Two years ago, the University of Notre Dame loaded its class of 1999 as being the best and the brightest. Last year's freshman class, with 1,925 members, entered the record books as the largest group ever to enroll at Notre Dame.

This year's freshmen, though slightly fewer in number, are continuing the record-breaking trend. Daniel Saracino, assistant provost for enrollment, touted the Class of 2001 as the strongest group academically that Notre Dame has ever welcomed.

"This is the strongest class in our history," Saracino said. "On average, they were in the top 6.3 percent of their high school graduating classes."

Saracino said the students' mean SAT score is 1313, higher than the previous record of 1302, which was set by last year's freshmen. It should be noted that SAT scores were re-centered in 1996, resulting in a trend of higher verbal scores.

"Each year, the classes get stronger. That makes a Notre Dame tradition the year-old men's dorms, Keough and O'Neill. This year, 334 freshmen women from across the country have decided to shun convention and enroll at an all-women's college. Most will discover they are a match for both their college and the men-centered in 1996, resulting in a trend of higher verbal scores."

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"This is a very talented and diverse group of incoming freshmen. They are academically well-suited material for Saint Mary's College," said director of admissions Mary Pat Nolan. "They were very involved leaders in school -"
Get involved... the right way

A quick glance through the campus phone book shows that there are 245 academic, athletic, social, creative, music and special interest clubs on the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's campuses.

245... If you can’t find something here that interests you, then you’ve got the personality of a dead eggplant. But finding enough good activities for the students isn’t the problem; the problem is finding enough good students for the activities.

Every year, the sense of excitement surrounding Activities Night prompts each student to sign up for half dozen clubs. But a half dozen is four or five more than a student can handle. It’s a classic case of overcommitting oneself in order to feel complete, to feel as if all the important facets of an individual are attended to.

Most decisions to sign up with a group are motivated by a desire to feel socially responsible. People think, “Hey, Habitat for Humanity is a good cause, so I’ll be making the world a better place if I put my name on this sign-up sheet.”

But those sign-up lists — originally the expression of all goodness — quickly become the catalyst that prompts darker feelings to emerge.

Here’s how it works: After Activities Night, the club representatives from a student organization return to their office, brimming with optimism about the coming year. But a week later, when a club holds its first organizational meeting, the number of people on the list who actually match the number of people in attendance.

As the semester progresses, the percent difference between actual and expected attendance steadily declines. And the voice-mail on its list become annoying for those who have drifted away. I should know. By December of my freshman year, I was prepared to lead a military assault on Amnesty International.

Many freshmen have no reason to be so naïve about their own interests that they sign up with clubs that they’ll soon abandon, you freshmen have an excuse. Your first semester should be spent sampling the different courses on your campus.

It’s worth it to continue a personal interest that began before college, but it’s also part of the college education process to participate in different experiences.

You may have found one or two activities that you genuinely enjoy, pursue them wholeheartedly. The books and the studying aren’t there to prepare you for your future education; quite often, they represent only the theoretical half belonging to extracurricular activities provide the chance to apply the analytical thinking and creativity that’s been developed in the classroom. More importantly, they teach you how to work with other people, something that no textbook will ever be able to teach.

Over the next few years, you’ll hear a lot about the Notre Dame family. Your contribution to this community will be grounded in how much you bring to the extracurricular activities in which you participate. In helping your part to advance the development of these campuses, the secret lies not in the quantity of activities on your resume.

It lies in the quality.

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

Former Laetare winner dies at 91

Former Supreme Court Justice William Brennan, winner of Notre Dame’s Laetare Medal in 1969, died on July 24 after a long illness. He was 91 years old. The Laetare Medal, established in 1883 at Notre Dame, is commonly regarded as the most prestigious honor available to American Catholics. In 1969, Brennan was the only Catholic on the court, and he became a controversial figure in the Church because of his support of abortion rights in the 1972 Roe v. Wade decision. Brennan retired from the Supreme Court in 1990, after having served for 33 years.

Niemeyer dies after 40 years at ND

Gerhart Niemeyer, professor emeritus of government and international studies, died on June 24 at the age of 90. Niemeyer joined the Notre Dame faculty in 1955 and taught introductory courses and two advanced courses on political theory until he retired.

More than 60 years ago Niemeyer wrote many articles in scholarly and popular journals on a variety of topics including cultural history, education, and the writings of Eric Vaeglin and Alexander Solzhenitsyn.


Niemeyer was born in 1907 in Essen, Germany. He received a political science degree from Cambridge University in England and a law degree from the German Universities of Munich and Kiel. He left Germany in 1932 for Spain and finally the United States where he joined the faculty of Princeton University in 1937.

In 1950, the U.S. State Department appointed Niemeyer to the staff of the Bureau of United Nations Affairs. After three years in that position, he became an analyst for the Council on Foreign Relations, a position he held until joining the Notre Dame faculty. Niemeyer became a canon in the Episcopal church in 1987.

Geographic Distribution for ND and SMC Incoming Freshmen

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>43%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northeast</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>South</td>
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<td>International</td>
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Geographic Distribution for ND and SMC Incoming Freshmen

**Professor emeritus Sandeen passes away at age 89**

Ernest Sandeen, professor emeritus of English at the University of Notre Dame, died July 12 at his home in South Bend.

Born in 1908 to a small farming family, he graduated from Knox College in 1931 and received a fellowship from Oxford University. He later taught at Knox College, and the University of Iowa, where he received a doctorate in English in 1940, with a dissertation on Ralph Waldo Emerson. He served in the U.S. Navy world war II, and in 1946 joined the faculty of Notre Dame, where he remained for the next 50 years, leaving only to travel to the University of Aarhus in Denmark as a Fulbright Fellow in 1957.

Sandeen chaired Notre Dame’s English department from 1960-68 and received several honors for his teaching, including the College of Arts and Letters’ Sheedy Award in 1976. His commitment to the work of beginning poets ranked his courses among the most popular in the College of Arts and Letters. He liked to convert his poetry writing classes in the living room of his home, where he and his wife were also the hosts of countless dinners and long evenings, which became legendary among undergraduate English majors and grad student.

He displayed a seemingly limitless and encouraging patience, according to clausmer practitioners. “You ought to assume that your reader is at least as intelligent as you are,” he once teased an intimidated to a student.

His poems appeared in a wide variety of periodicals including Poetry, the New Yorker, Commonweal, Sewanee Review, The Nation and the Saturday Review, and he published several volumes of them, including “Antennas of Silence,” “Children and Older Strangers,” and “A Later Day, Another Year.”

Memorials may be made to Notre Dame’s Ernest Sandeen Poetry Prize fund or to Hospice of St. Joseph County.

**INDIANA WEATHER**

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Saturday, Aug. 22.

**NATIONAL WEATHER**

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Saturday, Aug. 22.
If you build it, they will come...

**Stadium ready to host a swarm of Yellow Jackets**

A rguably the most prominent of campus construction projects, the stadium expansion is moving along as scheduled, according to John DeLee, director of Utilities. "Contractor Casteel Construction Co. has finished their work and right now we are focusing on University installations," DeLee said.

Included in those installations are furniture, training equipment, NBC and WNDU wiring, telephone cabling, and concession equipment. Workers still need to add grass and sod to the landscaping, but all trees have been planted. The two-year-old project has increased the seating capacity of the stadium by 21,915 seats and added a three-story press box that extends to each of the two 20-yard lines.

**Dirt piles evolve into RecSports**

J ust north of the Joyce Center, construction continues on the Rolfs Sports Recreation Center set for completion in January 1998. The 70,000 sq. ft. facility will house a 5,000 sq. ft. fitness room, a multi-purpose court resembling a hockey rink, three maple-floored basketball courts, two rooms with state-of-the-art sound systems and a floor suitable for dance, self-defense and aerobics classes, and a one-tenth mile elevated track. First priority for use of the building's facilities will be given to non-varsity athletes. According to Paula Carlaccini, project manager for Facilities Engineering, all outside work is finished except for installation of windows surrounding the elevated track. The stone, which was included during the building's erection in the early 1960s, has deteriorated and will be replaced with more sturdy and durable concrete.

**Walkway refurbishing afoot across ND campus**

T he asphalt walks of God Quad (left) were replaced with cement carriageways and brick paths. The improved sidewalks extend from the Christ statue in all directions - toward LaFortune Student Center, Swin Hall, South Quad and the Basilica of the Sacred Heart. Old trees and overgrown bushes were removed and new shrubbery will be added in the coming weeks, as will a granite seat wall around the statue. The project, begun in mid-May by the Verklar Construction Co., was undertaken for purely aesthetic improvements.

Also, the exterior walkways of the library outside the building's eaves and overhangs, made of Mankato stone, are being reconstructed to reduce the "hazard for pedestrians and to minimize the potential for injury," according to Dave Woods, director of Support Services. The stone, which was included during the building's erection in the early 1960s, has deteriorated and will be replaced with more sturdy and durable concrete.

All walkways under the eaves will be paved and thoroughly cleaned. The project began two weeks ago and should be complete by Sept. 2.

**Green means go - out of D6**

I n an effort to manage football game traffic and ensure the safety of pedestrians and bikers crossing U.S. 31, a traffic light was installed at the intersection of U.S. 31 and the D6 parking lot entrance. According to Burch Layman, construction administrator for Facilities Engineering, the signal "will facilitate more parking at Holy Cross College on game days as we are constantly looking for parking to accommodate for the new seats in the stadium."

Work was begun on the light, constructed by TransTech, on June 20 and completed on Tues., Aug. 19. It includes a push-button activated pedestrian crossing system.
ND continued from page 1
degree even more valuable," he said. Saracino estimated that the class is more geo-
graphically and culturally diverse than in previous years, though he said official statis-
tics have yet to be compiled.
In addition, the incoming freshmen as a group received
more financial assistance than any other class in the history
of the University, according to Joseph Russo, director of
Financial Aid.
"As much monetary aid was
given to the Class of 2001 as was
given to the entire under-
graduate student body in
1990," Russo said. "It's a dra-
matic improvement. The
money is reaching much fur-
ther now."
He estimated that, since 1990, Notre Dame has added
12 new scholarships each year.
The endowment has also
increased, Russo said, because
it appreciates over time, on
top of new donations.
The exact number of incom-
ing students will not be known
until formal enrollment is
completed Monday. Saracino
said 1,923 students accepted
a spot at Notre Dame, and he
anticipates close to a dozen
cancellations. That "summer
melt" is lower than last year,
when 25 cancellations were
recorded, Saracino said. He
directly related the low rate of
attrition to the increase in
financial aid given by Notre
Dame.
"I'd stake my life on the fact
that financial aid is going to
keep getting better," he said.
"We want to enroll every stu-
dent that wants and deserves
to be here, no matter how
much aid they need."
Other facts about the fresh-
man class:
• The class has a male-to-
female ratio of 54 percent to
46 percent.
• Twenty-two percent of the
class are "legacies," or rela-
tives of alumni.
• Fifty-six percent of the
freshman class attended
private high schools. Thirty per-
cent are coming from Catholic
schools, and 6 percent attend-
private schools.
• Forty-three percent of the
freshmen hail from the
Midwest, 12 percent from the
western U.S., 9 percent from the
southeastern states, and 9 percent from the
Southwest. Two percent of the
freshman are international
students.

New Halls continued from page 1
New Halls continue to
stress the use of the build-
ing's full name Welsh Family
Hall as they move to establish a
distinct spirit in their new home.
With the closing of Flanner
Tower, 500 men will split up
and inhabit the recently-vacated
Knott and Siegfried Halls, and
changes have been made to the
interiors to accommodate the
new residents.
"We repainted, recarpeted,
and changed the bathrooms,
gutting urinals in the bathub
areas. We have also made some
ADA (Americans with
Disabilities Act) changes, like
making some of the rooms more
handicap-accessible," Carlaccini
said.
Brother Jerome Meyer, the
new rector of Knott Hall, noted
that the former men of Flanner
are disappointed to have left the
tower but are hopeful for the
future.
"They miss Flanner's spirit, but
look forward to the challenge of
creating a new spirit. It's almost
like they are creating a new
dorm, but they're very aware of
who was here last year."

Leaders continued from page 1
Leaders have hails from New England.
"Overwhelmingly, people are
happy to see each other. We're
like a family moving to a new
neighborhood."
In an effort to differentiate
themselves from the existing
Welsh Hall on God Quad,
Minihane said the women are
"melt.""It's

The Observer open house for freshmen has been moved to Monday. See page 15 for more details.
The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

The Huddle convenience store gets a face-lift

By MICHELE KRUPA
Associate News Editor

The days of piling quarter-dogs onto a tray moments after midnight, squished in between the cappuccino machine and a grocery aisle in the dimly lit Little Store in The Huddle, have come to an end.

On Monday, a completely renovated Huddle Mart opened in the southeast corner of LaFortune's first floor. The $200,000 project has more than tripled the size of the store to 1,900 sq. ft. and will allow for amenities impossible in the old location.

"We just needed to have a bigger store," said Jim LaBella, operations manager for the project. "The concept was to keep the store uncluttered with a clean, crisp look to it. We have a lot of room to expand for the future, too."

LaBella, who lobbied for the project for the past four years, noted that more space has allowed for a hot deli counter, walk-in freezers, a candy wall, and expanded floor space. He said that plans also call for a hot nacho bar, full ice cream shoppe, another ice cream freezer, and 25-cent hot dogs and 59-cent tacos from 10 p.m. until 3 a.m.

An expanded line of school supplies and personal care items will also be available. Vendors anticipate benefits as well because more of their products will be visibly available to customers, according to Michael Thomas, Coca-Cola's district sales manager.

"The more you have on display, the more you're going to sell," he said. "With the new Huddle Mart, we have three times as much stuff on the floor. Shopability is what people look for, and this place definitely has that."

Six hundred sq. ft. roughly one-third of seating eliminated by the Huddle Mart's construction, will be relocated to The Little Store's former location. It is presently being painted and carpeted. LaBella said that discussions have begun with SUB regarding the relocation of Acoustic Cafe but no decision has been reached.

The Food Services-funded project was a creative conglomeration of University officials. According to LaBella, a large amount of money was saved since no outside contracting was necessary for the store's design.

"We saved at least $40,000 by not hiring a designing consultant for the project," he said. "It was a lot of fun to put together and we hope students and faculty will like it."

The new store will be open from 7 a.m.-3 a.m. daily during the academic year.

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ResNet users surf the Web without hassle of modems

By DEREK BETCHER
Associate News Editor

Start me up...

Students living on campus this fall will be greeted by the long-awaited completion of ResNet. Once activated, ResNet provides students direct Ethernet access to e-mail, the Internet and the University's network software from the convenience of their dorm rooms.

Twelve months after the first cluster of dorms officially went online, the campus-wide Ethernet connection has reached its final stages. Welsh Hall and McGlinn Hall were activated over the summer and O'Hara-Grace Graduate Residents are scheduled to be brought online in the coming weeks. With these moves, Morrissey Hall and Old College will remain the only campus residences still waiting for Ethernet access.

"The reason it's taken so long is that we've tried to coordinate our wiring installations with campus construction," said Larry Rapagnani, associate provost for Information Technologies. "It's been a three-year effort for structural and fiber-optics work. The server and installation work, while equally large, is very much more condensed in the time it takes," Rapagnani explained.

Once a dorm is physically connected and switched on, each residence has direct access to the campus network by using an Ethernet jack instead of a telephone line and modem.

The benefits from this change in technology are threefold: First, a computer connected to the network with Ethernet runs roughly 256 times faster than an identical computer using a modem. Ethernet also allows students to simultaneously work on the computer and use the telephone.

ResNet also increases network capacity, as data flow is limited by the size of the OIT modem pool, which contains 128 modems. ResNet operates independently of the phone capacity, allowing greater access to the network.

"We're very close to our original schedule, and our only expectation is that changes this fall will go even more quickly than last year," Rapagnani said.

Rapagnani is scheduled for activation Oct. 27 and Old College is set to go online Jan. 19.

With 12 months to reflect on its partial implementation (North Quad went online last August, followed by most of South Quad in late 1996), directors are more than pleased with ResNet.

"It has been an overwhelming success," Rapagnani said. "It exceeded our expectations."

"There have been very few problems," Information Resource Center consultant Chris Kolik said. "The small percentage of problems we've had were with people with unique computer systems."

Rapagnani noted that new developments are being planned to expand on Ethernet's current offerings. Using recommendations from Hall Presidents' Council, OIT is installing ResNet jacks in campus buildings for use by students studying with laptops. Several jacks are online in DeBartolo Hall, 66 will soon be made available on the second floor of the Hesburgh Library, and plans call for more jacks next spring in LaFayette Student Center.

Rapagnani also said the OIT is devising a new package of services which he hopes will be available to ResNet users in the near future.

An Army ROTC freshman was pulled back to the mainland in front of a crowd of cheerleaders Friday, having successfully pulled himself across St. Joseph's Lake to a small island near Carroll Hall.

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The Observer/Kevin Dalum

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INFRONT OF NDH
News department story policies and guidelines

Observer Staff Report

The Observer is a daily, student-run newspaper serving both Notre Dame and Saint Mary's College. The Observer news department uses the following guidelines in its news gathering:

The Observer news department strives to report on all campus and local events that affect both campuses and the surrounding areas. In addition to local news, The Observer uses Associated Press stories and graphics to keep readers informed about national and world events.

As stated in our editorial policy, "The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible." We realize that the department is comprised of amateur journalists, yet we strive to conduct ourselves as professionals at all times.

Story ideas come largely from Notre Dame's Department of Public Information and Relations. We also generate our own ideas from advertisements in The Observer, other publications, and campus posters.

A final and important source of story ideas is the members of the ND/SMC community who call, write, or e-mail The Observer staff regarding events they are planning. We encourage groups to contact us at least one week prior to the event.

As a rule, we do not run previews of lectures that we are planning to cover. We simply do not have the staff or space to run previews of every campus lecture.

Exceptions to this rule may be made if a lecture is to be given by a speaker of international or national prominence. We suggest, however, that the sponsoring group fill out an "Of Interest" form at The Observer by 1 p.m. the day before the event. Another alternative is taking out an advertisement in the paper at our special campus rate.

With certain events, we only run previews if having a reporter cover or attend the event is not feasible. We encourage groups to contact Heather Cocks, news editor, at 631-5323 or 634-3615.

Now you have no excuse for not getting all your books
(Sorry)

SMC adds policies to handbook

By SARAH CORREAN
Observer News Editor

Not only will freshmen and transfers be acquainting themselves to new surroundings of campus life this week, entering upperclassmen will be reacquainting themselves to revised policies in the Saint Mary's student handbook.

Although the few bomb threats last year turned out to be hoaxes, procedures have been established to respond to such incidents for the safety of all members of the College's community. In the event a bomb threat is received, students will be evacuated from all buildings and required to stand at least 100 yards from all buildings.

No one may re-enter the buildings until clearance is given either by Safety and Security or the residence hall director.

Should it be determined that the individual responsible for the threat is a student, the College will initiate immediate disciplinary action and criminal prosecution will also be a consideration.

Previously an almost hidden resource, the Wellness/SMC office will relocate to the basement of Holy Cross Hall, a larger location, to better serve students.

Programs offered this year are geared toward nutrition, fitness, and alcohol and drug awareness education.

Awareness of sexual harassment will be highlighted not only for students and campus employees, but for current undergraduates and College employees. Harassment includes any behavior, physical or verbal, that victimizes an individual or creates a hostile environment. It can include physical force, violence, comments, suggestions, threats, obscene phone calls, abusive language, sexual advances, or any other behavior that may interfere with a person's ability to work or study.

The revisions printed in the student handbook this year add more defined guidelines for the employees which will hopefully avoid any controversies that may occur in the future regarding the issues of harassment and compliance with requests from college employees," said Lemans Hall director Jill Abelson.

Compliance with requests of college employees will be stressed this year to avoid possible confrontations between students and employees. It is expected that students will show respect for all College employees and act reasonably when dealing with requests when they are acting in their official job capacities.

College employees include any student staff member, professional staff member, faculty, or administrator.

"I think the revised policies to the handbook this year will close a lot of loopholes that in the past created quite a bit of controversy among students," said senior resident assistant Olga Robin.

Of Interest

Independence Day: A celebration of Pakistan's independence will take place on Sunday at 6 p.m. at 1764 E. Turtle Creek, apt. #2. For more information contact the celebration call Noman Sattar at 577-4209.
The Viewpoint page: Express yourself

The Viewpoint department provides the opportunity for the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's communities to share their opinions and views with campus, local, national, and international issues. The Observer welcomes letters to the editor, columns, and editorials from students, faculty, and staff from all members of the Notre Dame/Saint Mary's community from all backgrounds and viewpoints. The Viewpoint department reserves the right to edit letters and editorials for length, clarity, and relevance. The opinion of the majority of the Viewpoint Department is the opinion of The Observer. Unsigned editorials represent the opinion of the editor-in-chief, and individual viewpoints of Viewpoint contributors are subject to approval by the editors.

I. All members of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's community may submit columns, letters to the editor, quotes, poems or cartoons to the Viewpoint department of The Observer. Individuals not associated with the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's community are also welcome to submit, but preference is given to members of the University communities.

II. Letters to the editor may not exceed 250 words. The Viewpoint editor in chief may shorten any letter regardless of length or deem it worthy of print in its entirety as a commentary, though the length of the commentary may not exceed 550 words.

III. All comments are subject to approval by the editors. The Notre Dame and Saint Mary's community may not submit commentaries and/or view editorials on any candidate or campaign period.

IV. All comments printed in the Viewpoint section must be verified before being published. Authors of all comments, letters to the editor, quotes, poems, cartoons, and editorials must be verified before being published in The Observer.

V. Only those individuals authorized to speak as representatives for a group will be allowed to use the organization's name. In such cases, the primary author of the commentary is the individual(s), and the commentary is, in effect, only being co-signed by the organization.

VI. The official campaign period has begun for that office. This ban on commentaries is to continue until the election for this position has been completed. The Observer reserves the right to comment on any candidate or issue it wishes throughout the campaign period. At any time, the editor-in-chief and the Viewpoint editor may suspend this article.

VII. All comments submitted to The Observer contain views are those of the author.

VIII. Commentaries submitted as letters to the editor may not exceed three in number from the same individual or organization within the same academic semester. There is a limit of three to the number of times an individual or organization may have their commentaries appear in print as columnists.

IX. All material submitted to the Viewpoint department becomes the property of The Observer. Any further use of these commentaries without the written consent of The Observer is prohibited. Non-profit organizations, those organizations that have a reciprocal-use agreement and those organizations of which The Observer is a member may be granted permission to publish commentaries with the permission of the editor-in-chief or the permission of the managing editor and the Viewpoint editor.

X. Commentaries appear in the Viewpoint section may not have been printed previously in any newspaper, magazines, or organizations. Exceptions to this policy are those organizations which The Observer is a member, quotations used for commentaries and "Quote of the Day," Syndicated columns also are excluded from this procedure.

XI. Paid employees of The Observer are not permitted to have their commentaries appear in the Viewpoint section as letters to the editor. Regular columnists and members of the Viewpoint staff also are not eligible to have their commentaries appear in the Viewpoint section as letters to the editor. The status of such individuals is determined by the Viewpoint editor.

XII. The Viewpoint editor is responsible for editing all Inside Columns. The Inside Columns contain views are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. The Inside Column is not to be used for self or activity promotion.

XIII. The opinions expressed in the Viewpoint section are not necessarily those of the editorial board. House editorials may appear in the Viewpoint section of The Observer. Regular columnists, those whose columns appear on a regular basis; guest columnists, whose columns do not appear on a regular basis; letters to the editor, poems, cartoons, and editorials are commentaries. Status is not to be promoted or reassigned to the Viewpoint editor in all incidences except house editorials.

XIV. This policy must be approved by the editorial board and can be amended by a majority vote of the editorial board. All procedures not covered in this policy statement are left to the discretion of the Viewpoint editor. The procedures outlined in this policy apply only to the Viewpoint department of The Observer.

XV. This policy is available to the public during normal business hours and must be prominently displayed in the Viewpoint department of The Observer.
Dear Members of the Class of 2001,

Undoubtedly each and every one of you has received countless letters that have begun with this greeting or a similar salutation. From people selling everything from computers to laundry service, to groups and clubs desiring your esteemed membership (who knows, maybe you even received a letter from the illustrious Observer staff) in quite possibly the most anticipated letter of the summer, your living arrangements: the flood of letters seems like enough to make even the most harried upperclassman's head spin. Sure, it may just from pure shock that they received mail from something that they didn't have to buy a subscription to first... but anyways.

The letters have stopped and the moment of anticipation has arrived. You will finally get to put a face to your roommate's name, see how big -- or small -- your room really is and see what life at Notre Dame is really like. All of your questions will be answered. Freshman orientation comes

For most people, this time represents the first extended stay away from home. It is a time of great uncertainty and fear. Will I fit in? What if there isn't anyone else like me? Are these classes too hard for me? These are common questions that plague everyone's mind as are statements like, "I feel like I am at summer camp and it's time to go home." Freshman orientation is a great way to meet new people and lay these doubts to rest. True, some of the events are oozing with cheesiosity, but make the most of it. You will, after all, only have one Freshman orientation.

What exactly is there to do in South Bend after the games and the graffiti dances of freshman orientation wind down and classes begin? In addition to visiting local watering holes there is also the home of an immaculate driving range and a go-cart track. If its action you want, the Laser Tag arena just off campus is the place for you. For those of you who are unfamiliar with Laser Tag, it is a fast-acted Arnold Schwarzenegger fun without the gory, guts and the gore, and at just a fraction of the price and mortality rate. For 20 minutes participants can shoot at their friends and roommates and alleviate a great deal of the tension associated with everyday life. Calculus class just doesn't seem to matter as you stare down the barrel of a laser gun.

If you are looking for a nice quiet day, there are a variety of museums in the area, including the South Bend Art Museum and the Snite. Both have highly acclaimed collections and serve as a great escape from the everyday drone of classes. The Studebaker Museum is a great alternative for all those hot-rod fans.

In addition to the plethora of sporting events, the campus offers a variety of outlets. Each dorm has three or four dances a year. Dances are a great place to meet new people. Each dorm has a great way to meet new people with similar interests. Life at Notre Dame is very interesting. You hear all these stories about the Notre Dame family. They are true. You can dismiss them and say that it does exist. There was an article in a magazine a few years ago that I came across as I was trying to figure out what college to go to and quite frankly Notre Dame wasn't near the top of that list. It told the story of Notre Dame beyond the football games. It was true celebration of humanity and of the school. A student's mother tragically passed away and the article was a testament to how the other students rallied around him and offered their support. It was touching and such a celebration of the Notre Dame family. I only wanted to be part of it. Now everyone will experience this degree of family as was apparent in the article, but the possibility is invariably there.

These are years sure to be filled with memories both good and bad, sacred and scary. You will meet the person who will become family, friends who when you look back on, you will wonder how you ever lived without.

Ask any upperclasswoman, and she will tell you that she wished she had a few more pictures to go along with reliving stories of the past. So before the academic pressures of the semester begin, buy a box or photo album to start sharing the memories from football weekends, hall dances, parties, or simply hanging out. These are the most important things that you will take away with you when you leave the shadow of the bell tower four years from now.

You won't realize it now, but that extra chapter of biology pales in comparison to that late night chat with your first roommates. It's trite, but no one ever graduates and wishes that she had spent more time studying and less time with friends.

Find the perfect balance. It may take a perfect balance. It may take a semester -- or two or three -- but find a routine that makes you appreciate every moment for what it's worth. Organize your time well, your college years will, after all, only have one Freshman orientation.

It is very cold in the winter and it rains almost every day. Walking to classes will at times be downright painful. But is it worth it to endure this kind of torture. You bet. It can't rain all the time.

Sincerely,
Joey Crawford

Welcome...again

Dear Saint Mary's Women,

We are not the first to say it and it, and I won't be the last but welcome to the beginning of the best years of your life.

You have arrived at a part of an institution rich in tradition and honor, and are entering -- with high expectations and tremendous anxiety -- your college years. These are years sure to be filled with memories both good and bad, sacred and scary. You will meet the person who will become family, friends who when you look back on, you will wonder how you ever lived without.

Ask any upperclasswoman, and she will tell you that she wished she had a few more pictures to go along with reliving stories of the past. So before the academic pressures of the semester begin, buy a box or photo album to start sharing the memories from football weekends, hall dances, parties, or simply hanging out. These are the most important things that you will take away with you when you leave the shadow of the bell tower four years from now.

You won't realize it now, but that extra chapter of biology pales in comparison to that late night chat with your first roommates. It's trite, but no one ever graduates and wishes that she had spent more time studying and less time with friends.

Find the perfect balance. It may take a semester -- or two or three -- but find a routine that makes you appreciate every moment for what it's worth. Organize your time well, and you will succeed.

Most importantly, be your own person. There's only one you. Don't be afraid to speak your mind; people will respect you more for what you said than what you were afraid to say.

Remember that this is your time and place; make it everything you want it to be. I hope that in four years, you too will look back on this chapter in your life and the time spent here, and realize you wouldn't trade it for anything in the world.

Best of luck and enjoy the ride. It goes by faster than you would ever imagine.

Cordially yours,
Lori Allen

Now what?

What do the upperclassmen have to say about their freshman orientation?

"I think the graffiti dance is nothing more than freshmen ego-boosting."

Steven Gomez
Sophomore, Sorin

"When does the freshmen dogbook come out?"

Adam Reich
Junior, Dillon

"Ten cases of beer, plus one mix tape, plus 150 people in a double equals one freshman party!"

Patrick Coyle
Junior, Dillon

"It looks like a pretty good crowd: lots of parties."

Sean Ryker
Junior, Carroll
TOBACCO POLICY
In accordance with an administrative directive issued two years ago, all buildings on the Notre Dame campus are smoke-free in their entirety. This ban extends to the seating area of Notre Dame Stadium. Chewing-tobacco is not expressly included among the substances prohibited indoors. Ash cans are provided outside most buildings for the convenience of smokers. Your cooperation is appreciated.

CAMPUS SECURITY
For your protection Notre Dame employs a staff of uniformed police officers who provide 24-hour foot and vehicular patrols on the campus property. Additionally, eighteen emergency call boxes are spread across campus, and more are being added. To contact the Security Building (directly below on map) from any campus phone, dial 911. From 8:00 p.m. to 2:30 a.m. the Safe Walk program provides a free campus escort service; call 634-BLUE.

COMPUTER-USER CLUSTERS
To help complete homework Notre Dame features over 500 computers distributed among several locations. These clusters, which support Macintosh and PC platforms, are networked to several laser printers at each location which output work at no charge. Clusters can be found in the following buildings: Computer/Math, DeBartolo, Fitzpatrick, Hayes-Healy, Hesburgh Library, LaFortune, Nieuwland Science, O'Shaugnessy, and the Business Complex.

STUDENT REGISTER
For those of you who are unfamiliar with the above term (upperclassmen included), it is the official name for what is more routinely and infamously known on campus as the Dogbook. This thin, bound black-and-white volume contains the photograph and biographical information each incoming freshman was requested to provide shortly after being admitted. Its reputation is for frequently being the sole basis for selecting one's date to dorm-sponsoried theme dances (also known as "SYR's," for which one is "set-up") and formals.

LAUNDRY SERVICE
Formerly available only to males and the campus laundry service is now available to all students for a fee. A contract for one wash service can be purchased for $75. Without the contract, transaction charged to your student account. Bundled laundry is collected at all residence halls on Sunday evening and delivered to your dorm. Other services include dry cleaning, tailoring/alterations.

Welcome and congratulations on choosing Notre Dame for your college education. This guide was compiled to answer your questions, highlight some things you may want to know, and guide you through your first year and beyond. Good luck!
While no intro­
er some frequent
and help you get
Freshmen continued from page 20
in a more precarious fashion than running back Tony Driver. The 6-foot-2, 219-pound All-American from Louisville was the first freshman on the team to have the blank stripe removed from his helmet, a long-standing Irish tradition that marks the rookies until they are able to distinguish themselves in practice.

After less than a week of practice, Driver's blocking ability on many of the veteran line backers impressed both the coaching staff and the upperclassmen, thus earning him the untarnished gold helmet from Dave. Driver is currently listed as third on the depth chart behind junior Autry Denmon and senior Jimmy Stoklos but is expected to give both upperclassmen a run for their money at the talkback position.

"Tony Driver is really a fine running back," Dave said of the freshman. "He's going to push Autry Denmon and is a threat to Jimmy Stoklos. He's a player." Joining Driver with a gold helmet in the first week of practice was 5-foot-7 receiver Joey Getherrall. Getherrall, who has managed to amaze both coaches and teammates with his handling of the abrupt transition into college football, especially after burning the co-captain Rossom a few times in practice.

Although Rossom chalked up the insinuation, claiming it was before they had panned on, he did give the freshman credit.

"He did catch passes on me and may have caught two," Rossom contended. "He's a good receiver." Getherrall has already moved up to the No. 2 spot on the depth chart, trailing only senior Malcolm Johnson at split end. He looks to be a sure bet as a member of a five-man receiving core that includes Johnson, junior Bobby Brown, sophomore Raki Nelson, and possibly Rossom, who is still being looked to for big-play potential on both sides of the ball.

Another freshman receiver making an early impression is 6-foot-2, 195-pound Darcy Levey. So, he is both a candidate for the backfield.

"I said before we started camp that our receivers would be better than what people give them credit for," Dave said.

In addition to Driver and Getherrall, two other freshmen earned the right to take the stripe off of their helmets: tight end Jabari Holloway and linebackers Anthony Denman. The 6-foot-3, 236-pound Holloway has surprised none with both his size and talent, but his adaptability to the Irish system will most likely earn him a spot in the offense. The position of tight end has been a question mark for the Irish, especially with the departure of John Cerasani, but Holloway looks like a likely candidate to back up sophomore Dan O'Leary.

"He's made an early impression from day one," Dave said. "He looks like he's ready to emerge. He's had an excellent training camp." Denman provided a bit of surprise for the coaching staff with his early emergence as a stand-out. Although he entered camp as one of the highly-touted All-Americans, it appeared as though he would lose in the shuffle of the running backs. After beginning practice as a running back, he was quickly handed over to linebackers coach Jeff Holloway for work out in the defense. Denman was listed as No. 2 in the depth chart and earning the removal of his stripe for his ability to handle the veteran running game.

"He made a hit on [fullback Joey] Goodwill at the goal line that we think is worthy of removing his stripe," Dave said.

With the graduation of Bert Driver, John Teasdale and Kurt Vail, Denman is expected to give both upperclassmen in practice.

"Probably on our football team right now, that (the hole in the defense) is the biggest concern, even more so than at tight end," Dave said.

Kevin Dansby, brother of co-captain Melvin, is another freshman possibility to help fill the holes in defense.

Overall, the strengths of the freshman class, like that of the team as a whole, lies in the offense, especially in the backfield. Cooper Reger, who stands 5-foot-9, 195-pounds, has also showed that he has the ability and drive to make his way into the Irish offense this season.

The Reebok and Parade All-American has used his teammates with his slacking ability and his speed off the snap. The one thing that all 19 freshmen have in common, however, is the desire to take their potential off of the practice field and onto the playing field to prove that all that has been hyped about the class of 2001 is true. They will have that opportunity on Saturday, when the Irish take on the Arizona St. Wildcats.

"We're all excited to see how the guys play in their first game," Dave said.
The Observer • SPORTS  page 13

2001
continued from page 20

bright, young leader with the charisma and personality that should create an attitude that has been missing in recent years. Already, players have talked about being more relaxed, upbeat and actually looking forward to going in practice. And at the same time, the intensity seems to be every bit as high as under the more dictatorial Lou Holtz.

That's not to say that Holtz will not be missed in these parts. The legend resurrected the Irish football program while carving out his place in Notre Dame history alongside Rockne, Leahy, and Parseghian. Indeed, Lou Holtz is the essence of Notre Dame football.

But it was time for a change. Over the last three years, the program has seemed to be stuck in the mud and has watched rivals pass it by. While Holtz was still the master motivator, in other areas he was a dinosaur in a constantly changing world.

Davie and the Irish could not have written a better script, launching the new regime in the recently completed Notre Dame Stadium. After two years of construction, the addition to the stadium is set to be unveiled Sept. 6 against Georgia Tech. While it will always be the House that Rockne Built, Davie looks forward to the chance of putting his name on the addition. It is certainly possible. For the first time in years, an aura of excitement permeates the land of the Golden Dome. It is something that should not be taken for granted and should be soaked in to its fullest. With so much going on and with so much excitement in the air, times could not be better for Notre Dame football or for the University. Now, it's up to the Class of 2001 to take advantage of it.

Davie and the Irish could not have written a better script, launching the new regime in the recently completed Notre Dame Stadium. After two years of construction, the addition to the stadium is set to be unveiled Sept. 6 against Georgia Tech. While it will always be the House that Rockne Built, Davie looks forward to the chance of putting his name on the addition. It is certainly possible. For the first time in years, an aura of excitement permeates the land of the Golden Dome. It is something that should not be taken for granted and should be soaked in to its fullest. With so much going on and with so much excitement in the air, times could not be better for Notre Dame football or for the University. Now, it's up to the Class of 2001 to take advantage of it.

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Salads

Chicken Wings
W. Soccer continued from page 20

rent players for a spot in the starting lineup.

The freshman class hails from various parts of the country, and freshman Anne Makinen comes from Helsinki, Finland. Makinen has extensive international experience, having played in 40 games. She joined the Finnish national team at 16. Just one year later, Makinen was named Finnish Player of the Year. She will make an immediate impact in the Irish midfield with her excellent playmaking abilities.

Also expected to have an instant impact will be freshman Meotis Erikson. In 1996, she was named National Soccer Coaches Association of America National Player of the Year. She was also a three-time All-American. Erikson will join sophomore Jenny Streiffer and junior Monica Gerardo up front. Like her fellow teammates, Erikson is a skilled scorer who performs well with her back to the goal.

Freshman Monica Gonzalez also is expected to play up front. She is a natural goal scorer who excels in the air. Back in 1995, Gonzalez led her club team Dallas Sting to the under-16 national championship.

On the defensive end, freshman Kelly Lindsey is expected to solidify the back line. Her speed and agility make her one of the top freshman defenders. In high school, Lindsey was a three-sport standout in cross-country, basketball and soccer. She earned four letters in all three of the sports. She was also selected to the Parade high school All-America list. Rounding out the freshman roster are Kerri Bakker, Kristin Danielson, Lindsay Goodwin, Caroline Marino, Katie Miller, Stacey Tullock, and Liz Zanoni.

With the loss of many key seniors, some may think that the Irish might be out of contention for the top spot. That is anything but true. Notre Dame is currently ranked second, trailing only North Carolina. Barring any unforeseen setbacks, the battle for the top spot will come early this season. Sept. 19 at the Adidas Lady Footlocker Classic at Alumni Field.

According to the preseason coaches' poll, the Irish received the maximum points and are predicted to capture the Big East title again this year.

Tomorrow at 1 p.m. at Alumni Field, the freshmen will make their debut on the field against Missouri in an exhibition game. The first official game of the season will be Aug. 29 at Alumni Field against Big East rival St. John's.
The Observer welcomes

The Class of 2001

at our open house on Monday, August 25 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in 314 LaFortune.
The Observer is currently seeking students to fill the following positions and is anxious to have freshman join our team. Come and see what we're all about or give us a call with any questions.

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The University of Notre Dame

Ranks third among the nation's Division I-A colleges and universities in the cumulative graduation rate of all student-athletes and is No. 1 in women's sports, according to an annual report compiled by the National Collegiate Athletic Association. The 1997 NCAA Graduation-Rates Report, the seventh such survey issued by the association, covers students who enrolled between 1987 and 1990 at 306 Division I institutions. NCAA graduation rates are based on the comparison of the number of those who graduated within six years. The report regards students who leave or transfer, regardless of academic standing, as non-graduates. Among Notre Dame student-athletes who complete their eligibility at the University, 99 percent earn a degree.

Based upon the NCAA's primary standard, Notre Dame graduated 87 percent of its student-athletes, trailing only Duke University at 91 percent and Boston College at 88 percent. The national average was 59 percent.

Notre Dame graduated 97 percent of women competing in varsity athletics at the University, tops among the 110 Division I-A schools. The 84-percent graduation rate of male student-athletes ranks third nationally.

Fighting Irish football players graduate at a 77 percent rate, seventh nationally, and 84 percent of Notre Dame men's basketball players graduate, third highest in the Big East Conference.

Notre Dame's 87-percent graduation rate is first among the top 20 universities in the 1997 Sears Directors Cup rankings of all-around athletic excellence, demonstrating that academic and athletic success need not be mutually exclusive.

Among the general student body, Notre Dame's graduation rate of 94 percent trails only Harvard, Princeton, and Yale.
Volleyball

Freshmen look to set the stage

Boylan leads effort to fill in the gaps

By JOE CAVATO
Assistant Sports Editor

Last May, Notre Dame head volleyball coach Debbie Brown graduated one of the finest classes to grace the floor of the Joyce Center. The departure of two-time captains Jenny Birkner and her classmates Jen Houze, Kristina Ervin, and Jen Briggs leave Brown looking for fresh faces to fill the void.

Several weeks ago, Brown received some help when the Class of 2001 arrived to Notre Dame. That class of five athletes includes three players named to Volleyball Magazine’s “Fab 50” high school recruits. Freshman setter Denise Boylan, outside hitter Christi Girton and Adrienne Shimmel, middle blocker Jo Jameson, and walk-on Katie Ward join the Irish this August.

“I am really pleased with the entire class,” Brown said. “There is a great balance of ball control and strong play.”

According to Brown, the young players have not been overwhelmed by the adjustment to play at the college level.

“Starting with the preseason, I’ve been happy with how they’ve done. I think all of them have adapted really well, and none of them are behind. They have been able to get right in there and play.”

The atmosphere around the practice gym has been intense as the starting lineup is not set and everyone is looking to make an impression.

“At this point, we’re going to have real good depth,” Brown said. “When we scrimmage, it’s been really competitive. People are getting better because they’re being pushed all the time, not just the freshmen. There’s just a really positive atmosphere in the gym.”

The freshmen with the most profound high school resume is 6-2 Hybrid Boylan. The Lisle, Ill., native was named the 1997 Girls’ National Player of the Year and led her club team to a 199-4 season on its way to the 1997 junior title. Boylan and senior Carey May give Brown two true setters, something that the Irish did not have last year before May was hurt in the preseason.

“She (Boylan) and Carey are fighting for the starting spot,” said Brown. “Having Denise and Carey on opposite sides of the net has made the scrimmages that much better.”

The most unique thing that Boylan brings is her height at the setter slot.

“It’s very rare to have someone who is 6-2 as your setter. It’s great to have a setter that can block that well. We made some technique changes, and as she gets used to the system, she’s going to get better and better.”

The competition for the starting right-side hitter position, which was filled by Jenny Birkner for the past four years, is the most wide open. Sophomores Emily Schiebout and Mandi Powell, along with freshman Christi Girton, are looking to fill the starting slot.

“Christi has played on the left side, middle, and right side so we could use her at any of those positions,” Brown said. “Emily, Mandi, and Christi are having a pretty good battle for the right-side hitter spot.”

Jo Jameson out of Alvin, Texas is working as a middle blocker, and her athleticism has impressed the coaching staff.

“It’s real strong at the net, and she is very quick,” Brown commented. “It’s nice to have a middle with good lateral speed. She is a good all-around player, and she’s going to add depth.”

With left-side hitter Jaime Lee competing at the World University Games in Sicily, Italy until early September, the starting position for the first several matches is open. Girton and fellow freshman Adrienne Shimmel, from Mission Viejo, Calif., will be battling for that spot until Lee’s return. What Shimmel lacks in height she makes up for in her enthusiasm.

“Adrienne is 5-10, but she is really feisty, energetic and vocal,” Brown remarked. “She brings another dimension. If she is not starting, she’ll be a great person to bring off the bench.”

The fifth addition to the Class of 2001 is walk-on Katie Ward, a 6-foot-1 middle blocker from Chicago.

“She is a very good athlete but does not have great volleyball skills,” Brown said. “It’s great to have another middle in the gym, off the bench that in time she has the potential to be really good. I’m glad that she’s here with us. I think that she’ll help in the long run.”

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M. Soccer

continued from page 20

Dan Storino. The three pure defenders of the bunch are
Stephen Maio, Patrick Moss, and Andy Murray. Bob Miske can play either in the middle or up front, while Dustin Pridmore is experienced at the midfield and defensive positions.

"We've been pleasantly surprised by a number of players," said Berticelli of the freshmen. "As a group they have done very well. Steve Maio has been doing exceptionally well."

Maio, a native of Ontario and a member of the Canadian Under-20 National Team, has a great deal of game experience which should benefit the Irish this season. Maio was also captain of his high school squad. Sacred Heart Catholic, for four years and was named the MVP following each of those seasons.

When asked if any of the freshmen were in the running for a starting job, Berticelli indicated that Maio would almost certainly find his way into the lineup before the season is over.

Some of the other rookies that have impressed the eighth-year Irish coach thus far include McKnight, Howard, Pridmore, and LaRose. Berticelli has also been happy about the development of chemistry between the recruits and the veteran players. He acknowledged the benefit of having experienced players who have enjoyed success early in their college careers.

"It is certainly a plus (for the freshmen) to have guys around them who have succeeded in their first year," explained Berticelli. "Credit goes to the upperclassmen. They have been very accommodating and helpful."

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Freshmen embark on new era for Irish
By BETH BAKER
Assistant Sports Editor

The time has come for the speculation and anticipation to end and for the questions surrounding the future of Notre Dame football to be answered.

When the 19 members of the Class of 2001 reported for duty on Aug. 11, they signed up to be the pioneers of a new era of Irish football. Of course, they will be led into the wilderness by the experience of such players as fifth-year quarterback Ron Powlus, fifth-year defensive lineman Melvin Dansby, and senior defensive back Allen Rosemum, but this year’s freshmen will be the first official class to make their way through the Irish ranks under the tutelage of head coach Bob Davie.

Naturally, the Class of 2001 will serve as a barometer for the success of the Davie era, and thus far, after two weeks of pre-season practice, they appear to be handling the pressure quite well.

Many of the freshmen have managed to impress both coaches and teammates in the first two weeks, but none more so than the Class of 2001.

Irish survive off-season overhaul

Notre Dame works to recover from graduation
By KATHLEEN LOPES
Assistant Sports Editor

This year’s freshman class has big shoes to fill. The women’s soccer team is looking to fill some gaps in the lineup with the graduation of several seniors this past year, including the Hermann Trophy winner, National Soccer Coaches Player of the Year, two Academic All-Americans, and several on the All-Big East Team.

The loss of Kate Fisher, Amy VanLaecke, Jen Benezola, and Cindy Daws leaves the Irish starting lineup with vacancies on all parts of the field.

The goalkeeping chores will be taken by either senior LaKeysia Beene or Cindy Daws. There are 11 new freshmen trying to contend with the current seniors.

Opportunities abound for Class of 2001

The Class of 2001 has been given a great opportunity. Now, it is important that it takes the time to reflect on this tremendous opportunity that awaits.

Everyone has come to know that football is more than a sport at Notre Dame. In fact, it is an institution.

Notre Dame football touches the lives of every student, fan, or alumn in a way that cannot begin to be described. It is an integral part of this university and an icon in Irish culture. So given the magnitude of football at Notre Dame, times could not be more exciting.

New players — a new coaching staff — a new stadium. A new era of football is being launched at Notre Dame, and the Class of 2001 has come aboard just in time to be part of it.

First, there is new head coach Bob Davie. He is a Notre Dame fan, or alum in a way that he cannot begin to be described. It is an integral part of this institution. It is an icon in Irish culture. It is a sport at Notre Dame, and it is an integral part of this university and an icon in Irish culture.

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Freshmen look to continue last year’s success
By BRIAN REINTHALER
Assistant Sports Editor

There appears to be a youth movement underway in the Irish men’s soccer program. With the graduation of captains Tony Capasso, and Peter Gansler, along with Brian Engesser and midfielder regulars Konstantin Kolkosov and Chris Mathis, Notre Dame finds itself searching for the next generation of team leaders.

Fortunately, for head coach Mike Berticelli, this season’s roster is stacked with talented and experienced underclassmen. In fact, due to the success of freshmen in the past two seasons, the classes of 1999 and 2000 appear to form the foundation of this year’s squad. Seven starters are returning and the four remaining positions could be won by sophomores and juniors.

If the recent past is any sign of things to come, though, this year’s recruiting class should be able to make an impact. Berticelli has proven that he will field the best possible team, regardless of seniority.

Junior captain Matt Johnson and goalstifser Greg Velho both started as freshmen, as did sophomores Alan Woods and Matt McNown. With forwards Andrew Ariz and Ryan Cox also found themselves in the starting lineup for certain games in 1996.

The class of 2001, eleven players deep, is the largest freshman group that Berticelli has had for some time. Six of the first-year players are midfielders. They include Justin McKnight, Colin Nash, and