And we leave better in that regard than we could have ever imagined. We've found best men and maids of honor. We've found roommates who may as well be brothers or sisters. We've found classmates and co-workers who hold those titles in name only — they are so much more.

So, with apologies to the Alumni Association and all the good it does, joining my brothers as alums does not thrill me much. Rather, I'll remember my undergraduate days. I did not come to Notre Dame for a diploma. I came to Notre Dame for knowledge and know-how, faith and football and, most importantly, life-long friends.

And I got them. Thank you to my 2,000 classmates, not to mention predecessors, professors and Observer staffers, for helping me along the way. Oh, and don't worry Mom. I am getting a diploma tomorrow, and yes, you can hang it with the others.

*Douglas Farmer is graduating with a degree from the Program of Liberal Studies and a minor in Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. He'll now intern with the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, and if anyone has ideas for him after that, send them to dfarmer1@nd.edu. That account should be active for a little longer, right?*

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



**Douglas Farmer**

*Editor-in-Chief Emeritus*

## Moments of Notre Dame

My Notre Dame experience, not unlike life itself, can be summed up by a series of individual moments.

The first moment comes on a Saturday afternoon in December. Around noon. I know the time because I had already been waiting for hours.

When the mail clanked through the slot, I bolted to the door, grabbed the pile and clambered up the stairs. In utter disbelief, I read my Notre Dame acceptance packet: "Welcome home."

It was the first and only time in my life that I have cried of happiness.

I can still remember this moment perfectly. The moment my childhood obsession became a reality, the moment I started to fall in love with Notre Dame.

Eight months later, I arrived on campus wearing the rose-colored glasses that characterize the honeymoon phase of any new relationship. I pinched myself when walking past the Dome on the way to class. The Notre Dame monogrammed waffles in the dining hall were the best thing I'd ever tasted and certainly were not going to make me gain the Freshman 15. And by my first football game in the student section ... forget about it, I was officially in love.

I coasted through the rest of freshman year and made it through my first

"long-distance" summer. But I soon found the honeymoon phase fading until there were moments I felt disillusioned with my beloved Notre Dame.

I discovered a Notre Dame that maintained appearances to the outside world while ignoring the needs of its family. I discovered a Notre Dame that was a slave to Catholic doctrine instead of thinking for itself and leading by example. I discovered a Notre Dame that had inconsistent policies with inconsistent consequences.

Did these bureaucratic failings define the university I had fallen in love with?

Ultimately, I only needed one moment to answer that question. I found it when I was covering the memorial Mass for our classmate, Declan Sullivan, for The Observer.

Shortly after Communion, I slipped out the side door to find at least a thousand students — most of whom had never met Declan — huddled together on that chilly, autumn night.

In that moment, the sea of flickering candles seemed to go on forever. In that moment, strangers became family. In that moment, I swear I could feel Declan smiling.

Words fail to do it justice. It was the single most moving moment of my life. And it was also the moment I realized that it is the people — not the Catholic Church, the administration or even the University president — that truly define Notre Dame.

Since then, there have been many smaller moments that have allowed me to fall deeper in love with Notre Dame, flaws and all.

The nights when the Grotto absorbed my anxiety and grief, and gave me its

serenity in exchange. When I was in a bad mood and someone held the door open for me going into LaFun. Late nights in The Observer office when we were all delirious, but Deb's candy made it okay. The support of my rector when I lost faith in the administration. The magic of singing the alma mater.

Most of all, I have loved the countless moments I've spent with my friends here. Those moments spent laughing, dancing, "hoping," making up nicknames for people we don't know, seeing how loudly we can talk before Christina hears, eating, eating and more eating. The precious moments that helped a motley crew come together to make the perfect family.

Come Sunday, I'll add one last moment to the list — the moment I receive my Notre Dame diploma. And in that moment, I expect I'll have only one thought:

Faithfully and unequivocally, love thee Notre Dame.

*Sarah Mervosh is graduating with a degree in Arabic, Psychology and Journalism, Ethics and Democracy. She would like to thank her parents for giving her the gift of a college education, Jeff for taking her to her first Notre Dame game and her grandparents for regularly sending cards with cute animals on them. She would also like to thank her business major friends in advance for remembering her when she is a poor journalist and needs beer money. Sarah can be reached at sarahmervosh@gmail.com*

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



**Sarah Mervosh**

*Managing Editor Emeritus*

## Clichés we love

Going into college four years ago, people tried to prepare me with a series of clichés. "These will be the best four years of life. The people you meet will change your life. Football Saturday is like nothing you've ever seen before. You will remember that late-night walk you took with your best friend more than that test you didn't study for enough. You will grow up and find yourself. These four years will fly by."

As it turns out, most of these clichés are correct. And while we never want our life to be a cliché, college might just be meant to be that way. Clichés are based on a frequency of expression, after all.

Like that last one — these four years will fly by. Notre Dame has only been four out of 22 years of my life. But I feel like I've been here forever.

Frosh-O seems a lifetime ago, but I still reminisce with my Dome Dance date about walking to the JACC together. And I will always remember meeting my best friends at the Keenan freshman dance.



**Maija Gustin**

*Scene Editor Emeritus*

My time at Notre Dame has been a blur, but I feel like I've never known anything else. I struggled to master the words to every football cheer and now I can do them in my sleep — and have, I'm sure.

These four years under the Dome will amount to only a small percentage of my life, but Notre Dame will always be my home. I will remember the challenges and the triumphs, football wins and football losses, mozzarella sticks in the dining hall and steak sandwiches at Pole 13, late nights studying in the library and late nights working away at The Observer, finding a whole new world as a freshman on campus and finding a whole new world studying abroad in London, Muddy Sunday, first Feve, never winning at trivia, Thursday Jersday and Kamen 11.

And it's all been because of you, Notre Dame. Thank you to my friends who've made even a night at Sbarro fun, to my classmates and professors who have given me the best education in the world, to my Observer family and my London family, to tailgate friends, Finny's friends, football friends, Pangborn friends, Cavanaugh friends, DPAC friends, library friends and to every friend who has made these four years so great. To my family.

This weekend really is that time of lasts we've been fearing, but as I look towards it,

I am just as excited as I am sad. I may be blubbering like a small child come graduation Sunday, but I feel ready for the next step in life, and that is the greatest gift Notre Dame could have ever given me.

Life may never feel this safe and, well, not easy, but simple and easy to navigate again. But these four years, inside and outside the classroom, have been the best preparation in the world.

I graduate Sunday with my peers, who I know will change the world in profound ways, because they are a miraculous group of people. We may always wish we could relive our college years, but we are all ready for even more. To you, the class of 2012. It's been real. And hey, after graduation, why don't you call me maybe.

*Maija Gustin is graduating with a degree in English and Film, Television and Theatre. She would like to thank her family for love, support and at least attempting to understand her crazy career choices. She dedicates her degree to the memory of Rebecca Ruehrdanz-Gustin, whose spirit has led her in her every success and which she will always carry with her. Maija can be reached at mgustin@alumni.nd.edu*

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

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"The very essence of leadership is that you have to have vision. You can't blow an uncertain trumpet."*

**Rev. Theodore Hesburgh, C.S.C.**  
**Notre Dame President Emeritus**

CONGRATULATIONS,  
**SENIORS**

## QUOTE OF THE DAY

*"Win or lose, do it fairly."*

**Knute Rockne**  
**American football coach**



## Now it's time to turn

"To everything, turn, turn, turn,  
There is a season, turn, turn, turn,  
And a time for every purpose, under  
Heaven."

The Byrds' song, inspired by Ecclesiastes, captures the many dimensions and emotions of our ever-changing lives. The moment that giant, regal envelope came in the mail with our names stenciled in gold — or a phone call from the admissions office said we got off the waitlist, as in my case — our lives set on a new course.

From spring to summer, summer to fall, our realities shifted in 2008. We fell from the top of the high school food chain to the bottom of the Domer pecking order. Our egos, surrounded by the best of the best, got a much-needed reality-check.

Four years later, we emerge more confident in our abilities, wiser than we thought we would be and still wildly inexperienced in the realities of the world. A mix of excitement and anxiety flutter in our stomachs as graduation edges ever closer.

Our season as Notre Dame students is coming to a close, and of course it's



**Adriana Pratt**

*Assistant  
Managing  
Editor Emeritus*

sad. Of course we're going to miss the people we lived with, studied with, partied with and crushed on from afar.

Those moments we embarrassed ourselves and the ones in which we exceeded our own expectations have equally shaped our character and ambitions.

We couldn't see it while we were in it, but looking back it's obvious there was a plan all along. The "Turn! Turn! Turn!" lyrics provide a perfect frame to recount those moments that brought us to these final days as Domer undergrads.

A time to laugh: If Facebook serves one purpose, it's to ensure we ruin our chances of employment by providing an Internet record of our hilarious undergraduate moments. Themed parties, spring breaks, dorm dances and numerous nights on the town set the stage for some of the most random entertainment we've provided and witnessed.

A time to weep: Notre Dame football. But next year will definitely be better!

A time to build up: I've never met a more service-oriented group of individuals than those at Notre Dame. From tutoring to building homes to shaving our heads in solidarity with cancer victims, our class went above and beyond in the realm of helping others. By building up other communities, we strengthened the bonds of our own.

A time to break down: Too. Much. Work. We all had those moments when a precarious dash up Main Build-

ing's steps no longer scared us, as we became more and more certain we couldn't conquer not only Hesburgh's, but Notre Dame's challenges. Despite our doubts, we did. And here we are. Don't forget just how successful you can be.

A time to dance: From Frosh-O to dirty dorm rooms to the Finny's stage, if one thread pirouettes through our four years at Notre Dame, it's dancing. Sweet to sassy to sloppy, we've tested our moves and certainly left indelible impressions on our peers. Whether or not that's a good thing, it was undeniably fun.

A time to mourn: Over the past few years, we tragically and unexpectedly lost irreplaceable members of our community. Declan Sullivan, Xavier Murphy and others prematurely passed and left holes we're still not sure how to fill. We learned lessons about life and death before we wanted to, but now understand the preciousness and fragility of the days we've been blessed with.

A time to gain: Memories. As a quote inked on former Editor-in-Chief Douglas Farmer's desk says, "We just don't recognize the greatest moments of our lives as they are happening." We know the thrills of anticipation and the longing of looking back, but while we're gaining the moments we'll fondly recall, we lose ourselves in them. And that's the beauty of living and the beauty of college.

A time to lose: The Freshmen 15. Or the Senior 16. We can no longer blame "college" for the sometimes less-than-stellar health choices we make, but we can certainly blame our future careers. Cheers to the working world!

Life is a question mark right now, a path we can't see two steps beyond where we stand. It's half the appeal, half the battle. We know, though, that the fullness of the experiences we claim our own has prepared us to test those uncertain waters.

We'll definitely mess up, that's for sure. But there will also be success and (hopefully) lots of it. May the next season of our lives be as diverse and wonderful as the one that's ending.

This was our season.

Now it's time to turn, turn, turn.

And find our purpose under Heaven.

*Adriana Pratt is from Carmel, Ind., but is excited to start her post-grad life as a journalist in New York City. Many thanks in advance to any friends, family and homeless people who offer her a place to stay on their couch/floor/bench. She feels truly blessed to have met so many fabulous people over the past four years and can't thank them enough for all the help and guidance they'll be forced to provide in the future. She can be reached at apratt@nd.edu*

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## The 'break-the-ice' college experience

Writing the final words of my career as a student writer should probably be a bit harder than this. Reflecting on four years of friendships, accomplishments, failures and laughs should take at least a full day of sitting in my room, before composing an eloquent farewell worthy of the independent newspaper serving Notre Dame and Saint Mary's.

Thankfully, the good people at Hallmark do a better job than I ever could putting together cliché goodbyes.

So instead of a farewell column to The Observer, I'm opting for a farewell to columns.

The first column I ever wrote appeared in the Sept. 16, 2009 issue of The Observer. For 474 words, I ripped the Career Fair as a four-hour track race dressed up as a networking event to give employers and students a sense of entitlement. After attending the Career Fair four consecutive years, I can say that's largely untrue.



**Chris Masoud**

*Assistant  
Managing  
Editor Emeritus*

But in my first foray in column writing, I wanted to get my name out there for something edgy. Like much of my first two years at The Observer, I figured sacrificing integrity for a sensational topic would pay dividends. Needless to say it didn't work, and I remained a low-level sports writer with a peeve against people finding jobs.

The turning point came exactly one year later when I reached rock bottom after writing a piece titled "Section 32." What started as an attempt to call out the student section during football games turned into a perceived endorsement of violence in the stands and a personal PR disaster. After more than a few calls for my resignation and some serious damage control from my editors, I finally put my head down and prioritized The Observer in my life.

During those first two-and-a-half years, I most certainly set the record for the "Can you please stop by the office to talk?" unofficial disciplinary meetings.

I pushed my editors to the brink with my writing, downright disrespected them in conversation and really showed no desire to improve. As a business major without an inkling for a career in journalism, I mistook

The Observer as a pastime instead of the opportunity to take on a unique responsibility unlike any other offered at Notre Dame.

But I wouldn't have changed the trajectory of my career path from layout artist to assistant managing editor in the slightest.

My public humbling and private disciplining were essential to my development at The Observer and Notre Dame. Taking the raw person who thought he was more talented than he really was and turning him into a writer, student and leader who actually turned out better than he thought possible has been The Observer's greatest contribution on my life.

For that, I thank all the editor-in-chiefs, managing editors, assistant managing editors and sports editors who suffered through my growing pains so that I might at least see the potential I could reach.

That brings me to perhaps my favorite column, the championship column following the 2010 women's soccer team victory over Stanford in the NCAA College Cup. In addition to providing my profile picture for the next 17 months, the experience was everything I now miss in my post-Observer life — sharing mo-

ments with people who endured the same journey as you did. Sure, I had to let this particular moment soak in longer than the others, but writing in a McDonald's tollway oasis before uploading pictures on a smart phone tethering the Internet while driving at 2 a.m. is something my colleagues and I won't forget anytime soon. That, and proofreading a 24-page paper at 3 a.m. in the basement of a cafeteria.

And although I'm relegated to reliving memories through a farewell to columns, which has inevitably turned into a farewell column, The Observer will be for me what it has been to privileged editors before and will be to naïve ones in the future — the break-the-ice college experience you never run out of words to describe.

*Chris Masoud will be graduating with a degree in Finance and Economics and will begin working at Centerview Partners in July. He will miss the smell of freshly-printed newspapers in the morning and poking fun at Dodgers fans. He can be reached at cmasoud@nd.edu*

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### FR. THEODORE HESBURGH

*"Notre Dame can and must be a crossroads where all the vital intellectual currents of our time meet in dialogue, where the great issues of the Church and the world today are plumbed to their depths, where every sincere inquirer is welcomed and listened to and respected by a serious*

*consideration of what he has to say about his belief or unbelief, his certainty or uncertainty; where differences of culture and religion and conviction can co-exist with friendship, civility, hospitality, respect and love; a place where the endless conversation is harbored and not foreclosed."*

—From "The Endless Conversation" video, 1975



## You can always come back home

Well, folks, there's nothing like a final column to remind you that graduation is quickly approaching.

This is my last time to write as a student of Saint Mary's.

So, I want to dedicate this final column to the Belles of Saint Mary's Class of 2012.

Before I dive into the sentimental stuff, I must say thank you to all the Belles who made my job as Saint Mary's Editor fantastic.

Due to your amazing accomplishments and your drive to make Saint Mary's an even better community, you became the newsworthy events I so frantically searched for every week. I am so grateful that you shared your stories with me.

Now, if you're like me, you've been crying at every little thing that reminds you of the dreaded "G" word, but I've found a song that comforts me every time I'm feeling sad to leave — Jason Mraz's "93 Million Miles." Go ahead, play it.

"Just know, that wherever you go, no you're never alone, you will always get back home."

I remember the first time I called Saint Mary's home. It was an extremely strange feeling.

Until that moment, I had never called anything home other than the place where my family was.

Calling a college "home" was ridiculous to me. I'd only be spending four years here. How could one place suddenly transform into "home" in that short amount of time?

Then, I drove down The Avenue before my senior year, and that all changed.

The people of Saint Mary's have encouraged me to grow these past four years, they have pushed me to succeed in all the ways possible and they have led me to discover the person I want to be.

Here, I have deepened my relationship with my own family, my friends and with God. Sure sounds like home to me.

"Sometimes it may seem dark, but the ab-



**Caitlin Housley**

*Saint Mary's  
Editor  
Emeritus*

sence of the light is a necessary part."

Now, after four years of finding a home here, we're told we have to leave. Yet, people are strangely excited to see us go.

They have watched us grow and are now eager to see what we accomplish. Everyone is congratulating us, but the fear of leaving this place we know and the people we love hinders our celebration.

It's a new, unknown chapter, but one that shows us just how much Saint Mary's and the relationships we have formed here mean to us.

"People get ready, get ready, 'cause here it comes. It's a light, a beautiful light, over the horizon into our eyes ..."

But, have confidence knowing that the education you have received here has prepared you for anything you may have to face in life.

It may seem terrifying now, but know that you are strong, amazing women who are capable of doing amazing things and bringing beautiful light to anything you do.

So, when your name is called, walk across that stage proud — proud of yourself and your accomplishments these past four years, proud of your fellow Belles and proud that you have earned an education that has prepared you for this next step.

Most importantly, be proud and excited that once you receive that diploma, you become a member of a family that will always stand behind you and support you.

"Just know, you're never alone, you can always come back home."

Belles of 2012 ... congratulations. You honestly and truly rock.

*Caitlin Housley is graduating with a degree in Communications with a concentration in Mass Communication and minors in Public Relations, Advertising and Public Communication.*

*She would like to thank her parents for everything they've done for her, her Saint Mary's sisters and Jimmy John's (of course). She encourages everyone to let a smile be your nametag always. She can be reached at chousl01@saintmarys.edu*

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

## What have I learned?

Unless something rather miraculous happens between now and Sunday morning when I walk across the portable stage in Notre Dame Stadium, chances are I will not have a full-time job waiting for me after I graduate.

If someone had told me that would be the case when I applied to schools as a high school senior, my seventeen-year-old self would have taken that as an indictment of Notre Dame.

But now, on the eve of graduation from this University, I am keenly aware of how much Notre Dame has given me during my four years here.

No matter what happens next in my life, I am confident that I will succeed because of what I have learned at this place. What have I learned?

Always big cup it.

Lose sleep.

Agreement isn't always a good thing.

Quarter dogs are always worth it.

Hesburgh Library becomes a Ultimate

Fighting Championship octagon during finals week.

Lunch is optional.

Sports beside football are cool, too.

The Digital Visualization Theater is the



**Pat Coveney**

*Photo Editor  
Emeritus*

coolest thing ever.

If you take a foreign language, constantly study vocabulary.

Your job will never be as cool as Matt Cashore's.

The Observer exists solely to publish Question of the Day.

Study abroad, but don't dwell on it when you come back.

3 a.m. is an acceptable time to start a paper.

Marshmallows are impossible to get out of clothes.

Work and play should mix — often.

I may not have full-time employment, but I do have some of the greatest people I've ever met by my side.

I've graduated from the University of Notre Dame and getting to this point has been the best journey of my life. Wherever I go next, I will always be a man of Notre Dame and I will never forget the alma mater — I couldn't wish for anything more than that.

*After graduation, Pat will be moving to Denver, Colo. in search of employment. "Go west, young man," they said. (Right? They said that, right?) He's pretty handy with a camera, so if you need someone ... just sayin'. He can be reached at pcoveney@nd.edu*

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**The Observer would like to thank the following seniors for the countless hours they spent in the newsroom and on location to uncover the truth and report it accurately.**

**Micahlyn Allen  
Ren Brauweiler  
Walker Carey  
Pat Coveney  
Elisa DeCastro  
James Doan  
Courtney Eckerle  
Douglas Farmer  
Sara Felsenstein  
Amanda Gray  
Maija Gustin  
Lisa Hoeynck  
Caitlin Housley  
Amanda Jonovski  
Lauren Kalinoski  
Alex Kilpatrick  
Marina Kozak  
Tom La  
Jeff Liptak  
Katherine Lukas  
Chris Masoud  
Sarah Mervosh  
Mary Claire O'Donnell  
Matthew Saad  
Molly Sammon**



LETTERS FROM PAST ISSUES

## Four Years in Review

### Obama speaking

I am Roman-Catholic, pro-life and middle-upper-class citizen with strong leanings toward the Republican Party. Oh, and one more thing: I am ecstatic that the President of the United States is coming to speak at my graduation Commencement.

Within hours of the big announcement on Friday, I was receiving infuriating emails from my fellow pro-lifers calling for the immediate repeal of President Obama's invitation to Notre Dame. "We must stand against evil," said one message. "He supports gay marriage, which is an affront to the family," read another. "He should not be given this opportunity to confuse our youth." One message went so far as to compare Obama with history's most hated villain.

The email read: "The German people supported Hitler because he was dynamic and promised jobs and food. There is more to a man than his charisma." There is also more to a man than his views on the single issue of abortion. Such rash and radical comments not only fail to promote the end of abortion, they undermine the entire pro-life movement.

In an emergency press release issued by the Pro-Life Action League, national director and Notre Dame alumnus Joe Scheidler made the following statements: "Over the first two months of his administration, Barack Obama has established himself as the most pro-abortion president in U.S. history. My alma mater should not be providing a platform for this president. Father Jenkins cannot expect pro-life Catholics to stand back and allow the most pro-abortion president in U.S. history to make a mockery of Notre Dame's Catholic identity."

As a pro-lifer myself, I understand where Scheidler is coming from; I, too, am concerned for the pro-life movement under the Obama administration. I simply cannot agree, however, with the idea that Notre Dame, one of the finest academic institutions in the nation, should deny the President of the United States a platform to speak solely because of his views on abortion, nor is his speech supposed to play a pivotal part in the formation of our Catholic identity.

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

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

To disinvite the President of the United States based on a single issues, even one as important as abortion, would be a disgrace both to our Catholic identity and to this great Catholic University .

Mark Weber  
senior  
off campus  
March 21, 2009

### The hook-up culture

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Melissa Buddie  
freshman  
Lyons Hall  
Nov. 13, 2008

## Time to act on GLBTQ issues

As a recent alumnus and member of the 2006-07 Student Senate, it is disheartening to witness the actions — or, rather, inaction on the part of this administration — taking place on Our Lady's campus.

The Student Senate passed a resolution in March, 2007 requesting the University add "sexual orientation" to its non-discrimination clause. While I do not personally identify as GLBTQ, I remember strongly supporting the Social Concerns committee chair during Senate proceedings. I was shocked such wording did not already exist. And I remember being a part of the 25-1-1 majority that voted to pass the resolution.

This publication, The Observer, reported at the time that both the Student Senate and Faculty Senate had passed similar language in 1998. Two Holy Cross schools, King's College in Pennsylvania and Holy Cross College in Indiana, already included the language at the time. I recall students on campus having civilized and intelligent debate regarding the issue.

Yet, three years later, we have not progressed. Students, faculty and alumni continue to support measures to be more inclusive with regard to our

GLBTQ brothers and sisters, but nothing is done. It is not news that the administration can be selectively deaf regarding student issues, but 12 years of repetitive voices and increasing volume must have an effect.

Notre Dame, it is time to act. Alumni, students and faculty have done all they can. Now, it is up to this administration to stop dismissing the issue and step up to the plate. Take bold steps to live your "Spirit of Inclusion" in word and deed. Include "sexual orientation" in the University's non-discrimination clause. Allow the Student Union Board to recognize groups of gay students on campus as legitimate student groups. And if you won't, you at least owe 12 years of the Notre Dame community an explanation of your reasoning. Refusing to address the issue — hoping that ignoring it will make it go away — will not cut it any longer.

Chris Beesley  
alumnus  
Class of 2008  
Jan. 29, 2010

## Thank you Declan Sullivan

I have, from time to time, lost faith in my Notre Dame community. I have loved this school for my entire life, so take the former statement as all the more profound. I have felt that our campus is divided against itself in 80 different ways. I have felt that our campus is at war with itself. I have felt that the people on this campus care more about the lack of success that plagues our football team than they do about issues of humanity that affect the world every day. I feel that we are slowly slipping away from the ideals that Notre Dame was built upon, survived on, and currently promotes as the true spirit of our student body.

Two hours ago all of that changed. Two hours ago, the memorial service for Declan Sullivan commenced. As the entire campus knows, the student body flooded the Basilica, overflowed into the LaFortune Ballroom and even had to listen outside. Others, like myself, watched the memorial service from the live feed online. For an hour, the entire campus stood still as we all came together to celebrate the life of Declan Sullivan, and to help his family and friends begin the mourning process.

I never had the privilege to meet Declan, but I have spent the last several hours thanking God for this soul that

could be so inspiring. For though I never met this man, he restored my faith in this University. Though I never knew him, I found myself crying through his service as if I had known him my entire life. I found my heart was aching for his family, and as I scanned the faces in the crowd that filled the Basilica, I knew that the entire group felt the same way. I felt the power of the entire student body spreading their prayers over his family, his friends and his dorm mates.

For the first time in a long time, I felt this community united. On this day we didn't belong to a race. We had no political standing. We were not gay or straight. We were not A-students or the "C's get degrees" crowd. We weren't pro-life or pro-choice. We weren't pro-Brian Kelly or anti-Brian Kelly. We just were. For a brief moment, we were undivided. We were the Notre Dame community that I so long to be a part of. I challenge the student body to remain that way in honor of the man who had a soul so strong to call us back to who we are. Remember that we must support one another, not tear each other down as we are so often tempted to do. Remember that we are united through all, and that our minor disagreements should never be allowed

to prevent us from standing together as one community. And when one of our community falls, remember that they are always one of our own. We feel the pain of a family's loss because we have indeed lost a family member.

Remember Declan Sullivan, whose influence is so strong that an entire community of 8,000-plus people came together to celebrate his life. For this, he is truly the embodiment of the Notre Dame spirit.

To his family: thank you for sharing such an amazing person with the Notre Dame family. My prayers and the prayers of the entire community are with you.

To Declan: Thank you. Thank you for restoring my faith in my Notre Dame family. Thank you for reminding us of who we are.

For at the end of the day, we are but one simple thing. We are ND — united in the memory of one of our faithfully fallen.

Jim Ropa  
sophomore  
Siegfried Hall  
Oct. 29, 2010



# ROTC seniors prepare for service

By NICOLE MICHELS  
News Writer

The men and women in Notre Dame's ROTC battalions will serve more than clients and bosses in their future work. They will be serving their country.

Notre Dame has three ROTC battalions: Army, Navy and Air Force. Each senior is commissioned upon graduation and enters their branch of the military as an officer.

Mary Coyne, one of the 32 seniors graduating from the Naval ROTC battalion, said she are excited to begin training for a specialized career path in the U.S. Navy.

Coyne said she is one of the first girls ever chosen to enter the submarine branch and will begin training in October.

"I think this is one of the first years that they have ever looked at ROTC girls [for submarines]," Coyne said. "I know it's going to be really hard, and I know that there are going to be people who don't think I should even be there because I'm a girl ... but the only thing that I can do is to prove that I can do my job, respectfully."

Senior Kevin Brainard, a graduate of the Naval ROTC program, said he is preparing for a future as a pilot in the Marine Corps.

"I'm a specialized case, because I'm going in with a flight contract," Brainard said. "I know I'm going to fly something, but I don't know exactly what yet."

Brainard, a psychology major, will move to Quantico, Va., immediately after graduation to enter The Basic School. The Basic School provides newly commissioned officers with the professional knowledge and leadership education to prepare them for duty as a company grade officer, according to the school's website.

"In my case, I'm going to be a pilot in the Marine Corps, but should I for whatever reason find myself commanding a ground unit, I'm going to be able to do that as well, thanks to training at [The Basic School]," Brainard said.

Seniors Jane McNaughton and Trevor Waliszewski are two of the 17 cadets in Notre Dame's Army ROTC battalion who will be commissioned as officers after graduation.

McNaughton, who will graduate from Saint Mary's with a degree in social work, said she eventually will enter the military intelligence branch of the Navy, but will first



MACKENZIE SAIN/The Observer

**Notre Dame ROTC students participate in the Pass and Review on April 19. This spring, 32 ROTC seniors are graduating.**

serve a three-year stint with the Navy's Chemical Corps.

"Military intelligence loans me out, you could say, to the Chemical Corps," she said. "There, I will be responsible for chemical weapons, nuclear and biological weapons ... For the first three years, I will be working in that branch, and then I will go back to being a military intelligence officer."

The chance to have variety in her assigned duties makes her chosen branch all the more attractive, McNaughton said.

"With the Chemical Corps, there is so much variety in what officers can be assigned to do," she said. "I can do a whole variety of things: a battalion staff position, which means working with planning and training operations for a few companies, or a chemical company position, which would mean that I would be assigned to my own platoon."

Waliszewski said he is pursuing a career as a Judge Advocacy General (JAG) lawyer.

"I'm on a pretty unique track," Waliszewski said. "I'm getting an educational delay and then heading off to law school, where I will commission as a JAG lawyer."

Waliszewski said he will confront a broad range of legal issues with the military.

"It's a legal firm, plus all of the military benefits," Wasliszewski said. "It's a really exciting and challenging career, because you are not being pigeonholed to one specialty within the law, and every year you're probably going to have a new assignment and be challenged in a new way."

Seniors Scott Lyle and Shayler Piersen will graduate with 18 Air Force ROTC cadets who will be commissioned after graduation.

Lyle, who will graduate with a degree in aerospace engineering, said he is headed to Loughlin Air Force Base in Texas at the beginning of 2013 but will work a temporary job until then.

"On Jan. 11 [2013], I will activate, pack up everything, go to Loughlin Air Force Base in Texas for several months and then eventually go to training in Pueblo, Colo. for a few weeks of training," Lyle said. "Then I'll go back to Loughlin to start undergraduate pilot training."

Piersen, a political science and history major, said he will enter the military intelligence branch of the Air Force upon graduation. He said he will begin seven months of training challenges, culminating in a series of examinations spanning three days.

"A lot of intelligence training is learning to handle all of these different varieties of information learning how to analyze types of pictures, intercept communications and work with satellites," he said.

Piersen said Notre Dame prepares its ROTC cadets particularly well for careers in the military, because the University inspires a deeper understanding of the same sense of service that inspired the cadets to enlist.

"Notre Dame's focus is on its mission in service, and that's why we enter the military we want to serve our country," Piersen said. "Notre Dame instills that higher understanding of service and by facilitating that understanding of why we are serving our country, we are allowed to do that in a much better way."

Contact Nicole Michels at nmichels@nd.edu

# SMC honors alumnae at Commencement Day

By BRIDGET FEENEY  
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

Commencement Day at Saint Mary's is more than just a day to celebrate the Class of 2012. It is also a day when the school honors former Saint Mary's women and people who have made significant contributions to the College.

At this year's Commencement address, Kathleen Flynn Fox, a 1974 alumna, will be presented with an honorary doctor of humanities degree. Susan Fitzgerald Rice, a 1961 alumna, will receive the President's Medal.

College President Carol Ann Mooney said she looks forward to welcoming these alumnae to campus, as well as Mellody Hobson, president of Ariel Investments, LLC, who will deliver the Commencement Address.

"All three are outstanding examples of women whose lives and accomplishments will inspire our graduates and their families," Mooney said.

Fox said she is honored to be in the presence of this year's graduates.

"These graduates and their classmates embody what I find so important about the special education that all of the students receive here," Fox said. "They have an unbelievable enthusiasm for life, they are kind, and their sense of charity and justice will motivate others to create a more compassionate and just society."

Fox is a successful businesswoman and avid volunteer who dedicated more than 30 years of her life to serving those in need. She comes from a large family with a long history of graduates from Saint Mary's and Notre Dame.

"My parents instilled in us a sense of responsibility for not just each other, but our community as a whole," Fox said. "We are privileged. Privilege is not an entitlement, but rather a mandate to live a life that matters."

Because there were times when she was unsure if she could return each semester due to finances, Fox took advantage

of her time as a student and now gives back to others who do not have the same opportunities. Fox has promoted children's literacy and supported programs that assist those in poverty, as well as families who do not speak English.

Susan Fitzgerald Rice, a 1961 alumna, will receive the President's Medal, which is rarely presented and is exclusive to those who have exceptionally contributed to the College and society.

"The award thrills and touches me greatly," Rice said. "It was unexpected and a great surprise to be recognized by Carol Mooney, whose leadership is visionary and inspirational."

Rice said the medal is a rarely-bestowed formal recognition by the president of the College. When Mooney informed Rice she wanted to present her with this honor, Rice said she was surprised and awestruck.

As a member of the Saint Mary's College Board of Trustees for nine years, Rice has continued to influence the College after graduation.

In 2006, she and her husband, Donald B. Rice, a 1961 alumnus of Notre Dame, re-established the annual Christian Culture Lecture, which had not occurred for 25 years.

"By re-instituting the Lecture, Don and I were able to assist with the continuation of the tradition of faith and learning provided to Saint Mary's women," Rice said.

Saint Mary's professor Bruno Schlesinger founded the lecture series in 1957, one year after introducing the Christian Culture major, now called Humanistic Studies.

Rice said the Humanistic Studies program and Christian Culture Lecture embody the College's liberal arts tradition.

In addition to the President's Medal, Rice also received the Distinguished Alumna Award in 1986 from the Alumnae Association and was named a Shannon Executive Scholar in 1998.

Contact Bridget Feeney at bfeene01@saintmarys.edu

# College students welcome Hobson as commencement speaker

By BRIDGET FEENEY  
Associate Saint Mary's Editor

The Saint Mary's Class of 2012 will welcome Mellody Hobson as their commencement speaker Saturday.

Hobson, a 1991 graduate of Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of International Relations and Public Policy, will receive an honorary doctor of humanities degree from the College. She currently serves as president of the Chicago-based money management firm Ariel Investments and as chair of the board of trustees for the firm's mutual funds.

Hobson is an expert on financial literacy and investor education and is a regular contributor to ABC's "Good Morning America." She is also on the board of directors of Estée Lauder Companies, Inc., DreamWorks Animation SKG, Inc., Groupon and Starbucks Corp.

Senior Kate Park said she

thinks Hobson's wealth of experience will provide for a meaningful address.

"Based on her history and career, I think she can be a very informative speaker for the Class of 2012," she said. "She seems to have many worldly experiences, as well as [success] in the business world. Therefore, she can give many of us Belles helpful tips on how to become successful after Saint Mary's."

Senior Allie Courtney said she is looking forward to Hobson's commencement address.

"I am very excited about this year's commencement speaker," she said. "Mellody Hobson is an incredibly accomplished woman and an exemplary role model to all of us. Her work and accomplishments are very impressive, and I can't wait to hear her speak."

Senior Catherine Swanson said she expects Hobson's speech to be engaging and memorable due to her many interesting life experi-

ences.

"I'm really looking forward to hearing about her experiences and how she got to where she is today," she said. "She will have a lot of interesting things to say and I am grateful for the chance to listen to her."

Park said Hobson's success as a woman in business will inspire the Class of 2012.

"I am looking forward to being with my fellow Saint Mary's sisters and enjoying our last moments together as we listen to a woman who embodies all that we embody: a Saint Mary's education," she said. "I am hoping we will be inspired from the address."

Courtney said Hobson's broad expertise will be a valuable contribution to her final moments as a Saint Mary's student.

"I think she is very relevant to our class," she said. "Our class truly appreciates the community at Saint Mary's and how we have

grown as strong, confident and empowered women because of it. Her example as a truly successful woman is inspiring to us."

Commencement will be held

Saturday at 12 p.m. on LeMans Green.

Contact Bridget Feeney at bfeene01@saintmarys.edu

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# University Food Services prepares for Commencement

By CHRISTIAN MYERS  
News Writer

Commencement weekend is a time of celebration for graduating students and their families, and good food is a must for any gathering of family and friends.

Executive Chef Donald Miller said Food Services personnel recognize the important role their work serves in the overall celebration of commencement weekend.

“We understand this is very important to the parents and students,” Miller said. “It’s not just about cooking good food. We do everything we can to make the weekend successful and memorable.”

Commencement weekend is busier than a typical weekend or even a football weekend, Lisa Wenzel, assistant director for catering and special events, said.

Wenzel said commencement weekend requires the most meals of any weekend, though Junior Parents Weekend and the Alumni Reunion Weekend are comparable.

Freshman Orientation also requires a significant contribution from Food Services, Miller said.

“It’s our biggest challenge of the year ... We get to be a big part of the first impression and the last impression for the University,” Miller said.

Wenzel said Food Services will serve approximately 30,000 meals at roughly 125 to 150 total commencement events from Friday through Sunday.

Campus retail locations, including Legends, Reckers and the Huddle Mart, will be open, and if sales from these locations are included, the total number of meals is expected to reach 40,000, Wenzel said.

Miller said preparation for commencement is very similar each year, and changes are primarily based on lessons learned in previous years.

“We learn over the years to refine it and work out the bumps in the road,” Miller said.

Nevertheless, Miller said the weekend’s success requires long hours and a great deal of coordination.

“The weekend has to be well-choreographed, because a lot of work from a lot of people comes together in an organized fashion,” he said. “We try to distribute the workload because it is one of the busiest times of the year, and it takes everything we’ve got to execute this gracefully.”

Miller said the menus are prepared and food taste-tested months in advance. Food Services personnel meet a few weeks prior to commencement to review the plans and create cooking sched-



ules and flow charts.

Preparation for the large meals occurs over the course of the entire week, Miller said. Beginning Monday, the kitchens prepare different elements of each menu throughout the week.

Wenzel said the food is prepared in the kitchens of the Food Services Support Facility, North Dining Hall and South Dining Hall. Miller said this requires coordination between kitchens, but spreads out the work and reduces the amount of food each kitchen has to prepare.

Miller said his individual role has changed this year because his daughter is a graduating senior.

“I’m more of a guest this year than a chef, though I’ll be back and forth,” Miller said.

Wenzel said her role for the weekend is mainly troubleshoot-

ing, but she expects to enjoy the weekend due to positive reactions from parents and family members of the graduates.

“It’s great because the parents and family are always so happy,” Wenzel said.

Approximately 200 students will work with Food Services as catering staff during commencement events, Wenzel said. They are paid for their work hours and receive room and board for the week prior to commencement.

Wenzel said Food Services is partnering with the Notre Dame Conference Center to sell tickets for five meals: lunch on Friday, lunch and dinner on Saturday and breakfast and brunch on Sunday.

Miller said the main concern Friday is that each college will be holding a catered event, though

the size of each event will vary.

Dinner on Saturday night will be the largest of the five ticketed meals of the weekend, Wenzel said, and an 80-foot by 220-foot tent will accommodate overflow seating outside South Dining Hall.

The Saturday dinner features the commencement cake, a large cake made up of separate smaller cakes. Each family receives one of the individual cakes, Wenzel said.

Wenzel said there is only a small window for lunch between the University-wide commencement in the morning and the ceremonies of each college Sunday, so Food Services will prepare 3,000 to 4,000 boxed lunches for those who don’t have time for the Dining Hall brunch on Sunday.

Contact Christian Myers at [cmyers8@nd.edu](mailto:cmyers8@nd.edu)

# Five hall rectors leaving Notre Dame at end of academic year

By BRANDON KEELEAN  
News Writer

Residents of Farley Hall are used to knocking on rector Sr. Carrine Etheridge’s door to ask for advice and to walk Etheridge’s dog, Farley. But after 19 years as rector of Farley Hall, Etheridge will take Farley the dog from her namesake hall when she returns to Virginia to be closer to her 91-year-old mother.

In addition to Etheridge, the rectors of Breen-Philips Hall, Keenan Hall, Stanford Hall and Zahm House will leave Notre Dame at the end of the academic year.

Reflecting on her time in Farley, Etheridge said she values not only the character and history of her hall, but also the accomplishments of the women who have lived there.

“They come in as little high school girls, but they leave as young women who are ready to do amazing things,” Etheridge said. “[They] fly jet planes and do research. We’ve got people who work in Congress. We’ve got people who are doctors now. We’ve got women in the law. We’ve got one who’s been on the [Univer-

sity] board of trustees.”

Etheridge said she remembers Sept. 11, 2001, as a particularly memorable day in Farley’s history due to the strong sense of community fostered between residents and across campus.

“We had women here in the dorm who didn’t know whether their parents were safe or not,” she said. “That was really scary. I think the plane struck at 9 or 9:30 in the morning, and I think it was like [by] 2 o’clock or 3 o’clock we had a full orchestra, we had 10,000 chairs up. We had a couple hundred priests. It was amazing.”

Etheridge said the most important lesson she has learned at Notre Dame is what it means to be a member of the Notre Dame family.

“Every year I tell [graduating seniors], you never really leave Notre Dame,” she said. “It’s so true. Sooner or later, everybody gets back.”

Fr. Tom Gaughan became rector of Stanford Hall in 1992 after serving as an assistant rector in Sorin College for five years.

Like Etheridge, Gaughan said seeing the Notre Dame community unite on Sept. 11 stands out

as a special moment during his tenure on campus. He said he remembers his residents coming together, praying and wanting to give blood in order to help relief efforts.

“What stands out about that day is the Notre Dame community coming together to support one another and to pray for each other and for the world,” Gaughan said.

Above all, Gaughan said mentoring students has been the most fulfilling aspect of his role as rector.

“I have always found and felt such an amazing privilege to be invited to walk with people in their lives,” he said. “That’s such a humbling and awesome privilege.”

Gaughan, who completed his Doctor of Ministry in preaching in 2009, said he plans to turn his dissertation into a book when he leaves his position as rector.

“I’m hoping to have a little sabbatical time, but then to return to this ministry, hopefully in residence in a hall,” Gaughan said.

Rachel Kellogg has served as rector of Breen-Phillips Hall since 2005. During that time, she said, her conversations with students in the early hours of the morning

became an important part of her Notre Dame experience.

“By our front door, we have a table and a couple of chairs. People often end up starting conversations there,” Kellogg said. “Notre Dame students are so intelligent and so interesting, and for me, it’s really fun to talk to so many bright people who have so many ideas and enthusiasms.”

Serving as a rector in a Notre Dame residence hall has reinforced the true meaning of Holy Cross and Catholic teaching, Kellogg said.

“For me, being a rector has really brought home the Holy Cross charism of hospitality,” she said. “I’ve learned that hospitality of spirit is the most important thing, because if you show people that you are ready to listen to them, and that you care about them, that can really change people’s lives and it can change your life too, because you learn from other people.”

Zahm rector Corry Colonna has led the hall since 2007, and he said his relationship with his residents has been the most rewarding part of his job.

“The best part about being a

rector is the opportunity to walk with people on an important part of their life’s journey,” Colonna said.

During Colonna’s first year as rector the men of Zahm recreated the “Here Come the Irish” banner that hangs on the front façade of the hall during football weekends.

“We rented out the Stepan Center, and probably 60 to 70 guys were involved from helping to lay it out and paint it to figure out how to hang it up,” Colonna said.

Colonna said the most challenging aspects of his position are itseround-the-clock responsibilities and having to be prepared at a moment’s notice for anything.

One such experience occurred when a Zahm resident’s mother was involved in a car accident in the middle of the night.

“I had to wake [the student] up and talk to him about it, and actually then went with him to the hospital,” Colonna said. “You want to be there for your students, but it’s also hard to find some balance in your own life.”

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# College celebrates students, faculty at Honors Convocation

By BRIDGET FEENEY  
Associate Saint Mary’s Editor

Three Saint Mary’s College professors and one student earned awards of distinction at the College’s annual Honors Convocation on May 6.

Junior Carla Leal was presented with the St. Catherine Medal, an award celebrating the patron saint of scholars, namely female scholars. The College awards the honor each year to a sophomore or junior who has demonstrated a strong commitment to scholarship and per-

sonal excellence through contributions to Saint Mary’s, civic organizations and the community in the spirit of Christian leadership.

Nominated by peers, professors and faculty from Saint Mary’s, Leal earned the medal for her 1,200 hours of service and volunteer work to the South Bend community, according to a press release from the College.

Two awards honored three professors for their work in various departments and organizations on campus based on nominations from students, faculty

and staff at Saint Mary’s.

Susan Vance, professor of business law and accounting, and Joseph Incandela, associate dean of faculty and professor of religious studies, were both presented with the Spes Unica Award.

Established to recognize a faculty member for exceptional service to Saint Mary’s, the Spes Unica Award acknowledges the contributions of honorees to the College in the areas of service, creative activities and scholarship and teaching.

The College honored Vance

for her more than 30 years of dedication to Saint Mary’s. Saint Mary’s also recognized Vance forfounding the Women’s Entrepreneurship Initiative (WEI), a program designed by the college to mentor, prepare and assist community women in their business endeavors.

Incandela also received the Spes Unica award for his work and dedication to his department including the development of the Sophia Program in Liberal Learning, a new general education program at Saint Mary’s that will begin this fall. William

Svelmoe, professor and chair of the Department of History, received the Maria Pieta Award in recognition of his engaging lessons and memorable class discussions

Established in 1976 in honor of a former Saint Mary’s teacher and administrator, The Maria Pieta Award is given to a professor who has demonstrated exemplary teaching ability in courses for first-year students and sophomores.

Contact Bridget Feeney at [bfeene01@saintmarys.edu](mailto:bfeene01@saintmarys.edu)



# Office of the Provost announces faculty milestones

## TO EMERITA OR EMERITUS



**John G. Borkowski**  
*Psychology*



**Jacqueline V. Brogan**  
*English*



**Sondra Byrnes**  
*Management*



**E. Jane Doering**  
*Program of Liberal Studies*



**Ian B. Duncanson**  
*Radiation Laboratory*



**Samuel S. Gaglio**  
*Mendoza College of Business*

## TO EMERITA OR EMERITUS



**Nathan D. Mitchell**  
*Theology*



**Walter J. Niegorski**  
*Program of Liberal Studies*



**L. John Roos**  
*Political Science*



**Stephen E. Silliman**  
*Civil Engineering and  
Geological Sciences*



**John A. Weber**  
*Marketing*



**Thomas L. Whitman**  
*Psychology*

## TO PROFESSIONAL SPECIALIST



**Kevin Barry**  
*Kaneb Center for Teaching  
and Learning*



**Denise M. Della Rossa**  
*Teaching Professor  
German and Russian  
Languages and Literatures*



**William L. Donaruma**  
*Teaching Professor  
Film, Television, and Theatre*



**Margaret M. Forster**  
*Teaching Professor  
Finance*



**Judith L. Fox**  
*Clinical Professor  
Law School*



**Edward F. Hums**  
*Teaching Professor  
Accountancy*

## TO RESEARCH ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR



**Nicolas Lehner**  
*Physics*

## TO RESEARCH PROFESSOR



**Sergei B. Vakulenko**  
*Chemistry and Biochemistry*

## TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND TENURE



**David A. Clairmont**  
*Theology*



**Jessica L. Collett**  
*Sociology*



**Samuel B. Newlands**  
*Philosophy*



**Alison Rice**  
*Romance Languages and  
Literatures*



**Sebastian Rosato**  
*Political Science*



**Joshua D. Shrout**  
*Civil Engineering and  
Geological Sciences*



**Daewon Sun**  
*Management*



**Alexandros A. Taflanidis**  
*Civil Engineering and  
Geological Sciences*



The University congratulates faculty members whose promotions, appointments as endowed professors and emerita/emeritus designations were announced at the President’s Dinner Tuesday, May 22.



Maureen T. Hallinan  
*Sociology*



Ronald A. Hellenthal  
*Biological Sciences*



Laura Holt  
*London Undergraduate Program*



James W. Kaiser  
*Physics*



Charles F. Kulpa, Jr.  
*Biological Sciences*



Joanne M. Mack  
*Anthropology*

TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONAL SPECIALIST



Christian M. Dallavis  
*Alliance for Catholic Education*



Jennifer R. Fox  
*First Year of Studies*



Michelle V. Joyce  
*Associate Professor of the Practice Chemistry and Biochemistry*



Anne B. Pilkington  
*Associate Teaching Professor Mathematics*



Rev. Thomas G. Streit, C.S.C.  
*Associate Professor of the Practice Biological Sciences*



Sean P. Wernert  
*First Year of Studies*

TO LIBRARIAN



James A. O'Brien  
*Teaching Professor Accountancy*



Elizabeth A. Dube  
*Hesburgh Libraries*



Alan D. Krieger  
*Hesburgh Libraries*



Collette G. Mak  
*Hesburgh Libraries*

TO ASSOCIATE LIBRARIAN  
(NONE)



Zhi Da  
*Finance*



Gerald J. Haeffel  
*Psychology*



Victoria Tin-bor Hui  
*Political Science*



Omar A. Lizardo  
*Sociology*



Sara L. Maurer  
*English*



Nicole M. McNeil  
*Psychology*

NOT PICTURED

TO EMERITA OR EMERITUS

- Gerald B. Arnold, *Physics*
- David E. Aune, *Theology*
- William G. Dwyer, *Mathematics*
- Joseph P. Guiltinan, *Marketing*
- Robert C. Johansen, *Political Science*
- David J. Kirkner, *Civil Engineering and Geological Sciences*
- Thomas H. Kosel, *Electrical Engineering*
- Jadwiga Warchol, *Physics*

TO ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND TENURE

- Pierpaolo Polzonetti, *Program of Liberal Studies*
- Zhiliang Xu, *Applied and Computational Mathematics and Statistics*



# Graduates compete in job market, enter work force

By ANN MARIE JAKUBOWSKI  
News Writer

As their collegiate careers wind down, members of the Class of 2012 have set sights on their professional futures. A majority will enter the work force with the strength of a Notre Dame degree backing them up, as statistics show University graduates fare well in job placement.

Kevin Monahan, associate director at the Career Center, said he expects this year's placement statistics to compare well to last year's strong numbers.

"For the class of 2011 last year, 85 percent left Notre Dame with definite plans: military careers, graduate school, post-graduate service or full-time employment," he said. "Within three months of graduation, that number was in the upper 90s [percent.]"

A Notre Dame degree carries great value, according to Monahan, who cited positive feedback from recruiters at Epic, a medi-

cal technology company located in Madison, Wisc., which recruited 36 graduating seniors this year.

Monahan said the nature of certain sectors of the job market where positions become available and are filled rapidly leads to fluctuations in employment opportunities.

"It really depends on the industry," he said. "Certain industries hire on the 'just-in-time' market, like advertising, film, television and communications — they hire when they have need."

While some companies recruit well in advance of graduation, opportunities with those who use this type of hiring schedule are more difficult to anticipate.

"If an advertising agency has an opening, they interview you today and ask you to start next week," he said.

Monahan said alumni networking is important in the job hunt, stressing these connections can lead to unexpected opportunities.

"Because of the tight time

frames, networking is very important," he said. "You want people to be able to alert you to potential job openings."

The Notre Dame alumni network is especially helpful with "just-in-time" hiring industries, he said. Monahan cited the Chicago-based advertising agency Abelson Taylor as an example.

"They have hired about 10 Notre Dame alumni in the past year, and each one has been through networking and referrals," he said. "They rarely post any openings on their website, because [recruiting is] all done by alumni recommending other alumni."

Regardless of how graduates find job opportunities, Monahan said he is confident members of the class of 2012 will succeed in finding employment.

"It's still a challenging job market for graduating seniors," Monahan said. "But with the resources available to our students through employer relationships, Career Center counseling and alumni networking, we are con-

85%

of the Class of 2011 graduated with definite plans

MORE THAN 95%

had definite plans within three months

EPIC

recruited 36 graduating seniors this year

a medical technology company

BRANDON KEELEAN | Observer Graphic

fident that all of graduates will be successful in their chosen careers."

Monahan said the Career Center continues to offer its services to seniors after graduation.

"We will continue to work with students and young alumni in their job search," he said. "I want to encourage the graduates, that, if they're still seeking employment, please reach out to the Career Center. We'd love to help each person build a game plan for their job search."

Contact Ann Marie Jakubowski at [ajakubo1@nd.edu](mailto:ajakubo1@nd.edu)

## Office of the Provost announces faculty milestones

### TO PROFESSOR



Patricia A. Blanchette  
*Philosophy*



Seth N. Brown  
*Chemistry and Biochemistry*



David E. Campbell  
*Political Science*



John C. Cavadini  
*Theology*



Jon T. Coleman  
*History*



Brad S. Gregory  
*History*



Michael D. Hildreth  
*Physics*



Geoffrey C. Layman  
*Political Science*



Candida R. Moss  
*Theology*



Darcia F. Narváez  
*Psychology*



Glen L. Niebur  
*Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering*



David A. Smith  
*Psychology*

### TO ENDOWED PROFESSOR



Duncan G. Stroik  
*Architecture*



Donald Crafton  
*Joseph and Elizabeth Robbie Professor of Film, Television, and Theatre*



Richard A. Jensen  
*Gilbert Schaefer Professor of Economics*



Joannes J. Westerink  
*Notre Dame Professor of Computational Hydraulics*

### NOT PICTURED

TO PROFESSOR  
Thomas F. Anderson, *Romance Languages and Literatures*  
W. Martin Bloomer, *Classics*  
Sandra M. Gustafson, *English*  
Gerard K. Misiolek, *Mathematics*









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## OBSERVER EXCLUSIVE

## Swarbrick discusses four-team playoff in college football

By CHRIS ALLEN  
Sports Editor

Since its inception in 1998, the Bowl Championship Series (BCS) has been the subject of much scrutiny. The long-awaited news of its demise came out of a late-April meeting between Notre Dame Director of Athletics Jack Swarbrick and 11 conference commissioners. Swarbrick spoke with The Observer about the future of the proposed four-team playoff system as well as a host of other

topics in Notre Dame athletics May 3.

Swarbrick said while there is agreement on the four-team model, many other considerations have yet to be settled upon.

"The good news is there is strong consensus around a four-team model, still to be resolved is the issue of when and where the semifinals are played," he said. "You have different models, you have independent sites, you have bowl sites and you have home campus sites.

"The last piece other than selection that's really important to resolve here is to come to a consensus on that issue of where the semifinals are played. It's accepted that the national championship game will be at an independent site."

Though the exact process of selecting the four teams to compete in a playoff will be decided at a future meeting, Swarbrick said he has pushed to ensure the importance of regular-season football is preserved.

"I was real pleased that there

seemed to be unanimity among everyone involved in the discussion that we want to make sure selection rewards strength of schedule," he said. "That helps protect regular-season football, encouraging good teams to play each other, outside of the conference games they have. That issue has to be resolved."

Given Notre Dame's unique position as a football independent without a conference tie-in, Swarbrick has had to ensure that the new system allows Notre Dame to stay relevant and

compete for titles. He said he is pleased the proposed system fits with Notre Dame's strategic goals.

"The two things that we focus on are having an opportunity to win a national championship: Is there anything about the system that will limit us or put us at a disadvantage? I'm optimistic that it won't," he said. "The other is: Does it allow us to maintain our independence? I'm optimistic that it will."

see SWARBRICK/page 30

## OUTSTANDING SENIOR ATHLETES

## Setting the standard



SARAH O'CONNOR/The Observer

Irish senior defenseman Sean Lorenz passes the puck during Notre Dame's 3-2 loss to Bowling Green on Feb. 4. Lorenz led the Irish as a captain last year.

## Lorenz assumes captaincy as Irish open Compton

By CHRIS ALLEN  
Sports Editor

The temptation is strong for the defenseman to move forward and get some glory. Screaming slap shots from the opposing blue line. The thrilling point position on the power play. Rising points and assists totals. Irish senior defenseman and captain Sean Lorenz will have none of it. He is a defenseman, first and foremost.

The imposing blue-liner from Littleton, Colo., found success at Notre Dame embracing the concept of defending, shunning the roles of flashier defensemen to do what his position is most fundamentally about: keeping the opposing team out of the net and off the scoreboard. The role was not initially a fit, Lorenz said.

"It's been a challenging transition. Before I came over to this program I was put into a role of defensive defenseman, and I was told if I wanted to succeed in hockey, this was the role I was going to have to take on," he said. "The coaches really, really pushed me in that direction. It's been a great experience and I've definitely learned a lot. It's tough at times because you don't always get the recognition of the point and all that, but I think the coaches recognize that."

The journey to the position as Notre Dame's anchor on defense was not an easy one for Lorenz. He entered the program in the fall of 2008 out of the U.S. National Development Program and initially found himself on the fringes of Notre Dame's top-six defensive rotation.

see LORENZ/page 29



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

Irish senior forward Melissa Henderson battles for a header during Notre Dame's 1-0 loss to Illinois in November. Henderson scored 70 goals in her career.

## Henderson earns All-American honors, breaks records

By MEGAN GOLDEN  
Sports Writer

Driven by her deep faith and competitive spirit, Irish senior forward Melissa Henderson discovered her role as silent assassin at Notre Dame, where she emerged as an immediate threat and carried the program to its third national title.

Henderson started 86 games and scored 70 goals during her four-year Irish career, earning her place in the record book with a program-high 24 match-winning goals scored.

Irish coach Randy Waldrum said Henderson will go down in Irish history alongside the likes of former Notre Dame standouts Jenny Streiffer, Carrie Dew and Kerri Hanks.

"She's been blessed with some God-

given abilities with her speed, physical strength, and her athleticism. If she had the skills she has but not those other qualities, she wouldn't be the player she is," he said. "She's earned a lot of that with the time she's put in to develop."

Henderson is a four-time all-Big East selection and was named the 2010 Big East most outstanding offensive player. Following her senior season, she was named the first runner-up to the Hermann Trophy and awarded third-team All-America honors.

Characteristically shying away from the limelight, Henderson said her faith motivates her to be her best.

"I don't even really see myself as good," she said. "I set goals, and I

see WALDRUM/page 30



## FOOTBALL

## Turnovers, quarterback controversy mar lackluster season

By ANDREW OWENS  
Assistant Managing Editor

The Irish had plenty of momentum heading into the 2011 season, but Notre Dame's BCS aspirations were quickly thrown to the wayside after consecutive losses led off a disappointing 8-5 season.

After earning the starting position in fall practice, senior quarterback Dayne Crist was pulled at halftime of the season-opening 23-20 loss to South Florida with the Irish down 16-0. His replacement, sophomore quarterback Tommy Rees, mounted a comeback attempt and never relinquished the starting spot but was plagued throughout the season with the turnover bug that doomed Irish coach Brian Kelly's second squad at Notre Dame.

"You can't start winning until you stop losing, and the things that we did today out there obviously go to the heart of how you lose football games," Kelly said after Notre Dame's five-turnover performance. "You lose football games because you turn the ball over."

Seven days later, Notre Dame turned the ball over five times again, and it lost again.

In the first-ever night game at Michigan Stadium, the Irish surrendered a 24-7 fourth-quarter lead to Michigan and lost in a wild 35-31 affair. The defeat marked the second consecutive fourth-quarter comeback win for Michigan over Notre Dame.

After two weeks, more than 1,000 total yards and 10 turnovers, Notre Dame was reeling at 0-2.

Kelly said it was frustrating to see his squad commit so many miscues after entering the 2011 campaign with such high expectations.

"I think when we came out of preseason camp, we felt like we had the chance to be a good team," he said. "I can see those

things in practice, I can see those things in the development of our players, but that chance to be a good team is everything that you just mentioned: It's those turnovers, it's the little detail things. And until we can clean up those detail things, we can't be a good team."

The next week, Notre Dame's turnover issues were far from solved — the Irish committed three turnovers — but No. 15 Michigan State's miscues proved to be more costly in the 31-13 Irish win on Sept. 17, their first of the season.

"[It was a] much needed victory for our kids today," Kelly said. "We obviously felt like coming into this ball game we hadn't lacked any confidence in our ability to win football games. We just had to find a way to win, and that was the theme this week. By any means, just find a way to win the football game ... We needed big plays at times of the game. Obviously last week, you know, a lot of the talk was the secondary."

Notre Dame benefited from big plays by its secondary — the maligned unit that was torched the previous week by Michigan quarterback Denard Robinson — in the victory, including an 82-yard interception return by senior cornerback Robert Blanton that sealed the Irish win.

Irish freshman kick returner George Atkinson sparked the team with an 89-yard kickoff return for a touchdown toward the end of the first quarter that put Notre Dame ahead 14-3. The touchdown marked the first such score by an Irish freshman since Raghieb Ismail returned a kickoff for a touchdown as a rookie in 1988.

"It feels great," Atkinson said after the win. "[Ismail] is a great returner. I'd like to see some film and see how he does things and pick up some pointers and stuff. I was on the sideline [after scoring] and I was like 'What



KIRBY MCKENNA/The Observer

**Junior running back Cierre Wood finds open space in Notre Dame's 31-17 loss to USC on Oct. 22 at Notre Dame Stadium. The game marked Notre Dame's Stadium's first night game since 1990.**

just happened.' It was like a dream come true. I thought I was dreaming. It was a great feeling to get the points on the board and to know the special teams unit put some points on the board."

Notre Dame catapulted its success against Michigan State into a four-game winning streak, with victories over the Spartans, a 15-12 win at Pittsburgh on Sept. 24, a 38-10 victory at Purdue on Oct. 1 and a 59-33 offensive outburst against Air Force on Oct. 8.

Notre Dame's 59 points in the win over Air Force were the most points scored since Lou Holtz's last home game as head coach Nov. 23, 1996, when the Irish defeated Rutgers 62-0.

Rees' performance against the Falcons was arguably his best of the season, as he completed 23-of-32 passes for 261 yards and three touchdowns.

"[Rees is] growing as he goes here," Kelly said. "He's 8-1 as a starter and he continues to grow and develop, and we are seeing that maturity. He got flushed out of the pocket a couple of times, threw the ball away, made some very good decisions in pressure situations when something wasn't there. He's just developing, maturing."

Rees and the rest of the squad seemed to be on a positive trajectory with a 4-2 record entering its biggest test of the season at that point — a date with archrival USC. The Irish were hoping to turn the page in the rivalry by winning their second consecutive game in the series behind the backdrop of Notre Dame Stadium's first night game since 1990.

The script was set, but it was the performance that was lacking in a 31-17 defeat to the Trojans.

"[It was] disappointing we could not play better football in what I considered a great environment, [the] stadium was electric, the fans were terrific," Kelly said. "It's the kind of environment we want to create here. We just have to play better football."

The turnover problems that plagued Notre Dame in the first two losses returned at the wrong time for the Irish, as the team committed three turnovers and fell to 4-3 on the season as a re-

sult.

With two weeks to prepare, Kelly said the loss was especially frustrating. He entered the game 7-1 in games immediately following a bye week as an FBS coach. Notre Dame finished 4-0 in 2010 following its bye week.

"You know, I'm going to fall on historic nine out of 10 times," he said. "I know what I'm doing on a bye week. I've had great success. I know what it looks like. And for us to come out and be less than what we should be, I'm not happy about it."

With 3:22 remaining in the second quarter and the Trojans leading 17-0, Atkinson returned a 96-yard kickoff for a touchdown to propel the Irish into the game.

The stadium's electricity was deflated in an instant in the third quarter when Crist was unable to handle a snap at the USC 1-yard line. The ball rolled back to the 20, where it was picked up by Trojans safety Jawanza Starling and returned for a touchdown. Crist had driven the Irish down the field after Rees left the game with a hyper-extended knee.

The following Thursday, Kelly made some controversial comments regarding players he brought to Notre Dame and those recruited by his predecessor, Charlie Weis.

"You can see the players that I recruited here," Kelly said. "You know who they are. We've had one class of recruiting, kids that I've had my hand on. The other guys here are coming along, but it's a process. It can't happen overnight. They're getting there. They're making good progress."

Although a few players voiced their displeasure with Kelly's comments over social media, come Saturday the team looked and sounded united in a 56-14 blowout win over Navy.

"Everybody said what they needed to say [at a team meeting], got it out in the air and figured it out," Irish fifth-year captain and safety Harrison Smith said. "Obviously, we showed it's not something that's going to split us up. If anything, it's going to bring us together."

The Navy win began Notre Dame's second four-game winning streak of the season, which included a 24-17 win at Wake Forest on Nov. 5, a 45-21 win

over Maryland at FedEx Field in Landover, Md., on Nov. 12 and a sloppy 16-14 senior day victory over Boston College on Nov. 19.

Senior day quickly became bittersweet for the Irish despite the win, as senior running back Jonas Gray suffered a torn ACL and was lost for the remainder of the season. Gray rushed for 791 yards and 12 touchdowns in a breakout senior campaign at an astounding rate of 6.9 yards per carry.

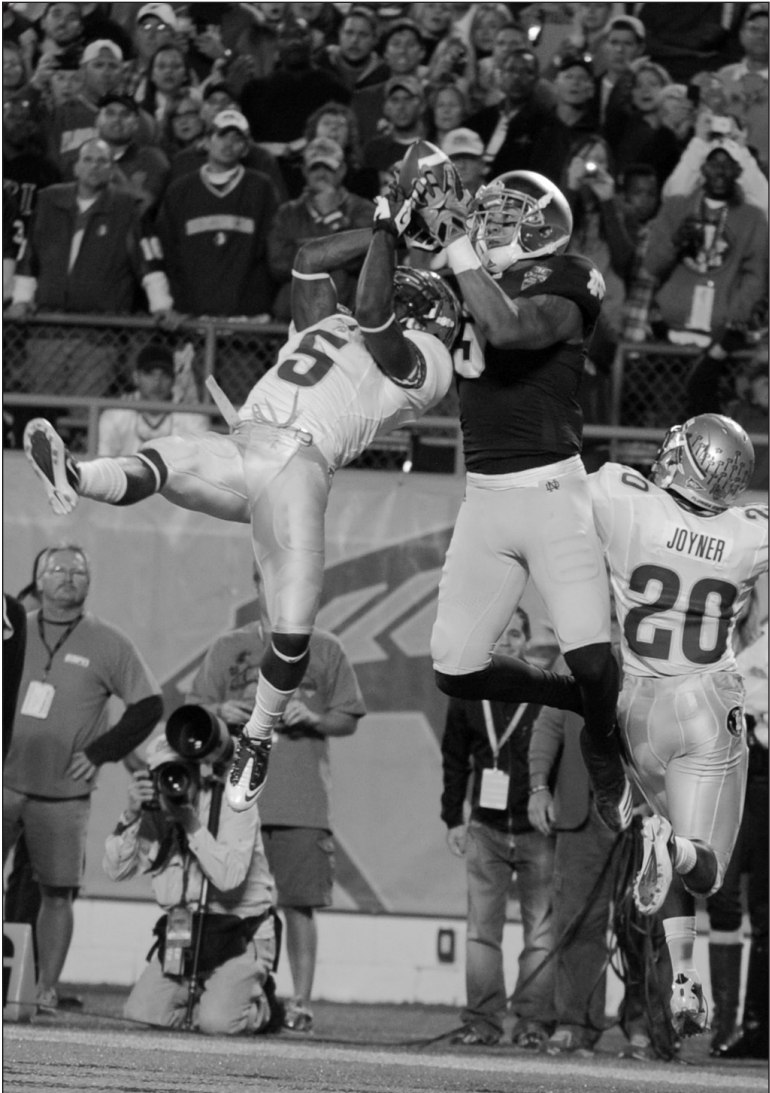
The Irish showed just how much separation there was between them and college football's elite when they lost 28-14 at Stanford in the season finale Nov. 26. The loss dropped Notre Dame to 8-4 on the season and sent them to Orlando, Fla., for the Champs Sports Bowl instead of a prized BCS bid.

"[I'm] disappointed that we didn't come here and get a victory," Kelly said after the loss to top quarterback prospect Andrew Luck and the Cardinal. "We didn't come here to get second prize. We came here to get a win. Nobody in that locker room is happy with the outcome. We got off to a slow start and battled against it, kept playing, kept competing. To me, the scoreboard showed 28-14 and that's not good enough, but I love the heart of our team."

After another turnover-riddled second-half collapse in an 18-14 loss to Florida State in the Champs Sports Bowl, Notre Dame finished 8-5 for the second consecutive season, leading to questions regarding the direction of the program and, specifically, the quarterback position.

"[The turnover issues] started in South Florida," Kelly said. "And it continued to shoot itself throughout the entire year. We know what we need to do. We've already talked about it, and the players that are going to be back for the 2012 football season will be committed to getting that end done."

Two of those returning players include linebacker Manti Te'o and tight end Tyler Eifert, who both passed up the NFL Draft to return to Notre Dame to face a daunting 2012 schedule in Kelly's third season with the Irish.



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

**Senior receiver Michael Floyd catches a touchdown in an 18-14 loss to Florida State at the Champs Sports Bowl in Orlando, Fla.**

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## MEN'S BASKETBALL

## Notre Dame makes surprising run to NCAA tournament

By ANDREW GASTELUM  
Associate Sports Editor

When graduate student forward and Irish co-captain Tim Abromaitis tore his ACL in practice on Nov. 25, hopes for the Irish season dwindled. Notre Dame had already lost key pieces to the surprising 2010-2011 team that earned a No. 2 seed in the NCAA tournament and then the undisputed leader of the young 2011-2012 squad was lost.

But Irish coach Mike Brey said his group was prepared all along to fill the void of Abromaitis. The young and untested Irish went on to post a 22-12 record including a 13-5 mark in Big East play and exceeded all preseason expectations with a group of new contributors.

"We get sharp kids here and we had better players than everyone [thought] when Abro went down," he said. "It was like Abro and these other guys and rightfully so. Tim had an unbelievable career and played [for] USA Basketball, but we had some other guys here that were pretty good waiting in the wings, ready to play."

The preseason All-Big East First Team forward missed the first four games of the season due to an NCAA eligibility violation, but the team knew it could rely on Abromaitis when he came back. But Abromaitis played in only two games — losses to No. 21 Missouri and Georgia in the CBE Classic — before the season-ending injury came less than one month into the season.

Without their star, the Irish struggled to keep up with their packed, post-Thanksgiving schedule. Those struggles began on the road Nov. 30 in Spokane, Wash., where No. 19 Gonzaga blew out the Irish, 73-53. Next up came a disappointing 78-71 loss to Maryland at the Verizon Center in Washington D.C., in which the Irish shot an abysmal 36.7 percent from the field.

But things began to gradually change after the Maryland loss,

starting with the emergence of junior forward Jack Cooley.

"When I was sick and watching the Maryland game, I got pretty upset with how the season had been going so far," Cooley said in February. "I was really disappointed in myself and how I had been playing. I made sure that I made changes and that was the point where it really started."

Cooley immediately made a massive impact, scoring 44 points and grabbing 23 rebounds in Notre Dame's two-game homestand in wins over Maine and Dartmouth on Dec. 8 and 10, respectively. Notre Dame then responded with a win over Pittsburgh to open Big East play.

Following a lethargic 71-55 loss at Cincinnati on Jan. 4, the Irish went into the KFC Yum! Center in Louisville, Ky., and won a 67-65 double-overtime thriller behind the heroics of sophomore point guard Eric Atkins against a future Final Four team in the Cardinals.

For every big win came another big loss in the early going, continuing a wave of inconsistency for a young squad going through growing pains.

The Irish continued their erratic play, dropping two in a row to Connecticut and Rutgers, which put the Irish record at 11-8 overall and 3-3 in the Big East.

"I didn't overreact to that because, coming from where we came from, we were 3-3 and still trying to figure it out but we were still 3-3," Brey said. "We weren't 1-4. You're .500 going into the Syracuse game and I've always said 9-9 in our league gets you right in. So 3-3 as we're still trying to figure it out wasn't the worst. Then we had the Syracuse opportunity presented that counted more than one win in a lot of ways."

The Irish welcomed undefeated No. 1 Syracuse to Purcell Pavilion on Jan. 21, and sent the Orange home with a blemish on their record while Irish fans stormed the court in ecsta-



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

**Sophomore guard Eric Atkins shoots against a Xavier defender in Notre Dame's 67-63 loss in its first game of the NCAA tournament at the Greensboro Coliseum in Greensboro, N.C.**

sy. The 67-58 upset victory was the eighth win in program history over a No. 1 team, buoyed by 54.5-percent shooting from the field in the first half as the Irish led by as much as 18. The win sparked a program-record, nine-game Big East winning streak, which the Irish rode all the way to an NCAA tournament berth.

"Winning at Louisville then, on the road, gave us even more confidence to say 'Maybe we got a shot at getting an NCAA bid.' And then beating Syracuse was the ultimate confidence-giver for us to get on that run," Brey said. "It's a great memory and I have a big wall where I have the team picture. I'm going to put a big picture of the students rushing the court at the end. It's a great memory."

The Irish had their first test after the Syracuse win on Jan. 29 in Hartford, Conn., against Jim Calhoun and No. 24 Connecticut. Notre Dame controlled the tempo of the game with its trademark burn offense and exacted revenge against the Huskies, stunning the afternoon crowd with a 50-48 win.

"This group, after where they were in November and December, they really focused," Brey said. "They get that one and then we go to Connecticut that week, I said 'Now if you get this one, you're really showing signs.' And then they just kept getting them. I think it was a collective understanding and motivation of smart guys."

The Irish returned home to face a hot No. 15 Marquette team on a seven-game conference winning streak, and easily disposed of the Golden Eagles on national television with a 76-59 blowout win. The Irish sunk 11 3-pointers and benefited from a career-high 23 points from freshman forward Pat

Connaughton.

Cooley led the Irish with four straight double-double performances in their next four wins against West Virginia, DePaul, Rutgers and Villanova, which vaulted the Irish into the top-25 of the national rankings for the first time.

Brey's team broke the school record in the game following Cooley's streak, a 71-44 rout of West Virginia on Feb. 22 behind 20 points from sophomore guard Jerian Grant.

But the Irish winning streak came to an abrupt halt at Madison Square Garden in a 61-58 loss to St. John's. The Irish tried to come back from another large deficit, but couldn't get past 4-for-31 shooting from beyond the 3-point line. Notre Dame followed this with a 59-41 loss at Georgetown on Feb. 27, before a senior day victory against Providence on March 2 righted the ship before the Big East tournament.

Preceding the conference tournament, Cooley was named to the All-Big East second team and rewarded with the Big East Most Improved Player award. Meanwhile, Grant made the Big East All-Rookie Team.

"Once we got into league play, [Atkins and Grant] played above their experience level and really believed," Brey said. "I think what's great for both of those guys is it drives them really to be better and play older after the way it ended for them. I think it's great. They really had good years but the way it ended kind of keeps a little chip on their shoulder and I love that for them."

The No. 23 Irish entered the Big East tournament with a double-bye as the No. 3 seed, but barely squeezed by South Florida in their opening game before falling to eventual cham-

pion Louisville in the semifinals for the second straight season.

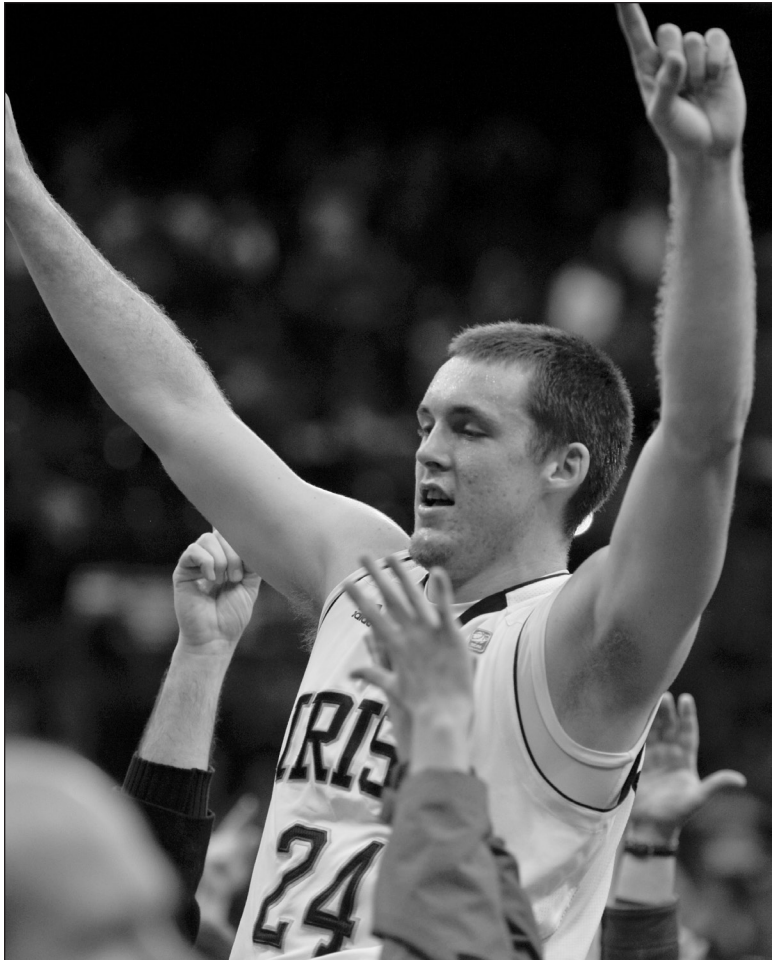
On Selection Sunday, the Irish were paired with Xavier in the precarious seven- vs. 10-seed matchup and suffered another quick exit from the NCAA tournament in a 67-63 loss to the Musketeers (23-13, 10-6 Atlantic-10). With a chance to tie late in the game, Atkins went to the free-throw line, but the tying shot was called off after Grant was called for a lane violation after running in from the 3-point line.

"When you're up 10 and you can't finish, that's really frustrating," Brey said. "I think we had some really key turnovers. I think our guards actually played as young as they were in that game ... I'd like that to be a real learning experience for our group moving forward because it was really disappointing for us because you had the thing in hand."

Since their exit from the NCAA tournament, the Irish have had a busy offseason. Sophomore guard Alex Dragicevich announced his transfer to Boston College, while two recruits in the Rivals.com Top 150 committed to Notre Dame. Meanwhile, the NCAA denied Abromaitis his request for a sixth year while granting senior forward Scott Martin's request. Brey said his team will enter the upcoming season with high expectations following the surprising season with his inexperienced team.

"I'm loving [the high expectations]. I'm loving them. I think it's great," Brey said. "It's great territory for us to be in, to have it on us and have to deliver. I think it keeps the coaches sharp and motivated. It keeps the players sharp."

Contact Andrew Gastelum at agastel1@nd.edu



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

**Freshman forward Pat Connaughton celebrates Notre Dame's 67-58 upset win over No. 1 Syracuse on Jan. 21 at the Purcell Pavilion.**



# SAINT MARY'S COLLEGE

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My grandfather, Frank Parilla,  
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My Parents

**Kelli Zeese**

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**Jacquelyn Zupancic**

In thanks for the support of  
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# Lorenz

continued from page 25

He leaves in the spring of 2012 having served as Notre Dame's unquestioned leader. Along the way he collected a CCHA Defensive Defenselessman of the Year award for the 2010-11 season, scored nine goals and notched a plus/minus rating of plus-25 in his career. Irish coach Jeff Jackson said Lorenz was a success in the Notre Dame program.

"He really persevered because in his first year, he had to play a role of a fifth or sixth defenseman," Jackson said. "We had such great defensemen ahead of him that he had to take a secondary role. If he hadn't handled that as well as he did, I'm not sure if he would have been able to move into a top four [defensemen] position. He's one of our top defensemen over the past few years and certainly winning the CCHA Defenselessman of the Year last year gave him a lot of confidence."

"He was always a good citizen. He did a good job as a captain for us. He did things the right way. He was a great student. He was the total package. I'm very proud of Sean and what he accomplished here."

Part of the reason Lorenz had to pay his dues behind older players was the quality depth at the blue line early in his career. Lorenz said players like former Irish defensemen Kyle Lawson and All-American Ian Cole developed him on and off the ice.

"Kyle was a big part of my development as a player here. He was my roommate on the road for two seasons, and he really kind of took me under his wing and that was definitely the biggest influence I had," he said. "Ian Cole is another big guy in

terms of that stuff, I kind of knew him before I got to Notre Dame and he was big in terms of teaching me."

In his junior year, Lorenz finally moved into a top defense position in the Joyce Center's final season. He took the opportunity and positioned himself among the country's elite defensive defensemen, teaming with then-captain Joe Lavin and then-freshman defenseman Stephen Johns to form intimidating blue-line tandems on an Irish team that competed for the CCHA title until the season's final day. The Irish enjoyed an unexpected run to the Frozen Four as a No. 3 seed in the Northeast Regional before falling to Minnesota-Duluth in the national semifinal in Saint Paul, Minn. Lorenz said playing on the national stage was a top highlight of his career.

"It was kind of all a big blur, but a great experience overall," he said. "To have the opportunity to go up to Minnesota and skate on the rink I was drafted to with the Minnesota Wild, to play on that kind of stage, was an incredible experience. I think the coolest part is that only four teams get to do that, knowing not that many people get to experience it, was great. That group of guys was one of the closest group of guys I've been a part of."

Coming off the unexpected run to the Frozen Four and moving into Compton Family Ice Arena, Lorenz was named co-captain of a 2011-12 Notre Dame team heading into the season as a preseason No. 1 selection. The Irish disappointed with a 19-18-3 record and a 12-13-3-0 CCHA mark, but Lorenz said the opportunity to serve as captain in Compton's first season was a personal honor.

"To know that the likes of [former captains] Ryan Thang, Mark van Guilder and Erik Condra, people like Joe Lavin,

guys who are just great players and great people, and then to have a guy like [Irish co-captain and senior forward] Billy Maday next to me, it was a great honor," he said. "Working with Billy was a great experience because he always knew what he was doing and he was very confident with handling certain situations, and I learned a lot from him. It was a great experience for me and for Billy too."

Though he was scarcely found on the stat sheet, Lorenz's career was one defined by defense. He carried that mentality after leaving the program and joined the Houston Aeros of the AHL, hoping one day to skate the blue line in the same arena where he once led Notre Dame onto the ice for the Frozen Four at college hockey's pinnacle. Even in graduation, Lorenz defends his future alma mater's position as a major player in the future of college hockey.

"It's definitely an exciting time for Notre Dame hockey. Moving into Hockey East brings on a whole different style of hockey, and having a new building that brings with it a new level of expectations," he said. "Especially playing against Boston College and some of the teams that people know, it will be a little bit different than playing someone like Bowling Green or Ferris State, who the average hockey fan maybe doesn't know quite as much about."

"Then to have the new building to bring people in, it will be great for the future. Notre Dame hockey has definitely grown since I've been here. I think in the future you'll hear about Notre Dame being one of the powerhouses of college hockey."

Contact Chris Allen at [callen10@nd.edu](mailto:callen10@nd.edu)

## MEN'S LACROSSE

# Notre Dame tops Yale, prepares for Virginia



MACKENZIE SAIN/The Observer

**Irish freshman attack Conor Doyle tries to evade a defender during Notre Dame's 13-7 win over Yale on Sunday.**

By SAM GANS

Sports Writer

The 2012 season continued the successful run the Irish have embarked on in recent years, marking the seventh consecutive NCAA tournament appearance for Notre Dame and the third season in a row the Irish advanced to the NCAA quarterfinals. And the year's not even over yet.

After defeating Yale 13-7 in the first round of the NCAA tournament last Sunday, the No. 4 seed Irish (12-2) will face No. 5 seed Virginia (12-3) this Sunday for the chance to play in their second Final Four in three seasons.

The success the Irish have experienced up to this point can be largely attributed to the play of the defensive unit, in particular senior defenseman Kevin Randall and junior goalie John Kemp. Randall was named the Big East's Defensive Player of the Year. Kemp, who recorded 12 saves in the win over the Bulldogs (11-5), is ranked first in the nation in save percentage and leads the country's top-ranked scoring defense, which allows just 5.92 goals per game.

"[Defense has] been something we've been good at for a while and certainly John is a huge piece of that puzzle," Irish coach Kevin Corrigan said. "We play really sound, fundamental, smart defense so we don't make a ton of mistakes but we make mistakes. And when we make them, they still have to beat John."

Though Notre Dame's season is not yet complete, there have already been some first-time accomplishments achieved. The Irish notched their first ever victory over historical power Syracuse with an 8-6 win in Arlotta Stadium on April 28. Notre Dame fell in the Big East semifinals to St. John's on May 3, but the Irish did take home their first-ever Big East regular season championship since joining the league in 2010 with an undefeated regular season record in conference play.

While the defense has received most of the spotlight,

the offense also displayed its balance as the season has progressed. After a slow offensive start to the year, including a 4-3 overtime loss to Penn State in the season's second game, the Irish found greater offensive variety in the second half of the 2012 campaign.

Sophomore midfielder Jim Marlatt and senior attack Sean Rogers, who both were named to the 2012 All-Big East first team, have emerged as the top two offensive threats, but they have received quite a bit of help. In seven of the last nine games, at least seven different players have scored goals, and overall, 20 different Irish players have found the back of the net this season.

"When we lost at the end of last year, we talked about the identity of our team being a little bit more of no stars but a lot of guys that can make plays and a lot of guys that can contribute," Corrigan said. "If we play the right way, [balanced scoring] will happen."

The play of the Irish defense and ability for the offense to continue its balanced scoring will likely be what determines if Notre Dame gets past the Cavaliers. Virginia is led by senior attack Steele Stanwick, who won the 2011 Tewaaraton Trophy as the most outstanding player in college lacrosse.

"I've watched them very casually, in all honesty," Corrigan said. "It wasn't a team we had on our schedule so I've seen them play on TV a couple of times and I did watch [Sunday's win over Princeton] with a little bit of interest."

"They're an athletic team with a lot of excellent skill players and you've got to survive the middle of the field against Virginia. They can't run roughshod through the middle of the field or you're going to be in trouble."

The Irish and Cavaliers square off Sunday at noon in the NCAA quarterfinals from Philadelphia. The game will be televised on ESPN.

Contact Sam Gans at [sgans@nd.edu](mailto:sgans@nd.edu)

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Independent of the University



# Waldrum

continued from page 25

prayed about it. I've always wanted to try to use my abilities to glorify God because everything I've been through and being able to play this sport is all to Him."

Despite Henderson's 20 starts and 17 goals as a freshman, Waldrum said she struggled to understand her role as a scoring threat. With the attention focused on former Irish forwards Hanks and Brittany Bock, Henderson flew under the radar early in her career.

"We were trying at that point to get her to realize, 'No, Mel, it's you, too. You have to carry some of the load'. Almost telling her she needs to be more selfish in her play," Waldrum said. "She really seemed to get that her junior year, the year we won the championship."

In 2010, Henderson led Notre Dame to its fifth consecutive trip to the College Cup and its third national title in program history. She finished the 2010 NCAA tournament with three goals and four assists, including an assist in the national championship that gave the Irish a 1-0 win over previously-unbeaten Stanford.

"When we won the national championship, I was in tears. It was definitely the proudest moment of my life," Henderson said. "When the whistle blew, I

just got down on my knees and prayed and thanked God for this opportunity because it was just surreal, and there's no better person than Jesus to thank for the opportunity."

A natural competitor, Henderson was named co-captain her senior year alongside Notre Dame senior defender Jessica Schuveiller and senior midfielder Courtney Barg. The three co-captains had played on the same club team throughout high school and hail from Dallas, Waldrum's hometown.

Schuveiller said fans and teammates looked up to Henderson as a role model on and off the field.

"I think Melissa sometimes doesn't even know the power she has as a player and as a person. I don't think she realizes how much people look up to her," she said. "People respect her ability and [her] as a person. Anytime she does something or makes a play, it'll change the game because other people will be impacted by it."

Despite her humility, Henderson said she has taken advantage of her stage and has done her best to live out her faith for others to witness. She could be seen praying with her head in her shirt as she walked on the field prior to each game.

Henderson said she was able to maintain a positive outlook throughout her senior season, when the Irish finished 10-8-3.

"At the end of the day, we didn't win back-to-back nation-

al championships, but I got to be coached by some of the best coaches in the country. I got to play with some of the best girls in the country. I got to meet people that I'll know the rest of my life," Henderson said. "You're sad to end on a note like that soccer-wise, but if you look at it as a whole life aspect, I think it was a win for me."

Henderson said she joked with Waldrum about how she wished she would have been injured one year in order to be eligible for a fifth year at Notre Dame.

"For me, I need to move on to my new chapter, and it doesn't involve being with the coaches and players I've been with for the past four years," Henderson said. "I'm not ready, but that's what I think is special in a way. I don't know what's ahead of me, and I'm just going to take it as God puts it in front of me. It's just going to open up a lot more excitement."

Just days after Henderson was drafted second overall to the Sky Blue FC in the Women's Professional Soccer draft, league officials were forced to suspend the 2012 season due to legal matters. Henderson will spend the summer as a member of the Boston Breakers, a team affiliated with the WPS.

Waldrum said he has high expectations for Henderson's future, predicting a professional career similar to those of Abby Wambach and Mia Hamm.



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer

**Irish senior forward Melissa Henderson corrals a loose ball during Notre Dame's 1-0 loss to Illinois in November.**

"The challenge is still there from me," he said. "I think she should continue to follow that dream because she's got enough talent to lead us for another decade in the World Cup."

Henderson said she is excited for her professional career to commence, and she is ready to experience all that God has planned in her life.

"I'm more excited than ever

just to even play this summer. If soccer's not it, it's not it," she said. "I'm just excited for where He wants me to go in life. I'm not going to plan anything, and I'm tired of trying to plan ahead. I'm just going to let Him make the footsteps for me, and I'm just going to go after it."

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# Swarbrick

continued from page 25

## Year-in-review

Though Notre Dame's varsity athletic programs have failed to capture a national championship in the 2011-12 season as this commencement issue goes to print, the year saw many Notre Dame athletes and teams enjoy success. Swarbrick said he was pleased with the progress made by the Irish teams in athletic competition.

"I feel very good [about this year]. It's interesting, last year when we were talking, we were coming off a couple of national championships in women's soccer and fencing," he said. "You always like to have those, but in some ways, the depth and the breadth of the performance this year has been even better, from an event championship at the NCAA track and field, something we haven't done, which was really cool, the distance medley, having an All-American swimmer in the men's swimming competition."

"Across the board, I'm really pleased that you see highlights almost everywhere you look. We still want to win championships, that's still the goal, we focused on that, but when you look at the competitive performance, the classes we have coming in and the academic performance of the student-athletes, I think it's been a very good year."

For the second athletic year in a row, Notre Dame's women's basketball team and head coach Muffet McGraw galvanized the campus with a run to the national championship game. Though McGraw's bunch fell short of the title again, Swarbrick said the success of the team and All-American junior point guard Skylar Diggins elevates the entire athletic community at Notre Dame.

"Our student-athletes are in such proximity to each other, it's a relatively small university and our facilities are located to-

gether, and any time you see a team go to the final game consecutive years, you say to yourself 'We can do that. If they can, we can,'" Swarbrick said. "You watch those athletes work and know that's the standard you have to meet ... the great thing about the women's success is that it's featured a transcendent player from the local community. That's a special aspect of it. The program that already had a strong community relationship, Skylar's success has only heightened it with her remarkable abilities and prominence."

**The new barn**

Though the Irish hockey team did not match the Frozen Four run of 2010-11 with this year's underwhelming campaign, the program did enjoy the opening of state-of-the-art hockey-

specific arena Compton Family Ice Arena. Players, coaches and fans in the community praised the new facility, which opened in the fall and features a regulation sheet of ice and Olympic-size ice. Swarbrick said the community involvement engendered by the facility was a key aspect of Compton's first season.

"From a hockey perspective, the coaches like it, the players like it and it works well, I'm hopeful that it produces more of a home-ice advantage in the future, and I'm certain it will because we have a great program," he said. "On the community side of it, which was the motivating factor behind having a lone facility with two sheets of ice, it's exceeded expectation."

"With learn-to-skate programs, youth hockey and rec-

reational skating, the numbers have been through the roof, and it's been what we've wanted. It's been a magnet to bring the community to the campus other than on a Notre Dame varsity event basis, and have them feel a sense of ownership in part of the campus; it's their home ice too for all those programs."

**New media**

The Irish hockey and men's lacrosse programs were featured in special documentaries aired by the NBC Sports Network this year. Swarbrick said the athletic department is working to increase exposure to all Notre Dame sports across a variety of media.

"[The Notre Dame Network] will never be a channel on your cable station, that's not the model for the Notre Dame Net-

work. It will never be the Longhorn Network or the Big Ten Network," he said. "What it will be is Notre Dame-branded content distributed over a number of methods of distribution."

"We had almost 100 percent increase in the number of live games we streamed this year, we had incredibly well done special programs on the opening of Compton and inside our men's lacrosse program that aired on the NBC Sports Network this year, we had some hockey games from Compton on the NBC Sports Network. That's our model: more programming, produced by us and distributed over a number of means. In that sense, it was a great year for the network."

Contact Chris Allen at [callen10@nd.edu](mailto:callen10@nd.edu)

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MEN’S TENNIS

Trio continues to compete for Irish in postseason

By PETER STEINER  
Sports Writer

While the Irish found a great deal of success this season, the team also experienced some heartbreaking losses against top-ranked teams and in the Big East and NCAA championships. After finishing their spring regular season with an 18-7 record, the Irish lost a long, grueling match to South Florida in the semifinals of the Big East championship. Heading into the match, Notre Dame (21-9, 3-1) had won seven straight, but the Bulls took down the Irish 4-3 for the second time in the spring season. The Irish quickly rebounded against St. John’s in their next match to

take home third place in the Big East tournament. “Our biggest team goal was to win the Big East championship, and that was pretty heartbreaking when we fell a bit short of that,” sophomore Greg Andrews said. The Irish also notched key wins against top-ranked opponents. Away 4-3 victories against No. 22 Michigan and No. 34 Texas A&M highlighted the team’s season. “Beating Michigan on the road [is one highlight],” Irish coach Bobby Bayliss said. “That’s a tough place to win, and it was a good match. “Beating Texas A&M at Texas A&M is also a significant achievement. They don’t lose at home very often.”

While these close wins headlined Notre Dame’s accomplishments, narrow losses to top-20 ranked teams were some of the team’s biggest disappointments. The Irish faced off against then-No. 17 Illinois on Jan. 22, and although Andrews took down No. 24 senior Roy Kalmanovich, the Irish left Champaign, Ill., with a close 4-3 defeat. Three weeks later, the Irish were spurned by No. 6 Kentucky in another narrow 4-3 loss. “We had a real opportunity to beat Illinois in Champaign and lost a really close, long 4-3 match,” Bayliss said. “Against Kentucky ... we did the same thing.” Andrews and seniors Niall Fitzgerald and Casey Watt led the Irish this season, as all three

finished with winning records at their respective singles positions. At No. 1 doubles, Watt and Fitzgerald have been selected to compete in the NCAA doubles championship beginning May 24. Meanwhile, Andrews emerged this season as a premiere singles player, being named the Big East Player of the Year with a 34-8 overall record. The sophomore will represent Notre Dame in the NCAA singles championship starting May 23. “[One highlight of this season is] seeing the maturity of Niall Fitzgerald, who has become a real go-to guy for us and has won a lot of important matches, a lot in three sets, which used to give him difficult times,” Bayliss said. “See-

ing Casey Watt [having] a winning record at No. 1 singles and develop that way is rewarding. Maybe most of all, seeing Greg Andrews become a premiere, national-level player who has beaten guys who are top-20 in the country is also very rewarding.” After defeating No. 40 Vanderbilt in the first round of the NCAAs, the Irish finished their team season with a loss to No. 5 Ohio State in the second round of NCAA regionals. Andrews and the doubles team of Fitzgerald and Watt will compete in the NCAA individual championship beginning May 23 in Athens, Ga.

Contact Peter Steiner at psteiner@nd.edu

ND WOMEN’S TENNIS

ND claims Big East title, falls in second round of NCAAs

By KELSEY MANNING  
Sports Writer

After a 21-8 season in which the Irish claimed their fifth-straight Big East title, No. 20 Notre Dame ultimately met disappointment at the hands of No. 12 Northwestern, falling in the second round of the NCAA tournament. The Irish started off the spring season 5-3, with two of those three

losses coming in close 4-3 decisions, before closing out the season 15-4. In that second stretch, Notre Dame rattled off 11 straight doubles points. Irish coach Jay Louderback said doubles play was a strong point of the season. “Our doubles was very, very good this year,” Louderback said. “We won the doubles point against some of the top teams in the county.”

Among those teams were No. 18 Vanderbilt, No. 16 Georgia Tech, No. 14 Northwestern, No. 13 North Carolina and No. 3 Duke. Much of that success in the doubles arena can be attributed to the senior co-captains Kristy Frilling and Shannon Mathews, who were ranked No. 1 in the country in late March. “[Mathews] and I have worked really hard this year in both doubles and singles, and we just wanted that work ethic to translate into success for the team,” Frilling said. “We won the doubles point the majority of our matches, and I think a lot of that comes from the fact that we had three solid doubles teams.”



ALEX PARTAK/The Observer

Irish junior Chrissie McGaffigan returns a shot during Notre Dame’s 7-0 win over South Florida on April 13.

not capitalize on opportunities like those. “We didn’t capitalize on many of our opportunities throughout the season, so that was disappointing at times,” the senior said. “But this team has worked really hard this year, both on court and with each other.” One of the major disappointments came in the team’s 4-2 loss to Northwestern (20-8) in the NCAA tournament Saturday, said Louderback. “To finish like we did was very, very disappointing,” Louderback said. “We were in complete control of the match, [and] we had kids that didn’t get the job done. Our seniors did very well, but no one gave them any help. They were the only two that got points for us against Northwestern. It

was a very disappointing finish.” Despite the finish, the Irish achieved much this season, both as a team and individually. As the No. 1 seed in the Big East tournament, the Irish took the title for the fifth-straight year, improving their record in the Big East finals to an impressive 12-5. Frilling was named Most Outstanding Performer in the tournament after going a perfect 3-0 in the finals. For the regular season, Mathews was named Big East Player of the Year, accompanying Louderback, who was named Big East Coach of the Year. Additionally, Mathews was named an All-American for the first time, while Frilling became the first Notre Dame player to be named an All-American all four years. Mathews will compete in the NCAA singles championship, while she and Frilling will team up in the doubles championship, beginning May 23 and 24 respectively.

“They’ve got a shot of doing really well in the individual and doubles tournaments,” Louderback said. As for the year to come, Louderback said the future is a bit uncertain for Notre Dame with the loss of its two top players. “Right now I don’t know,” he said. “We’re going to have to have some kids step up and play because our seniors — our top two — are graduating. We’ve got a couple of freshmen coming in that are good solid players but we’re going to have to have kids that are returning step up and be able to play higher than they did this year. It’s just a matter of them being able to do it. It’s just such a disappointing finish, to have kids do well and then just let it slip.”

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# FOUR YEARS IN REVIEW

ndsmcobserver.com | page 32

The top Observer sports stories from the 2008–2012 academic years

Friday, May 18, 2012

## Weis fired after five seasons, Kelly hired

December 1, 2009; December 12, 2009



After leading Notre Dame to the most losses in a three-year span in program history, Charlie Weis was fired on Nov. 30, 2009, and a mere 11 days later, director of athletics Jack Swarbrick named Brian Kelly as the 29th football coach in Notre Dame history.

Weis held the reigns to the football program for five years, accumulating an overall record of 35-27. After going 9-3 in his first season and earning an appearance in the Fiesta Bowl, Weis was granted a 10-year contract

extension through 2015.

Nonetheless, two home losses to Navy and consecutive Senior Day defeats to Syracuse and Connecticut spelled the end of the Weis' time leading his alma mater.

A secretive coaching search resulted in the hiring of Kelly, fresh off an undefeated regular season at Cincinnati in his third year with the Bearcats.

Previously, Kelly was the head coach at Central Michigan for three seasons, leading the Chip-

pewas to a Mid-American Conference in 2006. Kelly began his head coaching career at Division II Grand Valley State, tallying a 118-35-2 record over 13 seasons.

Kelly brought Bob Diaco, defensive coordinator, and Charley Molnar, offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach, along with him from Cincinnati to lead his coaching staff and reunited with Chuck Martin, now defensive backs coach, who took over as head coach at Grand Valley State when Kelly left.

### Football finally defeats USC



Notre Dame capped a difficult season by snapping an eight-year-long losing streak to USC with 20-16 victory over the Trojans in Los Angeles.

The rivalry victory did not come without drama, as senior safety Harrison Smith had to intercept a Mitch Mustain pass on the Irish one-yard line in the last minutes to seal the win.

November 27, 2010

### Women's basketball reaches title game twice



After a scintillating tournament run that culminated with a title game loss in 2011, the Irish made another deep run in 2012.

Led by junior guard Skylar Diggins, Notre Dame once again earned a spot in the championship game after topping UConn in the semifinals. The Irish lost to Baylor and Brittney Griner 80-61, finishing as a runner-up again.

April 5, 2011; April 3, 2012

### Women's soccer wins national title



After four consecutive trips to the College Cup without a title, the Irish finally broke through with a 1-0 victory over previously undefeated Stanford.

Notre Dame raced through the NCAA tournament on the strength of strong efforts from its freshmen, who scored the last four goals of the season and helped shut down eventual Hermann Trophy winner Christen Press.

December 5, 2010

### Football hosts first night game in decades



On Oct. 22, 2011, the Irish hosted the first night game in over 20 years when they welcomed rival USC to Notre Dame Stadium.

A raucous crowd and amped up student section, however, could not will the Irish to a victory as they fell 31-17 to the Trojans.

The success of the game prompted a night game to be scheduled for 2012 as well.

October 22, 2011

### Swarbrick takes over AD position

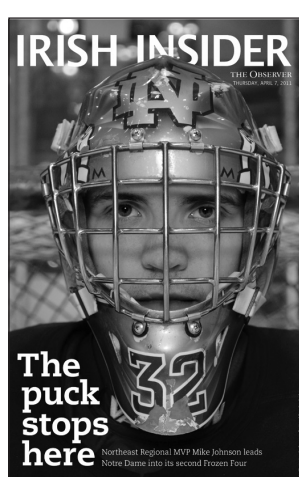


On June 1, 2008, then-director of athletics Kevin White announced he would be leaving Notre Dame to assume the same position at Duke.

Six weeks later, Swarbrick was hired as the 12th athletic director in the school's history. He was previously a lawyer instrumental in the Indianapolis sports scene.

July 16, 2008

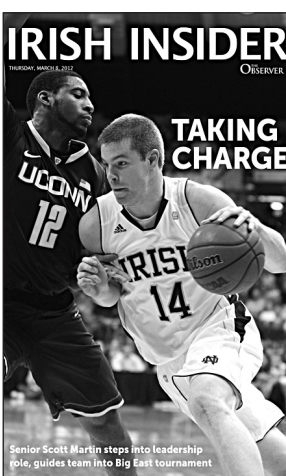
### Hockey reaches Frozen Four



The Irish reached the first Frozen Four in program history in 2008, falling in the national title game. The freshmen on that squad were seniors on the team that reached the 2011 Frozen Four; the seniors shepherded an exceptionally young team (loaded with 12 freshmen) to another Frozen Four berth, capping their record-setting careers.

April 7, 2011

### Men's hoops makes third straight tournament

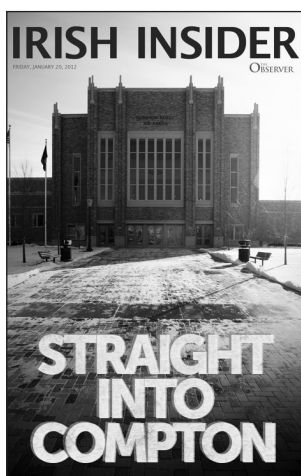


After losing their leading scorer and captain Tim Abromaitis to a torn ACL early in the season, Notre Dame turned the year around to make its third consecutive NCAA tournament appearance.

Led by senior guard Scott Martin, the Irish earned the No. 3 seed in the Big East tournament before falling to Xavier in their first game of the NAAs.

March 11, 2012

### Compton Family Ice Arena opens



Thanks to a \$15 million donation from Kevin and Gayla Compton, the Irish hockey program had a new place to call home this season — the Compton Family Ice Arena.

Notre Dame had previously played all of its hockey games in the Joyce Center before moving to the new facility. The Irish opened the building with a 5-2 win over RPI.

October 21, 2011

### Men's lacrosse reaches title game



Despite being unseeded in the NCAA tournament, Notre Dame rode a stalwart defense through seeded teams to a berth in the championship game against Duke.

The Irish and Blue Devils played the lowest-scoring title game in NCAA history, finishing regulation tied at 5. The Irish gave up an early goal in overtime to lose.

May 31, 2010



ND WOMEN’S BASKETBALL

Irish reach championship game for second straight year

By JOSEPH MONARDO  
Sports Writer

Having reached the NCAA championship game after a spectacular season, the Irish were on the verge of a win that would have meant everything to the program. It would have been the second national championship in program history, revenge for 2011’s title-game loss to Texas A&M and a fitting conclusion for one of the best graduating classes in school history.

Instead, the No. 4 Irish (35-4, 15-1 Big East) ended their season on the wrong end of the sport’s biggest night for the second straight year, falling to Baylor 80-61 in the title game.

After jumping into the national spotlight with last year’s run to the tournament’s final round — a path that took them straight through top-seeds Connecticut and Tennessee — the Irish opened the 2011-2012 season ranked second nationally behind only No. 1 Baylor (40-0, 18-0 Big 12). Hardly a week into the season, the nation’s top two teams had a chance to face off in the Pre-season WNIT Championship in what would be a preview of the season’s finale. Led by junior center Brittney Griner’s 32 points, 14 rebounds and six blocks, the Lady Bears took the contest, 94-81, in Waco, Texas.

Following the early-season loss to Baylor the Irish managed to capture a tournament title of their own at the Junkaroo Jam in the Bahamas. Irish senior guard Natalie Novosel hit a buzzer-beater in Notre Dame’s 56-54 win against No. 8 Duke in the title game.

“I think ... it was key to our season because it just, really, gave us great confidence to beat a ranked team on the road and to just know how poorly we played in the first half and then to come back and play so well,” Irish coach Muffet McGraw said.

Novosel’s heroics began what would turn into a 21-game winning streak for the Irish. During the second-longest winning-streak in program history, the Irish defeated seven teams ranked in the top 18, including four ranked in the top eight. Notre Dame blew out in-state rival No. 12 Purdue in West Lafayette, Ind., before handing No. 7 Kentucky a 92-83 loss, downing No. 2 Connecticut in overtime, disposing of No. 18 Georgetown, thrashing No. 7 Tennessee and beating No. 13 Rutgers by 30 points.

During the streak the Irish held an average margin of victory of 32.3 points, but McGraw said she knew her team was headed toward a loss.

“I think what happens when you get on a win streak — and not everybody is fortunate enough to [win] 21 in a row — but you get to a point where there is almost a pressure of winning every game,” she said. “You are trying to keep the streak alive rather than just playing the game and having fun, so I think it changed our mental state a little bit. I think we were a little not as relaxed going into games and we started to shoot poorly and we weren’t defending quite as well and we just kind of knew that we were in for a letdown and then it happened against

West Virginia.”

On Feb. 12, more than two and a half months after the streak began, the Irish fell on their home floor to the Mountaineers (24-10, 11-5 Big East), 65-63. Irish junior guard Skylar Diggins racked up 32 points in the game and Irish graduate student forward Devereaux Peters added 17 rebounds and six blocks, but West Virginia junior center Aysa Bussie notched 22 points and eight rebounds to lead the visiting team to victory.

After their first loss in 22 games, the Irish concluded their regular season with four straight wins and secured the first Big East regular-season title in school history with a 72-59 road victory over Connecticut in the finale.

“[The regular season title] meant a lot because there were so many ranked teams in the conference this year,” McGraw said. “We had eight teams in the [national] tournament and to go through the league and win as many games as we did really was a remarkable accomplishment for us.”

As the top seeds in the conference tournament, the Irish earned a rematch with the Mountaineers in the Big East tournament semifinals. Notre Dame avenged its loss from several weeks earlier with a 73-45 win and moved on to the conference title game to face the Huskies. The Irish were unable to add their first ever Big East tournament title to the season’s haul and instead finished as league runner-up for the sixth time following UConn’s 63-54 victory.

Despite the late stumble to



SARAH O’CONNOR/The Observer

Junior guard Skylar Diggins drives past her defender in Notre Dame’s 80-61 loss to Baylor in the national championship April 3.

Connecticut, the Irish entered the NCAA tournament as a No. 1 seed and hosted opening-round wins over Liberty and California in Purcell Pavilion. Notre Dame easily moved past St. Bonaventure and Maryland in the next two rounds before facing off with conference rival Connecticut — for the fourth time of the season — in the Final Four in Denver.

“It’s been a great rivalry. It’s been a bit bitter at times, I think where neither one of us wants to lose,” McGraw said of her team’s encounters with the Huskies. “Certainly, the first year for us to win the Big East regular season outright, which you would think we would have done that before, and Geno often says it’s tougher to win the Big East than to win the national title, and he might be right about that ... They just have such a great program, so when we do beat them, it definitely means a lot to us.”

The Irish were able to win their fourth game against Connecticut in five meetings with an 83-75 overtime win, but not before allowing Connecticut junior center Stefanie Dolson to dominate the paint early as she scored 12 first-half points. The Irish entered halftime down three and carried a modest lead throughout most of the second half, but nearly lost their chance at returning to the championship game. Up 65-59 with under three minutes remaining, the Irish failed to score as Connecticut put in seven-straight points to take a two-point lead with only seconds remaining. Novosel’s put-back layup with 4.6 seconds remaining sent the game into overtime, where the Irish ran away with the contest behind Irish graduate student guard Brittany Mallory’s pair of 3-pointers.

In the title game, the Irish struggled early and trailed by as much as 14, but pulled to within six by halftime and

cut the deficit to three just five minutes into the second half. However, the Irish were unable to keep pace with Baylor in the second half as Brittney Griner finished with 26 points, 13 rebounds and five blocks. Peters rode the bench for the Irish for much of the game, playing only 15 minutes due to foul trouble, and Novosel scored only five points on 0-11 shooting. Diggins paced the Irish with 20 points in the losing effort.

Despite the disappointing championship-game loss to the Lady Bears, the Irish consider their season to be a success.

“It was a great season, and I think Baylor was the best team in the country going through the season undefeated,” McGraw said. “We wish we would have played better and made some shots and felt better about our game and hang in there, but it certainly doesn’t take away from the success and the great things they accomplished all season long.”

With the departures of Peters, Novosel (both of whom went in the first round of the WNBA draft in April), Mallory and senior guard Fraderica Miller, the Irish will rely heavily on Diggins and sophomore guard Kayla McBride as the only two returning starters next season, McGraw said.

“Next year we have a lot of holes to fill, with three starters lost plus Fraderica Miller who came off the bench to give us great minutes on the defensive side,” McGraw said. “I think [defense] is what we are going to miss the most. The best defender in the Big East in Devereaux Peters, the team’s best defender on the perimeter in Brittany Mallory and Fraderica Miller, who was probably our next best defender, so our defense is going to have a lot of shoes to fill. We really are going to look to the returning players and then of course the incoming freshmen.”



SARAH O’CONNOR/The Observer

Sophomore guard Kayla McBride tries to dribble around a Baylor defender in Notre Dame’s 80-61 loss to the Lady Bears in the national championship at the Pepsi Center in Denver on April 3.



# Notre Dame:

Cross country teams both finish in top-25 of country; men’s track and field wins two Big East titles; men’s golf

### Observer Staff Report

#### Cross Country

Both the men’s and women’s squads concluded the season in Terre Haute, Ind., at the NCAA championships in November, where the men pulled off a 24th-place finish and the women claimed the 22nd spot in the nation.

“I think last season was the start of a new really strong era of cross country here at Notre Dame,” Irish junior Jessica Rydberg said.

Irish men’s coach Joe Piane said the old cliché of judging a team by its finish and not its start proved to be true with the squad.

“I think that we performed well,” Piane said. “We got to the national championship, which is always a goal.”

Both team’s abilities to make a mark on the national stage is something that cannot go overlooked, Piane said.

“Now, just to get to the NCAA’s you have to be among the top-10 percent of all of the Division I teams in the country, so that’s an accomplishment in itself,” Piane said.

Despite the strong performance and strong finish, to some extent, some felt like there was a certain untapped potential.

“I think the guys would tell you ... that we could have run a little bit better,” Piane said. “But, I think we realize that this was great motivation for next year to do even better.”

Irish junior Jeremy Rae echoed Piane’s sentiment.

“We still improved in our performance from two years ago, but we still want to do a lot better than that,” Irish junior Jeremy Rae said. “We need to do a whole lot better than that.”

Of Notre Dame’s top five finishers at the NCAA championships, one only was a senior. Rae said the team has a lot of room for improvement.

“Overall, we were a pretty young team, and I think we’re bringing everybody back with the exception of one person,” Rae said. “So it was kind of a rebuilding year. We should be whole a lot better, just looking at how our team will be next year.”

Rydberg said the young women’s squad made great strides in 2011.

“I think we made a lot of very good improvements over the season,” Rydberg said. “We had a very young team and we took a lot of steps in the right direction, so I think there are a lot of things we can improve on.”

After a strong finish, the Irish are carrying momentum into

the 2012 season after a successful 2011 provided crucial experience for a young group.

#### Track and Field

In a season marked by exciting contributions from newcomers, improved performances from veterans and remarkable consistency, Notre Dame asserted itself as an elite contender on the national level.

Behind the leadership of veteran coach Joe Piane and his staff, which was named Big East Men’s Coaching Staff of the Year, the Irish men’s team earned both Big East championships, winning the indoor edition by 28 points in February and capturing the outdoor championships by 53 points in early May.

In addition to the in-conference success, the Irish made a splash on the national scene in early March when the distance medley relay team of senior Johnathan Shawel, freshman Chris Giesting, senior Randall Babb and junior Jeremy Rae earned a victory at the NCAA Indoor Track and Field championships, marking Notre Dame’s first indoor title since 1972.

“Last year, we took fourth at nationals, and this year we won [the distance medley relay],” Rae said. “I don’t think we were that much better of a team, but we were a bit more experienced going into it and knew what to expect, which I think helped a lot. I think it was a combination of things, but, most importantly, it was more experience.”

Rae and Giesting both set personal records this season, with the former running the fourth fastest time nationally in the 1,500-meter event and the latter breaking the school record in the 400-meter run en route to being named the Big East Men’s Most Outstanding Track Performer at the outdoor championships. Senior pole vaulter Kevin Schipper also earned accolades for finishing fourth at the indoor championships and capturing both the indoor and outdoor conference titles in the event.

On the women’s side, the Irish saw vast improvement as the team earned a fourth-place finish at the Big East indoor championships and a runner-up finish at the outdoor championships.

Junior Rebecca Tracy said the team’s improvement over last year’s 10th-place finish in the outdoor championships came as a result of greater team unity.

“I think in the past year, we’ve done a much better job of coming together as a team,” Tracy said. “Before, we didn’t necessarily know who was doing

what, but, this year, we’ve done a really great job of keeping up with how everyone’s doing in events other than our own.

Tracy helped lead the Irish at the Big East championships, capturing the title in the 1,500-meter event at the outdoor championships and anchoring the team’s successful 4x800-meter relay squad to a second-place finish.

Senior multi-event athlete Maddie Buttinger closed out her successful Irish career in grand fashion, breaking the school record in the pentathlon en route to finishing third in the NCAA indoor championships.

Rae, Tracy and several other Irish team members hope to put the final touches on a strong season when they compete in the NCAA East Preliminary championships, which will be held May 24-26 in Jacksonville, Fla.

#### Men’s Golf

In a season that saw members of the Irish golf program garner impressive individual accolades, the team has a chance to advance to the NCAA championships, a feat no Irish squad has ever achieved.

After a fall and spring season of competition and a Big East championship, the Irish, led by Big East Coach of the Year Jim Kubinski and Player of the Year senior Max Scodro, head to Ann Arbor, Mich., from May 17 to the 19 for the NCAA regional tournament. Kubinski attributed the team’s success to its grueling schedule in the middle of the season.

“We started the season well, but we got into a stretch where we really didn’t play our best golf at the end of the fall and beginning of the spring season,” Kubinski said. “We really took our lumps in March, but playing in the best tournaments in the Southeast was really key for us.”

After finishing 12th, 16th and 13th respectively in March at the Schenkel Invitational in Statesboro, Ga., Linger Longer Invitational in Statesboro, Ga. and All American Intercollegiate in Houston Kubinski said his team’s psyche could have suffered.

“I give all the credit to the guys for keeping their heads up during the rough stretches when we were really struggling to put up four solid scores,” Kubinski said. “Golf is a game of confidence and momentum, and I think we’re trending in the right direction.”

Kubinski’s optimism heading into the NCAA regional tournament is a result of the team’s improved play over the past

month, highlighted by victories in the Battle at the Warren at Notre Dame and the Big East championship in Orlando, Fla. The Irish beat out second-place Louisville by 16 strokes in a convincing victory for their second-straight conference championship.

Of course, it also does not hurt to have the two-time Big East Golfer of the Year. Scodro displayed impressive consistency over the fall and spring seasons, at one point placing in the top 25 in seven consecutive tournaments, a feat Kubinski said sets him apart from the rest of the Irish squad.

“I’m amazed at Max’s consistency of good play,” Kubinski said. “Golf is an up-and-down game, but Max has been consistently this good for two years. We’re happy to have him now, but we’ll be watching him on TV in a couple years.”

Scodro will headline the Irish lineup, as Notre Dame will compete against a field that features top-10 teams Oregon and Southern California at the NCAA regionals. The Irish need a fifth-place finish in the field of 13 to move on to the NCAA championships.

“We’re peaking at the right time,” Kubinski said. “We’re going to do something we haven’t done before.”

#### Women’s Golf

Last season, the Irish placed fifth in the NCAA central region tournament and, for the first time, went to the NCAA tournament where they finished 22nd overall. This year, under the leadership of Irish coach Susan Holt, Notre Dame ended the regular season ranked 49th in the nation and took second place in the Big East tournament.

Holt said the Big East tournament ended in heartbreaking fashion for her squad.

“It was definitely disappointing losing by one stroke in the Big East tournament,” Holt said. “But we still made it to the regional tournament and we are playing well so far.”

Holt compared the season and her team’s journey to that of another Irish squad.

“We are a lot like the women’s basketball team,” Holt said. “We did not win the Big East tournament but we now have a shot at going to the NCAA tournament.”

Senior captain Becca Huffer became the third golfer in program history to be named to the All-Big East team all four years of her collegiate career. For her career, she has averaged a round score of 75.17 strokes and this season has an average of 75.27 strokes.

“I have been coaching [at Notre Dame] for six years now and Becca has been an integral part of the team,” Holt said. “She was my first actual recruit here. She came to a northern school not known for golf and has performed very well since then. After Becca, our recruits have only got better and better.”

Along with Huffer, sophomore Kristina Nhim was also named to the All-Big East team, her second selection to the squad. In her career, she has averaged 76.59 strokes per round.

Freshman Ashley Armstrong has made significant contributions to the Irish in her rookie year, as she was honored as Big East Freshman of the Year and was also named to the All-Big East team. In the Big East tournament, Armstrong placed first after 72 holes and three playoff holes with a total score of 216. This season, Armstrong averaged 75.58 strokes per round.

“Ashley is a fierce competitor who always has a shot to win,” Holt said. “She has performed extremely well for her first year and you can never count her out.”

After one round, Notre Dame was in fourth place in the central region tournament at the Ohio State Scarlet Course in Columbus, Ohio and looked poised to head back to the championship, but the Irish struggled across the next two rounds and finished 15th, ending their season short of capturing an NCAA tournament berth.

#### Men’s Swimming

This season contained a string of awards for the Irish, but for seven swimmers, it meant more than just plaques and trophies. The squad collected its fifth Big East Conference team title, Big East Coach of the Year for both swimming and diving and sent two swimmers to the NCAA championships for the first time in program history.

Junior Bill Bass and sophomore Frank Dyer extended the swimming season into the NCAA championships, earning a 28th-place finish for Notre Dame. Bass also earned the Most Outstanding Swimmer award at the Big East championships.

On the diving end, freshman Nick Nemetz carried the team to the NCAA championships, finishing 12th in the one-meter event.

Irish swimming coach Tim Welsh and diving coach Caiming Xie continued the accolades for the squad, both earning Big East Coach of the Year awards for their respective sports.

At Notre Dame’s end-of-year O.S.C.A.R.S. awards ceremo

2011		2012	
<div>NOTRE DAME</div> <div>YEAR-IN-REVIEW</div>	<div>Aug. 26-28: Volleyball gets off to its best start since 2006 with a 3-0 sweep at the Shamrock Invitational.</div>	<div>Oct. 5: Men’s golf is ranked No. 20 by Golfstat, the first time the Irish made the top-25 in six years.</div>	<div>Nov. 20: Volleyball loses to Cincinnati in the Big East championship finals.</div>
	<div>Sept. 3: Football opens the season with a 23-20 loss to USC. The game is interrupted by two evacuations for thunderstorms, the first such delays in Notre Dame Stadium history.</div>	<div>Oct. 21: Hockey plays its first game at the Compton Family Ice Arena, beating RPI, 5-2.</div>	<div>Nov. 21: The women’s cross country team finishes 22nd and the men’s team finishes 24th at the national championship in Terre Haute, Ind.</div>
	<div>Sept. 9-24: Men’s soccer goes on a five-game unbeaten streak, tying Denver and beating Bucknell, Michigan, Michigan St. and Louisville.</div>	<div>Oct. 22: Football loses to USC, 31-17, in the first night game at Notre Dame Stadium in 21 years.</div>	<div>Dec.: Senior tennis player Casey Watt wins the doubles and mixed doubles titles at the USTA National Men’s Open, Women’s Open and Mixed Open Indoor National Championships with Jeremy McClelland and Elyse Steiner, respectively. Meanwhile, senior and Irish-native Niall Fitzgerald wins his national singles title at the David Lloyd National Indoor Championships in Dublin.</div>



# Year in Review

*advances to NCAA championships; men’s swimming claims conference title; fencing finishes third in NCAA*

ny, Dyer was named the Notre Dame Monogram Club MVP for swimming and diving and seniors Kevin Rahill and Jonathan Whitcomb received the Notre Dame Club of St. Joseph Valley Rockne Student-Athlete Award.

The team will now bid farewell to seven seniors. Ryan Belecanech, Conor Evans, Petar Petrovic, Sean Rademaker, Rahill, Marshall Sherman and Whitcomb have spent the last four years together and now prepare to go their separate ways.

The seniors look back on this season and the ones before it with fond thoughts. They remember the finest moments of their Notre Dame career, especially the conference championships from this year and their freshmen year.

Outside the championship memories, Rahill said the seniors will miss the moments building up to the big wins.

“I am going to miss the strong connections I have built with my teammates,” Rahill said. “To be in a team environment of daily competition, as well as motivation, is something I will most likely never experience again.”

When asked what advice they would give to incoming freshmen on the team, the answer was an easy one.

“Have fun every day and enjoy your time here because it does go by quickly,” Sherman said.

### Women’s Swimming

For Notre Dame, this past season was full of personal growth and success in the pool. The six-month period of competition was capped up with top-five finishes in all its invitational meets. Irish coach Brian Barnes knows this season was one to remember for all its successes and hard work behind it.

“There was so many highlights and great things to take away from this wonderful season,” Barnes said. “I am proud on how our girls performed all season. We brought the hard work from practice to the meets and [it] showed.”

The Irish (5-5) concluded their season with a 22nd place finish at the NCAA championships, the highest the Irish have finished in the last 11 years. The Irish finished second in both swimming and diving at the Big East championships and produced two All-Americans; freshman Emma Reaney and sophomore Kelly Ryan.

“My favorite memory was this season was just seeing us putting girls on the podium at meets,” Barnes said. “You put so much time into the year and you gain so much out of it.”

Reaney came into the NCAA championships seeded 10th in the 200-yard individual medley, improved by one slot in the morning session, and finished just 0.16 seconds out of eighth place, an automatic All-America scroll. She became the first Irish swimmer to earn All-America honors since Samantha Maxwell in 2010. She is also the first Irish freshman to earn those accolades since Katie Carroll in 2004.

“From this season, I have learned that you never know for sure what your limits really are,” Reaney said. “Just when you think you’ve gone the fastest time you ever could, if you keep working hard, there’s no saying how much time you can shave off.”

Reaney also lowered the Irish 200-yard individual medley record from 2:00.09 to 1:55.67 with her NCAA effort. She was three-time Big East Swimmer of the Week, the 2011-2012 MVP and a four-time Big East champion in the 400-yard freestyle relay, 200-yard individual medley, and 100-yard breaststroke, as well as the Big East championships record-holder in the 200-yard individual medley.

“I need to make sure to keep pushing myself and not letting myself be satisfied with anything,” Reaney said. “Next season can be better as long as push myself to its highest potential.”

Barnes said Reaney taking five seconds off the school record in the 200-yard individual medley was an amazing part of the season.

“She worked so hard this season to get where she is at,” Barnes said. “Taking five seconds off the record is an outstanding accomplishment and it was just fascinating to watch and be a part of.”

Junior diver Jenny Chiang qualified for the NCAA championships for the first time in her collegiate career and placed first for the third consecutive year on the three-meter board at the Big East championships.

“I think my favorite memory from this season would probably have to be watching my teammates perform at our Big East conference championship,” Chiang said. “Since our team was mostly compromised of freshmen, it was awesome to see them not only compete in their first big conference meet, but also do incredibly well.”

Barnes knows if this season was any indicator, next year will be even better and hopefully yield even stronger results.

“This year’s team was a little different in that we has an incredible, determined team

spirit,” Barnes said. “We have a young team and I am enthusiastic and encouraged for an exciting future.”

### Fencing

Despite losing its top four fencers to Olympic training and trials, Notre Dame still captured a third-place finish at the NCAA championships and second place at the Big East tournament.

“It was a very strong and good performance, taking into consideration that we did not have our top fencers competing with the team,” Irish coach Janusz Bednarski said.

The Irish were without foil competitors Gerek Meinhardt and Ariel DeSmet and epee competitors Ewa Nelip and Courtney Hurley. All of them took the year off from collegiate fencing to pursue a spot in the 2012 Olympics in London. Meinhardt and Hurley have both qualified for the Games.

As a result, several fencers had to assume the role of leaders that was vacated by graduating seniors and athletes pursuing Olympic dreams. Notre Dame quickly developed a strong culture and turned that into the key to its success.

“We had a lot of freshmen who were strong, and we had of course several seniors who were leading our team,” Bednarski said. “That’s one of the reasons that the season went very well. There were great relations between upperclassmen and freshmen.”

The transition from club fencing and amateur fencing to collegiate fencing can be a tough one, Bednarski said. But the strong group of upperclassmen leaders on the team made it a smooth one for this year’s underclassmen.

“Freshmen usually seem very lost when they are coming here,” Bednarski said. “Usually it’s an individual sport. So if someone is coming, it’s a rival. Rivalry is one thing that is very common in fencing.”

But Notre Dame was able to take intrasquad competition and turn it into a force for improvement and for camaraderie, he said.

“Often in a team competition, you have a friendship, you have better relations,” Bednarski said. “Upperclassmen did a great job helping the freshmen get to a level which would they would not have been able to get to. It was not easy. Rivalry between each other can be a good thing if it is done in a friendly way.”

The Irish won the 2011 national championship and wanted nothing more than to de-

fend their crown and repeat as champions. But, the combination of the relative youth of this year’s squad, the loss of the top competitors and the strength of this year’s field made the pursuit of that goal an insurmountable obstacle.

Last year Hurley, Meinhardt and DeSmet were all NCAA gold medalists. This year, senior foil Enzo Castellani made first-team All-American. In the final NCAA standings, Notre Dame finished one point behind Princeton and 22 points behind Ohio State to finish third in the national tournament.

Another obstacle Notre Dame had to conquer was an abnormal practicing surface. Its strips were actually shorter than those used in competition, which made preparing to face the stiffest competition in the nation even more difficult.

“Fortunately, we are moving to the bigger space,” Bednarski said. “Our mats previously were too short. We were practicing in a very hard environment, as well as without the comfort of lockers. Like for basketball, it would be like playing on a half court, or with baskets lower than usual.”

If the performance of this year’s young squad is any indicator, the Irish have a strong chance of returning to the medal stand next season.

“[In the future] the practices will be in the same environment that [the fencers] will be in during the competitions,” Bednarski said. “This will help to speed up the process of improvement. In addition, we will also have a very good team of coaches who will be working together. I believe the fencing will be a very strong program in the coming years.”

### Rowing

The Irish capped off a successful season with their ninth consecutive Big East championship. The team has since been selected for the NCAA championships.

From the start of the season, the Irish have competed at a high level against tough teams. But as the season went along and competition became stiffer, Notre Dame responded with constant improvement.

“Over the course of the season, we’ve made progress and I think we’ve evolved,” Irish coach Martin Stone said. “I think we’ve been getting faster as we have gone through the season.”

To open the season, Notre Dame headed to the Oak Ridge Invitational and competed against ranked teams Louisville, Tennessee and No. 1 Vir-

ginia. The Irish won ten races in the regatta and set the pace for the season.

“Overall, I think the team had a great start to the season,” junior Abby Meyers said. “We raced well against some tough competition and individual boats gained a lot of valuable experience racing together.”

Like the beginning of the season, Notre Dame finished out the season by dominating two regattas. First, the Irish closed out the regular season by winning every race in the Big East Invitational. The team even won every Grand Final races for the varsity eight, varsity four, and second varsity eight.

“The Big East Invite was a good measure and it gave us some confidence because we did well,” Stone said.

The Irish then opened their postseason with their ninth consecutive Big East championship. The team won five out of six Grand Final races, including the second varsity eight and varsity eight races.

“My favorite part of the year was definitely this past weekend winning first place in the Varsity Eight at Big East championships,” Meyers said. “That win took a lot of hard work and preparation starting back in September and through finals week. I just remember shouting ‘Champions!’ at some point before crossing the finish line. It was such a great feeling.”

The team earned a 14-point victory over Syracuse that catapulted Stone and the coaching staff to be named as the Big East Coaching Staff of the Year. Sophomore Olivia Kascits, junior Stephanie O’Neill, and senior Morgan Kelley were named to the first team All-Big East, while sophomore Courtney Gaberino and freshmen Erin Boxberger and Ailish Sheehan were named to the second team.

“Winning the Big East championships this year was a blast. It was such a great moment for our whole team,” Meyers said. “We’ve worked really hard this year, and for that work to pay off was a great experience”

On Tuesday, Notre Dame learned they were selected to compete in the NCAA championships, which will be held May 25 to 27 in West Windsor, N.J.

“Getting a chance to compete at the NCAA championships would be unreal. It would be such a great opportunity for this year’s team to show the rest of the rowing world just how fast we are,” Meyers said. “My teammates and I would love the opportunity to represent the University of Notre Dame proudly at such a prestigious event.”

**Feb. 19-March 30:** Women’s lacrosse opens its first season under coach Christine Halfpenny with an eight-game winning streak.

**March 10:** The distance medley relay team of senior Johnathan Shawel, freshman Chris Giesting, senior Randall Babb and junior Jeremy Rae wins the national indoor title with a time of 9:35.48. On the same day, senior track and field athlete Maddie Buttinger breaks the school record in the pentathlon and finishes third in the event at the National Indoor Track and Field Championship.

**March 11:** Baseball beats SEC powerhouse LSU 7-1 in front of a raucous crowd at Alex Box Stadium in Baton Rouge, La.

**March 13:** Senior women’s tennis players Kristy Frilling and Shannon Mathews rise to No. 1 in the ITA doubles rankings.

**March 15-18:** Junior diver Jenny Chiang, freshman swimmer Emma Reaney and sophomore swimmer Kelly Ryan compete at the NCAA Swimming and Diving championships. Both Reaney and Ryan earn All-American honors.

**March 16:** Men’s basketball loses 67-63 to Xavier in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

**March 24:** Sophomore swimmer Frank Dyer finishes fourth at the 200-yard freestyle at the NCAA Swimming and Diving championships, earning All-American honors and points at an NCAA championship meet for the first time in program history.

**March 25:** Fencing finishes third at the NCAA championships.

**April 3:** Women’s basketball falls 80-61 to Baylor in the national championship in Denver.

**April 16:** Graduate student forward Devereaux Peters and senior forward Natalie Novosel are taken third and eighth, respectively, in the WNBA draft. Peters becomes the highest draft pick in program history.

**April 21:** Sophomore softball pitcher Laura Winter throws the first no-hitter in the history of Melissa Cook Stadium.

**April 24:** Freshman golfer Ashley Armstrong wins the individual Big East women’s golf title in a playoff.

**April 26-28:** Receiver Michael Floyd and safety Harrison Smith are taken 13th and 29th, respectively, in the first round of the NFL Draft. Cornerback Robert Blanton and outside linebacker Darius Fleming both go in the fifth round.

**May 6:** Men’s track and field wins its eighth Big East title. The women’s team finishes second at the meet.

**May 13:** Rowing wins five grand final races and wins the Big East title for the ninth-consecutive time.



HOCKEY

Preseason No. 1 Irish miss out on NCAA tournament

By MATTHEW DeFRANKS  
Associate Sports Editor

The Irish had everything during the 2011-12 season — a new arena, a conference change, a new television deal, a preseason No. 1 ranking — except an NCAA tournament bid.

A year after advancing to the Frozen Four, Notre Dame (19-18-3, 12-13-3-0 CCHA) failed to live up to lofty pre-season expectations in a lackluster year highlighted by the opening of the Compton Family Ice Arena.

The Irish returned sophomore center T.J. Tynan and sophomore left wing Anders Lee to a squad that also had its top two goaltenders back for another year. Notre Dame, because of the wealth of players returning, was tabbed as the preseason No. 1 team in the country. Irish coach Jeff Jackson said the added burden could have contributed to the overall performance.

“The pressure they put on themselves certainly caused some issues from goaltending to goal-scoring,” Jackson said.

Notre Dame played just two regular season games in its old home — the Joyce Center — before moving to the new Compton Family Ice Arena. The Irish beat RPI 5-2 in the inaugural game at the facility behind Lee’s hat trick as a capacity crowd of 5,022 packed the arena.

“It was incredible,” Jackson said. “The amenities are one thing but the overall crowd in this building is great.”

The Irish won their first five games in the new building, capped by an exhilarating 3-2 overtime win over then-No. 3 Boston College highlighted by a goal from Irish sophomore right wing Bryan Rust with just 1.1 seconds remaining in the game.

The victory over the Eagles held a special meaning for many people in attendance as well. Dubbed the “Dedication Game,” many donors that made Compton Family Ice Arena possible were in the building.

Boston College went on to win the national championship in April, led by current

New York Rangers rookie Chris Kreider.

“It just shows you the level of talent they had on their team,” Jackson said. “There’s a lot of great players in Boston College hockey and once they get the opportunity to show what they’re capable of, they’re great. Kreider was a tremendous player when he played against us and had a great career.”

“It’s an indication of the level of college hockey but it also shows the talent level of Boston College.”

While the Irish were able to beat elite teams like Boston College, Boston University and Minnesota, they were unable to capture weekend sweeps of CCHA bottom-feeders Alaska and Bowling Green.

In a decisive two-week stretch in February, Notre Dame dropped five games in a row by a combined score of 21-4. The Irish dropped out of the top-16 teams in the Pair-Wise rankings (that decide the NCAA tournament field) and made the rest of the season an uphill battle.

“We had a lot of different issues going on, some of it was goaltending, some of it was goal-scoring,” Jackson said. “I think that’s when the pressure of the expectations got to us.”

“When we had a little adversity, we eventually got it but we had two or three game we could have won and those were the same games we were winning earlier in the year. We just have to focus on consistency if we’re going to be a great program.”

After disposing of former-No. 1 Ohio State in the first round of the CCHA play-offs with a two-game sweep, the Irish headed to Ann Arbor, Mich., to take on the Wolverines in the second round. Michigan and Notre Dame split the season series when the two teams played at Compton Family Ice Arena in late January.

In the first game, Irish sophomore goaltender Steven Summerhays — who took the starting job from junior goaltender Mike Johnson late in the season — stopped 40 Michigan shots during Notre



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Irish sophomore right wing Bryan Rust scores the game-winning goal in a 3-2 overtime win against No. 3 Boston College on Nov. 18 at the Compton Family Ice Arena.

*“I have high expectations for us every year and next year will be no different [...] We have the talent to be a very good hockey team.”*

Jeff Jackson  
Irish coach

CLASSIFIEDS

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PERSONAL

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THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

BY ROBERT FROST

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
  
And sorry I could not travel both  
  
And be one traveler, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;

Then took the other, as just as fair,  
  
And having perhaps the better claim  
  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear,  
  
Though as for that the passing there  
  
Had worn them really about the same,

And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
  
Oh, I marked the first for another day!  
  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way  
  
I doubted if I should ever come back.

I shall be telling this with a sigh  
  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I,  
  
I took the one less traveled by,  
  
And that has made all the difference.



## WOMEN'S LACROSSE

## Halfpenny leads team to NCAAs

By JACK HEFFERON  
Sports Writer

Change to believe in.

Whether in offense, defense or attitude, change was made in every facet of the program during Irish coach Christine Halfpenny's first season at Notre Dame. Notre Dame (13-5, 6-2 Big East) quickly bought into its new coach's system, and the team returned to the NCAA tournament for the first time in two years as a result.

When Halfpenny arrived on campus last summer, she had only a few months to implement her high-motion offense, aggressive defense and positive energy with the team. Her players began to grasp the system as the fall wore into spring and squeezed out a 17-14 win in their opener against Stanford.

The team continued to improve one game at a time and jumped out to No. 6 ranking with an 8-0 start to the season — its best start in nearly a decade.

"We just allowed our hard work to take care of the big picture," Halfpenny said. "We found ourselves, and it was like, 'Wow, we're 3-0 out of nowhere,' then 'Oh, all the sudden we're 5-0.' So that was really neat, to find ourselves and be in that position after eight

games."

The Irish then hit a wall in their schedule, facing off against their two toughest Big East foes in a span of three days. A 17-11 loss to Loyola was followed by a 16-10 loss to Syracuse, and suddenly Notre Dame's momentum was halted.

However, Halfpenny said that the team used the losses, learning how to play winning lacrosse in the process.

"It was definitely tough, because I think that showed us that next level of competition," she said. "I think that showed us that if you meet some

adversity in the middle of a game that you have to move on to the next play ... We learned a lot of lessons from those games, and I think they helped us grow as a program."

The team bounced back from those defeats, gritting their way to a number of tight victories behind their senior leaders. Senior attack Maggie Tamasitis was the pivot of the team's new offense, breaking multiple team and conference records through her passing acumen and offensive vision. Senior midfielders Megan Sullivan and Kate Newall and senior defender Jordy Shoemaker helped shore up the Irish defensively, allowing just 8.3 goals per game in their last six

regular season games — losing only to No. 1 Northwestern, 17-7, in that span. The final note to the season was a resounding one, as the Irish drubbed Cincinnati 22-2 on Senior Day.

"We were able to respond to those conference losses right out of the gate, and then to culminate the season against Cincinnati on Senior Day was something really special," Halfpenny said. "Seeing every single senior out there and knowing that they were a part of such a big change and a new era and have paved the way for the future, that was fantastic."

The postseason was not as kind to the Irish, as they lost once again to Loyola in the conference tournament before bowing out to Northwestern in the NCAAs. However, the team played both elite opponents much tighter in their second matchup, losing by just two to Loyola, while keeping Northwestern within three goals until the final seconds.

That progress, combined with the team's returning talent and incoming freshmen, has Halfpenny excited for next season.

"To come up just short just gets you more motivated," she said. "We're looking forward to more improvement. Hopefully we'll have a little bit more understanding of the system."

"We have some great players coming back, plus ten experienced freshmen ready to move in in August. We're definitely looking forward to some more exciting games and another strong push in May in 2013."

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*"To come up just short just gets you more motivated. We're looking forward to more improvement. Hopefully we'll have a little bit more understanding of the system."*

Christine Halfpenny  
Irish coach

## ND VOLLEYBALL

## Irish miss tournament, finish fourth in Big East



ALEX PARTAK/The Observer

**Irish sophomore middle blocker Andie Olsen prepares to spike the ball during Notre Dame's 3-0 win over Rutgers on Nov. 6.**

By CONOR KELLY  
Sports Writer

Debbie Brown considers earning a berth in the NCAA tournament the benchmark of her team's success, so despite a second-place finish in the Big East tournament, the Irish coach has to consider the 2011 season a disappointment.

"Every year we expect to make the NCAA tournament, and we're obviously disappointed that we failed to do so," Brown said of her team that finished fourth in the Big East with an 8-6 record. "I think we were very good in some areas, but we ultimately [fell] short of our own lofty expectations."

The Irish were hampered by a sluggish early and middle portion of the season in which the team lost three in a row to Cincinnati, Louisville and Pittsburgh in September and October.

Despite a three-game winning streak to end the year that catapulted the Irish into fourth place, the slow start meant the team needed a conference championship to move on to NCAA tournament.

And they almost got it.

The Irish moved past Syracuse 3-1 before upsetting Louisville by the same score. Facing top-ranked and 12-2 Cincinnati, Notre Dame fell 3-0, not losing a set by more than four points and taking the Bearcats to overtime in the final set.

"We really got better as the season went on. At the end of the season we weren't making all the unforced errors we were at the beginning," Brown said. "We really dug ourselves a hole with our play in the middle of the year, but I was happy with our little run through the Big East."

To pilot such a young group — the team consisted of only two seniors and a pair of juniors —

Brown relied on the steady play and leadership of senior captains Kristen Dealy and Frenchy Silva. The Southern Californian duo finished impressive careers with productive senior seasons, both eclipsing 1,000 digs over four years while Dealy recorded more than 1,000 kills.

"It was the type of deal where we couldn't afford not to have them on the court," Brown said. "Their game was phenomenal the entire year. Their experience was key, and on and off the court they did a fantastic job of leading the team."

Dealy underwent shoulder surgery in the spring, and put in gutsy performance after gutsy performance as she gained strength in her hitting arm throughout the year.

"Kristen is one of the most versatile players in the country," Brown said. "It's very rare to have a player record both 1,000 digs and 1,000 kills in a season. That mix of offense and defense is very special. Even when her shoulder wasn't 100 percent, she found ways to make an impact and her hitting got much more powerful as the season went on."

Under the leadership of Silva and Dealy, Brown saw the development and maturation of a talented freshman class, highlighted by right side hitters Toni Alugbue and Jeni Houser. Houser led the team with 320 kills, and Alugbue finished first on the squad with 98 blocks.

The 12 returning players, combined with the incoming freshmen class, have Brown excited about 2012.

"We're really optimistic again for the coming year," Brown said. "Individually and as a team we've made big strides, and we're really excited about the freshmen next year. We always set our goals high."

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MEN’s SOCCER

Irish stumble late, miss NCAA tourney



NICOLE TOCZAUER/The Observer  
**Irish senior defender Aaron Maund rises for a header against UConn on Nov. 8. Maund was drafted to Toronto FC of the MLS.**

By JOSEPH MONARDO  
Sports Writer

They spent time ranked in the top-10 nationally, they posted six shutouts, they sent three players to Major League Soccer and they played some of the best soccer Irish coach Bobby Clark said he has seen in his 11 years at Notre Dame. But the 2011 installment of the Irish, despite all its talent and sometimes spectacular play, failed to qualify for the NCAA tournament after losing in the first round of the Big East tournament.

“At the end of the day, [the accolades] matter,” Clark said. “You don’t get a lot of points in soccer for style. It’s not gymnastics. You’ve got to win your games, and at the end of the day we didn’t do enough of that.”

The No. 9 Irish (9-5-4, 5-3-1 Big East) opened the season with a scoreless draw at home with No. 15 Indiana before picking up one win, one loss and one tie in their next three games. Then the Irish, sitting at 1-2-1 on the season, embarked on a four-game winning streak in which they captured every decision with a one-goal advantage. In the final game of the streak the Irish earned their most high-profile win of the season with a 1-0 defeat of No. 3 Louisville at Notre Dame.

“It was a good win, but to be honest with you, I hate to say it, but I think we felt we should be able to take on any team at Alumni Stadium,” Clark said. “Louisville is a very good team, and we played so many good teams on our schedule. It was a good win, but I don’t think we were completely surprised by it.”

After climbing back into top-10 with the defeat of the Cardinals, the Irish endured a four-game winless streak in which they fell to St. John’s in double-overtime and played Northwestern and No. 1 Connecticut to ties in back-to-back double-overtime games before dropping a decision to Marquette.

The Irish were able to record victories in four of their final five contests and earn a No. 4 seed in the conference tournament, but the inability to consistently win close games ultimately defined Notre Dame’s season. The Irish failed to advance in the Big East tournament, falling 1-0 to Villanova, and found themselves outside of the field of 48 for the NCAA tournament.

“It was a disappointing finish, a funny way to [end] the season, even though we finished 20th in the final rankings ... Somehow, we weren’t able to deliver when it counted,” Clark said. “We played well, but we didn’t deliver. There were a lot of games ... We somehow found ways to lose.”

Still, despite the disappointing final result, Clark said he thinks this year’s team would have performed well in the national tournament had they qualified.

“We played very well — it was no question one of the best playing teams I have ever had the pleasure of coaching at Notre Dame, they maybe played the best soccer,” he said.

“I was really proud of last year’s team because they played some superb soccer. But at the same time I felt sorry for the boys because I felt that had this team gone into the tournament, we could have done some serious damage.”

Having lost a host of starters to graduation, including MLS-bound former Irish defenders Aaron Maund and Greg Klazura and midfielder Brendan King, the Irish have plenty of holes to fill as they try to return to the NCAA tournament. Several spring exhibition games, including a 1-0 loss to the Mexico U-20 National team, provided an early glimpse of hope for the Irish.

“I always say, if you are a good team — and we were a good team — you are always going to be graduating good players,” Clark said. “I think we looked promising in the spring, but we will find that out in the fall.”

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ND WOMEN’s SOCCER

National title defense falls short

By MEGAN GOLDEN  
Sports Writer

Just one year after winning the program’s third national championship, Notre Dame struggled through a season marred by frustration as the ball never seemed to bounce in its favor.

The Irish (10-8-3, 6-3-2 Big East) opened the season ranked as the top team in the country, but early losses quickly altered Notre Dame’s hopeful season.

“It’s one of disappointment in terms of how we finished and how we competed throughout the year,” Irish coach Randy Waldrum said. “By our standards, we’ve been so good we’ve always gone into every season thinking, ‘If we don’t make it to the College Cup Final Four, we’ve had a disappointing year.’”

Within the first week of the season, the Irish competed in the Carolina Classic in Chapel Hill, N.C., on Aug. 26-28 and fell to both No. 3 North Carolina and No. 10 Duke. Notre Dame was outscored 5-2 that weekend but still believed it was one of the country’s best teams.

The Irish picked up two wins at home before traveling to the West Coast Sept. 9 with a 3-2 record. Notre Dame lost 2-1 to No. 2 Stanford, blowing a 1-0 lead in the last 10 minutes of the game. The Irish ended the weekend road trip with a 1-1 tie at No. 17 Santa Clara.

“You’re still optimistic because you’re playing the top teams in the country, but it just seemed to kind of snowball from there,” Waldrum said.

Notre Dame’s senior leadership in forward Melissa Henderson, midfielder Courtney Barg and defender Jessica Schuveiller struggled to keep the team motivated, Waldrum said.

Barg had injured her foot just four games into the season, Henderson attempted to lead by example and Schuveiller — naturally the “voice” of this team — even-



GRANT TOBIN/The Observer  
**Notre Dame senior midfielder Courtney Barg controls the ball against Illinois on Nov. 13. Notre Dame lost the contest 1-0.**

tually lost reach of her teammates as the team’s losses piled up, Waldrum said.

“She was trying to make sure players were taking care of classwork and not being at places they shouldn’t be and doing the things you need to have a committed team,” he said. “Late in the year, she got to a point where she was like, ‘I’ve done all I can. I feel like I’m now not a leader but just a nagging mother.’”

Schuveiller said it was difficult for the team to match the intensity level of their opponents.

“The season consisted of frustration, and we were just not figuring out why we weren’t producing,” she said. “Anytime you win a national championship, coming in next year you have a target on your back, and you get everyone’s best game.”

While Notre Dame qualified

for the Big East tournament and the NCAA tournament, it endured a first-round exit following a 1-0 loss to Illinois in the NCAA tournament that was difficult to swallow for a senior class that had appeared in three Final Fours in as many years.

“It’s hard looking back on it,” Schuveiller said. “With five minutes left it kind of sunk in that this might be my final game.”

Waldrum said his team has learned from the season’s challenges.

“You can’t take for granted that just because we put on the shirt that says ‘Irish’ that we’re going to win,” Waldrum said. “We’ve seen some steps in the right direction this spring. I think we’ll be back to where you’re used to seeing us this year.”

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# Saint Mary’s: Year in Review

Soccer reaches double-digit win total; Volleyball improve on 2010 marks; Golf wins MIAA title

## Observer Staff Report

### Soccer

Under the direction of Belles coach Michael Joyce, Saint Mary’s finished 10-10, marking the first time they eclipsed the five-win plateau for the first time since 2005. The season was highlighted by a win over Hope on Nov. 1.

Joyce said the most successful result of the season was reaching the .500 mark, especially after finishing 2010 at 3-16.

“Working your way up to being a successful program is not easy,” Joyce said. “Turning losses into wins is not easy, so to come out and improve like we did was fantastic.”

The season started off in stellar fashion, as the Belles snatched five straight wins, their best start to a season since 1992, and grabbed the Defiance Classic title. The Belles hit a rough patch after that, winning only two of their next 11 games, but they rallied toward the conclusion of the season and managed to finish strong.

Joyce, wrapping up his second season as Belles head coach, said that even their losses were hard fought, giving him hope for 2012 competition.

### Volleyball

For Saint Mary’s, numbers don’t tell the whole story of its 2011 campaign.

Balanced contributions from veterans and a strong freshman class helped the Belles (8-17, 6-10 MIAA) stay competitive in the MIAA. Freshman outside hitter Kati Schneider, junior outside hitter Stephanie Bodien and junior middle hitter Allison Zandarski each finished the season averaging more than two kills per set. Defensively, the team’s lone senior, libero Meghann Rose, led the way with more than four digs per set.

Rose, who captained the team with Brink, was an integral part of the Belles’ achievements in 2011.

“Meg Rose was the only senior we had this year,” Belles coach Toni Kuschel said. “She made the all-conference team and was very vital to this year’s success. She leaves very big shoes to fill as a four-year starting libero.”

The Belles faced some tough competition in the fall, and started their home campaign against conference foe and No. 1-ranked Calvin, the defending national champions. Although Saint Mary’s was swept 3-0 in that game, its gritty play proved it was going to be a tough competitor against any team it faced.

“We always feel that everyone in our conference is so strong,” Kuschel said. “If we want to continue to climb in the conference standings, it’s going to take a lot of hard work and commitment from our team this summer.”

The Belles made a significant impact on the MIAA conference this past fall, as they improved from 2010 to 2011 in several categories. They increased their total kills, attack percentage, kills per

set, assists, aces and digs.

### Golf

It was a tale of two seasons for Saint Mary’s, as the Belles enhanced their roster between the fall and spring semesters and won the MIAA championship, and advanced to the NCAA tournament.

“Our goal coming in was a conference championship and in the fall we failed to do that, but in the spring came back and responded well,” Belles coach Mark Hamilton said. “We played hard with the players we had in the fall and we came relatively close, but in the spring we realigned our goals and our next step was to finish to close to the top of the standings in the conference.”

In the fall season, the Belles placed third in the MIAA tournament behind Olivet and Hope. Saint Mary’s senior captain Natalie Matuszak earned first-team MIAA recognition with a score of 82 in the final round of the conference tournament. Hamilton said Matuszak, along with fellow senior captain Christine Brown, brought invaluable experience to the team this year.

“They have been here forever, and they have seen a lot and been in a lot of golf tournaments,” Hamilton said. “They have been in the NCAA championships four consecutive years and I don’t think that many other people have done that.”

After the third-place conference finish in the fall, the Belles looked to build off their performance and win the conference tournament. After a number of strong tune-up contests, the Belles traveled to play in the three-day MIAA tournament.

Low scores from sophomores Doyle O’Brien and Paige Pollak gave Saint Mary’s a large enough cushion to win the MIAA tournament and earn a spot in the NCAA championship at the Zollner Golf Course in Angola, Ind. The Belles fell short of their goal with a 15th-place finish, but did end the tournament with a cumulative score of 1,304, the best four-day score in Saint Mary’s history.

### Basketball

In a season filled with ups and downs, Saint Mary’s ultimately accomplished the goal it set for itself at the beginning of the season. The Belles overcame much adversity, leading to a fourth-place MIAA finish, which was good enough to earn a berth in the conference tournament.

“Looking back on the season, I am very proud of what this team accomplished,” Belles coach Jennifer Henley said. “We played our toughest schedule in over six years, facing several top-25 teams.”

Saint Mary’s struggled early in the season, falling to 3-7 after its first 10 games. But gradually, the Belles were able to turn their season around, winning consecutive conference games against Kalamazoo, Alma and Trine to bring their conference record back to 5-5.

After a long season of twists and turns, the Belles were able to move their overall record over .500 with a 68-43 home win over Alma. This put Saint Mary’s record at 12-11 (8-6 MIAA) and clinched a playoff spot for the Belles.

“Towards the end of the season, we were playing our best basketball and we accomplished one of our goals and made it to the MIAA tournament,” Henley said.

Saint Mary’s was led this season by its core group of seniors. Seniors forward Jessica Centa, forward Kelley Murphy and guard Patsy Mahoney all earned All-MIAA honors for the Belles, while senior guards Maggie Ronan and Katie Sullivan also played large roles in the team’s success.

“It will be sad to say goodbye to my five seniors,” Henley said. “They have certainly laid the foundation for our program and pushed it to a new level over the past four years. I will miss them all.”

The Belles ended their season with a loss to top-ranked Calvin in the MIAA tournament. The team finished with an even 13-13 record overall, while going 9-7 in conference play.

### Softball

While the Belles did not achieve the end goal of an MIAA tournament title, the journey to that point was one of the more memorable ones in program history. The Belles tied a school-record with 27 regular-season wins and earned a dramatic senior day win against Alma to qualify for the MIAA tournament.

“We had three main goals entering the season,” Belles coach Erin Sullivan said. “First, we wanted to win more than 20 games. Second, we strove to qualify for the MIAA tournament [with a top four finish in the conference]. Finally, we sought to become a balanced and cohesive team.”

The Belles lacked one standout offensive player but compensated with depth. Seven players finished the campaign with averages above .300, led by senior Kristen Nelson who batted .369.

“I’ve never had a team that was as dependent on each other as this one,” Sullivan said. “Someone new each game stepped up and carried us.”

The Belles started with a 9-1 trip to Florida before Saint Mary’s closed its campaign by winning five of their last six MIAA games to finish 10-6 in conference and 27-11 overall. No win, however, was more dramatic than the walk-off 2-1 victory against Alma on Senior Day.

“We’ve never had so many seniors, and they totally understood our team culture,” Sullivan said. “We won because we had fun together and fed off of each other’s positive energy.”

### Swimming

Despite being undermanned throughout the season, the Belles exhibited great perseverance and

determination as they pushed through a grueling MIAA slate during the 2011-2012 season.

The Belles struggled early, but they finally broke through with their first victory in their fourth meet of the season against Defiance. The victory marked the first win in a dual meet for Saint Mary’s since the 2008-2009 season.

Senior captain Audrey Dalrymple, who was named to the 2012 All-MIAA team, said she was proud of the team’s effort and attitude during the season.

“We had an incredibly small team this year with only 10 girls and no divers,” Dalrymple said. “Due to our small numbers, we chose to highlight individual goals and push, not only ourselves, but each other in order to achieve them.”

Saint Mary’s did not win as many meets in Belles coach Mark Benishek’s second year as he would have hoped, but he was also very proud of the team’s attitude and credited the strong senior leadership for keeping everyone on the same page.

“Our senior leadership has been a strong point all year. Katie Donovan, Megan Price and Audrey Dalrymple all had strong performances,” Benishek said. “Their senior leadership has been great and they have backed it up with strong swims. We know we can always count on them for motivation.”

The Belles finished sixth in the MIAA championships at the end of the year.

### Cross Country

Despite not attaining all of the success the team had hoped for this year, Belles coach Jackie Bauters said Saint Mary’s took many positives from the season that runners can build on for the future.

“Unfortunately we did not hit our goals this year,” Bauters said. “We were really hoping to finish in the top four of the conference and we fell short of that goal. It was a good learning year for the team.”

Bauters said the team took its challenges in stride and helped produce strong performances.

“I feel like experiencing such a large setback as a team could crush some teams,” Bauters said. “While it was a challenge, we re-focused on goals and individually had some great personal records.”

Some of those positives came in the MIAA championship, where senior captain Joanne Almond ran the fastest time of the season for Saint Mary’s.

“I was really happy with our performance at championships this year, I feel like we ran very well as a team,” Bauters said. “One of our biggest [personal records] of the season came with Joanne running a 22:58 at the regional meet. I was really excited for her. She struggled with some injuries throughout the season and spent a lot of time in the pool, so it was great to see her end on such a high note.”

Almond, along with junior captain Sarah Copi, brought experi-

ence to the table and provided stability throughout the season.

Overall, Bauters said this year’s squad has shown great promise for the upcoming fall season.

“Joanne is coming back to help as an assistant coach for the team, which will be invaluable to me,” Bauters said. “We have a wonderful group of freshmen coming in who will be able to contribute to the team right away.”

Bauters said offseason training will be the key to achieving success.

“If they come back from summer conditioned and ready to lead, we are going to have a fantastic team,” Bauters said. “Next season is going to be great. I can feel it.”

### Tennis

With the mixture of youth and doubles-play cohesiveness, Saint Mary’s grew and developed as the team finished fifth in the MIAA. Of the top six players for the Belles (11-9, 3-5 MIAA), four were freshman and two were sophomores.

“Overall, I think we had a good year,” Belles coach Dale Campbell said. “For a young team, it was a decent year and we improved and learned a lot. For most of the girls, it was their first time playing at the collegiate level and going through a conference schedule.”

Although the squad was young, the Belles accomplished one of their goals of obtaining an overall winning record, but fell short of their goal of earning a winning conference record.

“It was good to have a winning record, but conference is what really matters,” Campbell said.

The Belles did not make the MIAA tournament, as only the top four conference finishers face-off for the chance to go on to the NCAA Division III tournament. Campbell said there were positive aspects that came from this season despite the finish.

“We played great in doubles,” Campbell said. “It is harder to accomplish consistent, solid doubles play, but we did just that this season.”

Saint Mary’s went 36-24 overall in doubles and in conference had a record of 16-8.

The Belles were not as successful in singles though, going 56-64 overall and 17-31 in conference play.

Campbell said he is not worried about singles for next year.

“We did not do as well in singles, but we will continue to improve,” Campbell said. “We have a young team who will become better at individual match ups.”

Sophomore co-captain and No.1 singles and doubles player Mary Catherine Faller was a key contributor to the success of the young Belles team.

Overall in singles, Faller went 10-9 and went 4-4 in conference.

With Faller and several other young players returning, the Belles hope the foundation has been laid for a successful 2013 spring season.

2011

SAINT MARY’S

YEAR-IN-REVIEW

Sept. 2:

Soccer begins its 5-0 start to the season, the Belles’ best start since 1992, with a 4-0 win over Defiance.

Sept. 9:

Volleyball faces defending national champion and No. 1-ranked Calvin, dropping the match 3-0 after a competitive second set.

Oct. 12:

On its annual ‘Dig for the Cure’ night, Volleyball sweeps Olivet 3-0.

Oct. 29:

Cross Country takes seventh at the MIAA championship race with 160 points. Senior Joanne Almond leads the way, finishing 33rd overall.

Nov. 1:

Soccer defeats conference rival Hope 1-0 to notch its first 10-win season since 2005.

Nov. 12:

Swimming defeats Defiance 152-50, winning a dual meet for the first time since the 2008-2009 season.

Dec. 3:

Basketball snaps a three-game skid, taking down conference foe Alma to improve to 3-5.

Dec. 30:

Senior Audrey Dalrymple helps Swimming take fourth overall at the Citrus Classic in Arizona by placing first in the 400-meter IM.

Jan. 28:

A shot to tie the game with 12 seconds remaining against No. 17 Hope falls short in basketball’s 77-73 Alumnae Game loss.

Feb. 23:

Basketball loses 78-50 to top-seeded Calvin in the semifinals of the MIAA tournament.

March 13:

Tennis finishes a five-game winning streak with a close 5-4 win over St. Scholastica.

March 15:

Softball concludes its spring trip to Ft. Myers, Fla., with a 5-4 win over New Jersey City. The Belles went 9-1 on the trip.

April 12:

Needing to win three of the last four matches of the day, tennis pulls through for a 5-4 win over Bethel, improving its conference record to 2-2.

April 17:

Golf scores 324 to take first place at the first NCAA-qualifying tournament.

April 29:

Softball splits a senior day doubleheader against Alma, winning the first game 2-1 and losing the second game 1-0.

April 30:

Tennis concludes its season with a 6-3 win over North Central, ending its season 11-9 overall.

May 11:

Golf finishes the four-day NCAA tournament with a score of 330, good enough for 15th overall.



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ND SOFTBALL

Irish reach NCAA tournament

By MIKE MONACO  
Sports Writer

On March 16 the Irish lost 7-2 to Washington in the final game of the Judi Garman Classic in Fullerton, Calif. The loss dropped Notre Dame's record to 11-10 — a far cry from the squad's 46-11 mark in 2011.

But after playing their first 21 games on the road, the Irish (38-14, 16-3 Big East) returned home to the friendly confines of Melissa Cook Stadium on March 27 to take on Western Michigan. Notre Dame won that game 5-3, and went on to win 24 of its next 27 games to close out the regular season before making a Big East postseason run that ended with a loss in the Big East championship game.

"In the first part of the season we really couldn't get it together," Irish senior captain and center fielder Alexa Maldonado said. "We had good team chemistry but we just couldn't make it click. But finally it clicked and we were able to feed off of each other and the get job done. We had each other's backs."

After returning to South Bend, the Irish won nine games in a row to improve their record to 20-11 before running into trouble in Big East play. The team lost three of its next four contests, including two in extra innings. Maldonado said those extra-inning losses were instrumental in the success of the Irish moving forward.

"We felt like we should have won those [three] games," Maldonado said. "It was kind of a reality check to keep us on the road to improvement and consistency. We needed to come out

with energy and sometimes we took it for granted that we were going to win."

The Irish reeled off 15 consecutive wins, the longest winning streak for Notre Dame since 2005, to head into postseason play.

Sophomore pitcher Laura Winter took the win in 11 of those games and was the ace of the staff throughout the season. The right-hander compiled a 25-8 record with a 1.84 ERA, 23 complete games, 249 strikeouts and a mere 19 walks to place her second in the NCAA with just .61 walks per game. For her effort, Winter was awarded the 2012 Big East Pitcher of the Year award.

"[Winter] is extremely important and she will be for the next two years as well," Maldonado said. "Our team feeds off her fire and energy so when she comes out fired up and ready to go everyone else feeds off that. She's a very intimidating pitcher and she's very important to the success of the team."

Winter also threw her second career no-hitter — and the first in the history of Melissa Cook Stadium — April 21 against DePaul. The San Diego native had a perfect game intact into the fifth inning before DePaul senior outfielder Katelyn Braget earned a walk. Winter, however, set down the next 13 Blue Demons to complete the historic feat.

The Irish defense complemented Winter and junior pitcher Brittany O'Donnell with steady fielding. The squad finished fifth in the Big East with a .965 fielding percentage and committed only 46 errors.

In the batter's box, the team

was versatile with a solid mix of power hitters and table-setters, Maldonado said.

"We have the girls that can get on base with the short and then the power hitters that can drive them in," Maldonado said. "It goes back to team chemistry; if we get on base we know [the power hitters] will drive us in."

Junior catcher Amy Buntin and senior first baseman Dani Miller were those power hitters that formed the heart of the Notre Dame order. Buntin led the team with a .358 batting average and 53 hits, while Miller finished first on the squad with 16 home runs, 54 RBI, a .754 slugging percentage and 107 total bases in the regular season.

Maldonado and junior right fielder Kelsey Thornton set the table for Buntin and Miller. Maldonado led the Irish with a .429 on-base percentage and 39 runs scored. Thornton turned in a .324 average and was the runaway team leader with 17 steals.

With the regular season in the books, the Irish hosted the Big East championship at Melissa Cook Stadium, winning their first two games over Rutgers and St. John's before falling 4-3 to Louisville in the title game in front of the second-largest crowd in stadium history.

With a strong showing in the regular season and Big East tournament behind them, the Irish now look for a potential berth in the NCAA tournament, with regional play beginning May 18.

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BASEBALL

Notre Dame clinches spot in Big East tourney



PAT COVENEY/The Observer

Irish junior pitcher Patrick Veerkamp delivers a pitch during Notre Dame's 6-5 win over Butler on May 1.

By VICKY JACOBSEN  
Sports Writer

This season's Irish team has been a model of inconsistency. They beat then-No. 11 LSU on the road — but lost to Western Michigan. They opened the season by winning five of six and added a five-game winning streak in late March — then went on four and five-game losing slides.

But Sunday's 2-1 win over Rutgers moved Notre Dame (27-23, 13-11 Big East) into sixth place in the conference and secured a spot for the Irish in the Big East tournament.

Junior catcher Joe Hudson said he is confident in Notre Dame's Big East chances, despite worrying streaks of underachieving.

"In the greater scheme of things, we're in a position right now where we can still accomplish our goals that we started at the beginning of the year," Hudson said. "I believe that we're a pretty good tournament team. We've got some pretty good pitching, and if we can just get the timely hitting down, we're a good tournament team."

Although second-year Irish coach Mik Aoki said he is pleased overall with the team's performance, he said inconsistent play has been a source of frustration.

"Over a whole season you're not going to play at your ideal best for 56 games," Aoki said. "But I think that when we've been bad, we've been really bad, and when we've been good, we've been really good."

Hudson said the 7-1 victory over No. 3 LSU (38-11, 16-8 SEC) on March 11 remains a great source of confidence for the team.

"We went into their stadium on a night that there's a sold-out crowd, and we took it to them," Hudson said. "We beat them 7-1, [a] convincing win. And that game showed us how good we could possibly be when we're playing our game, and it's nice to have that game in our back pocket, because we can draw on that and remember, 'Hey, guys, we are good if we can just put the pieces of the puzzle together.'"

Senior outfielder Alex Robinson agreed the trip to Baton Rouge, La., was one of the best moments of the season.

"The LSU win was unbelievable," Robinson said. "Alex Box Stadium, several million-dollar stadium, great fans, really a great atmosphere. We came in there and really took it to them and came out on top."

Aoki said one of the exciting developments from the season

was watching players thrive as they took on new roles with the team.

"Take [senior right-handed pitcher] Will Hudgins for example. I think a lot of people have always looked at him as a reliever, and clearly he's proven himself to be a really, really good starter," Aoki said. "And I think a lot of people might have labeled Joe Hudson to be just a really good catch-and-throw guy who was not that great a hitter, and I think he's certainly proven a lot of those people wrong."

"I think there [are] a lot of different stories like that. I don't know that necessarily that any of them are surprises, because I think that all of them are really pretty talented kids, and I'm happy to see that they're playing to their capabilities."

Robinson, who is hitting .325 in 37 games played, is another one of those "good stories."

"I didn't play much my first three years, but really got an opportunity to play this year," Robinson said. "And as your last year, you always hope for the best, hope to make it to the College World Series and win it all, and honestly I think we've got a good chance to make a run in the tournament. I feel really good with the team we have."

Hudson praised the way senior leadership has guided the team through the ups and downs of the season.

"We have two great captains, [senior infielder] Tommy Chase and Will Hudgins, and the guys in the clubhouse really trust those guys and they really respect their place in the team as captains," Hudson said. "They set a great example for us as captains all year, so they've really made our team better that way."

Although the close losses have been disappointing, Aoki said they highlight how easily the Irish could improve.

"When you boil it all down, I think that we could very easily be sitting atop the Big East right now had we gotten a handful of more timely hits, or made a handful of more timely pitches," Aoki said. "I think I'm optimistic, looking at these last games in the Big East, and I'm optimistic as we look ahead into future years."

The Irish will take on Connecticut in their last conference series of the season before the Big East tournament in Clearwater, Fla. begins May 23. First pitch will be thrown out in Storrs, Conn., at 3 p.m. on Friday.

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

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Joseph VanderZee  
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Chris Wynkoop  
Joshua Zielinski  
*... and many more.*



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CROSSWORD

- Across

1

Act greedy

5

Newsman Lou

10

Stand taken by a debater

14

Elton John/Tim Rice musical

15

\_\_\_ Gay

16

Austen heroine

17

Jeering from the bleachers

18

Broom made of twigs

19

Crazy sort

20

End of some medieval tournament action?

23

Charger

26

Part of the translation of "anno Domini"

27

Weapons that hit in a medieval tournament?

33

Sum up

34

Holy book

35

Middleton and Moss

38

Estuaries

40

Track figure

42

Flood survivor

43

"The Most Happy \_\_\_"

45

Imitated a wolf

47

Spanish bear

48

Really boring medieval tournaments?

51

Actress Zadora

52

Unwelcome growth

53

Joking around at a medieval tournament?

60

See 58-Down

61

Noted declarer of bankruptcy in 2001

62

Olympics jump

66

W.W. II battle site

67

Accustom

68

"The occupation of the idle man, the distraction of the warrior, the peril of the sovereign," per Napoleon

69

Creature known scientifically as Bufo bufo

70

Heavy reading

71

Donald and Ivana, for instance

Down

1

Shoot the breeze

2

Carnival city

3

Fracas

4

Hamper

5

Actress Mazar

6

Fairly uncommon blood type, informally

7

Nonsense

8

Black mark

9

Biblical fellow who was distressed?

10

"Back to the Future" transport

11

Mine, in Marseille

12

Springsteen's "\_\_\_ Fire"

13

Told all to the cops

21

Mont. neighbor

22

Crud

23

Chow down on

24

\_\_\_ for (really delicious)

25

Ultimate object

28

Follower of many a dot

29

Some daily papers, informally

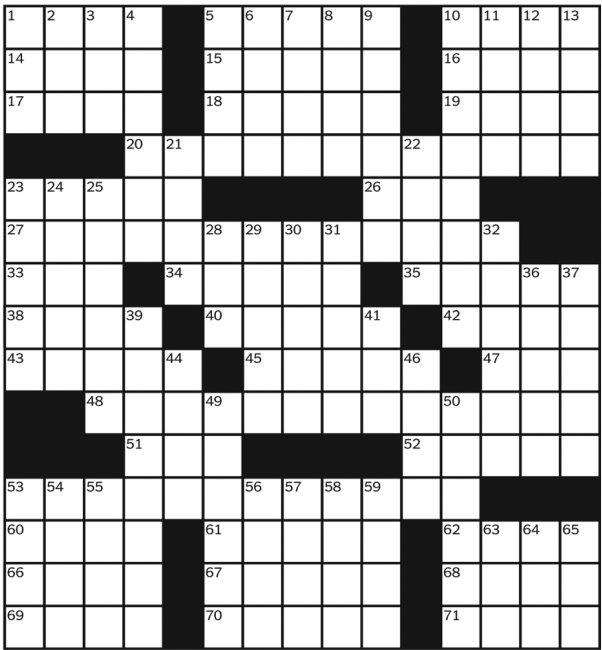
30

TV courtroom drama, 1986-94

31

Start or finish of an aphorism regarding justice

WILL SHORTZ



Puzzle by Karen Young Bonin

- 32

Patsy
- 36

Made less rigorous
- 37

Things binge drinkers sometimes do
- 39

Sloppy
- 41

Zebra
- 44

\_\_\_ were
- 46

Blue

49

Accept punishment

50

Entertain

53

Witticism

54

Anne Frank's father

55

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar's alma mater, in brief

56

\_\_\_ time at all

57

Oil container

58

French artist famous for 60-Acrossing

59

Juana \_\_\_ de la Cruz, Mexican poet/nun

63

Losing row

64

Brink

65

French article

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HOROSCOPE

EUGENIA LAST

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Jamie-Lynn Sigler, 31; David Krumholtz, 34; George Brett, 59; Chazz Palminteri, 60.

**Happy Birthday:** Ease into whatever you do carefully. Get a strong foothold before you let anyone know what you are trying to accomplish. Preparation will be critical if you want to reach your goals. Your numbers are 2, 12, 16, 24, 32, 36, 44.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Forget about personal problems. Get involved in a project that interests you and you will have less time to worry about the things you can't change right now. The limitations you've been dealing with mustn't hold back your professional progress. ★★★

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Your expertise will help you get ahead. An encounter with someone from your past will have an impact on the way you do things. A short trip will result in valuable information as well as an honorable commitment. The coming days are very important to your future. ★★★

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Help a cause or someone in need. Follow a creative path and you will leave a much better image regarding what you have to offer and are willing to do. A geographical change will help your state of mind. ★★★

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Spend time with friends. Anything you try to do with colleagues will be futile. An unusual package, letter or piece of information will open your mind to new possibilities. A new partnership is favored that offers greater promise and equality. ★★★★★

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Step up and take your status and position seriously. Don't go for the glory when security should be your main focus. Comparing what you have to what someone else has will only lead to frustration and negativity. You may need to consider alternate points of view. ★★★

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Take control and follow your desired path. Your communication skills and expertise will easily draw the attention of someone as gifted as you to share in a venture that can make a difference to your personal finances. The world is your oyster. ★★★

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Put more time and effort into home, family and keeping the peace. Do something that will please everyone and keep you out of trouble. You can make personal alterations, but don't go over budget. Consider reuniting with someone from your past. ★★★

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Follow through with your ideas. An opportunity to get involved in a business partnership or something that will help advance your career is present. Networking should be treated as a social event. Make your home more conducive to creativity. ★★★

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** It's how you present what you do that will count. Work from home if at all possible and you will achieve the results you are looking for. Don't let emotional matters get you down. Embrace a romantic opportunity. It will serve you well. ★★★★★

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Communication will be required if you want to get to the bottom of a problem that is affecting your home life. You can cover a lot of ground if you are open about the way you feel. Money matters can be successfully managed. ★★

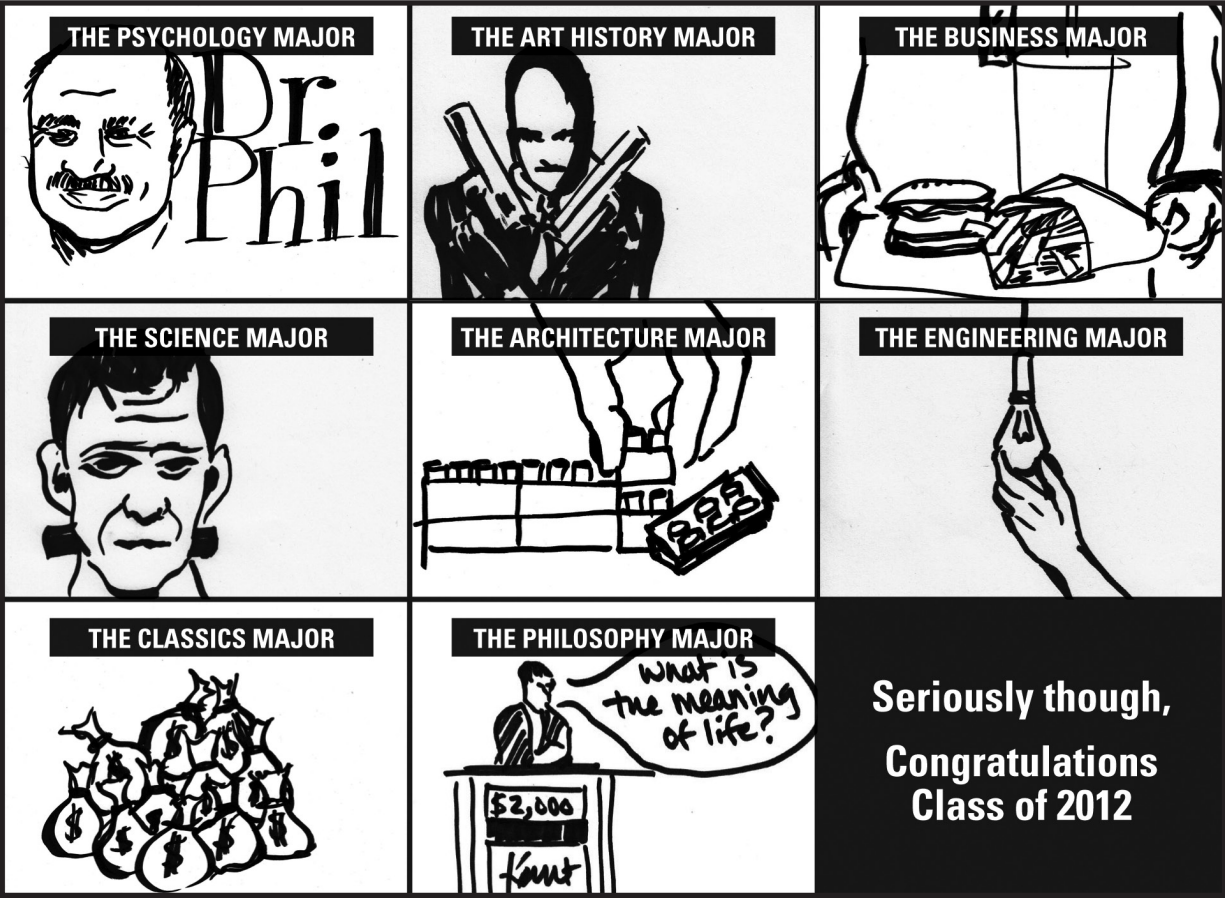
**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Be careful what you say or how much you promise someone. It's important not to exaggerate or undersell what you are capable of doing or to what degree you want to be involved. Honesty will make the best impression. ★★★

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Your restlessness must not lead to a foolish personal decision. A job opportunity can be expected if you go for an interview or send out your resume. Go the extra mile better suit the position you want. ★★★

**Birthday Baby:** You are practical, caring and considerate. You are imaginative and competitive.

TEN YEARS LATER...

OBSERVER STAFF



JUMBLE

DAVID HOYT  
JEFF KNUREK

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

SUYFS

GRITE

TREELN

UNAEEV

Ans:

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME  
by David L. Hoyt and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers tomorrow)  
Yesterday's Jumbles: ANKLE VISOR ROTATE GENDER  
Answer: The church's ornate Casavant had to be fixed because it was a — VITAL ORGAN

THE OBSERVER

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# Commencement Weekend 2012

Dear Graduates,

Prayers and best wishes to members of the Class of 2012. On behalf of the University, I would like to thank you for the many and varied contributions you have made to the University as students. By your presence among us, you have enriched this community.

For those of you who are graduating seniors, I hope that your time at Notre Dame has been fruitful, that you are leaving the University not only with a superb education but also with wonderful friends who will be part of your life long after Commencement. I pray also that your years at Notre Dame have allowed you to nurture your relationship with God and created in you the desire to turn your gifts to the service of God's people. Wherever life's journey may lead, you are likely to encounter fellow Notre Dame alumni who are working to improve their corner of the world, in every imaginable profession and field of endeavor. We take enormous pride in all of the ways our graduates contribute to and serve their families, the Church, and society, and I am confident that you too will be part of this rich heritage of service.

For those of you receiving graduate or professional degrees, I hope that you will carry with you the best of our traditions as they relate to your discipline. We are certain that you will represent Notre Dame well, not only through your professional accomplishments but also by your commitment to justice and adherence to ethical standards. I wish you much success in all of your endeavors.

A diploma is a public ratification of skills and competencies. Commencement is our ritual sending of the holders of Notre Dame diplomas into the world. You will be sent on missions as Notre Dame graduates. The Constitutions of the Congregation of Holy Cross describe one aspect of our mission as: *"The mission is not simple, for the impoverishments we would relieve are not simple. There are networks of privilege, prejudice and power so commonplace that often neither oppressors nor victims are aware of them. We must be aware and also understanding by reason of fellowship with the impoverished and by reason of patient learning. For the kingdom to come in this world, disciples must have the competence to see and the courage to act."* (#14) It is my deepest hope that you take with your Notre Dame degree the confidence that you are commissioned by your University and the Congregation of Holy Cross and the assurance that we will always pray for you while you are away from campus and celebrate when you return.

May Our Lady, Notre Dame, be with you and watch over you always.

In Notre Dame,



Rev. Thomas P. Doyle, C.S.C.  
Vice President for Student Affairs