Congratulations

The Observer congratulates all Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students who will graduate this weekend and wishes them the best of luck in the future.
A common bond

Four weeks ago, I gathered at the South Bend Marriott with other current and former Observer staff workers to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the founding of the paper. Although many of us had never met before, we shared a common bond. The problems of the paper 30 years ago were very similar to the problems of the paper today. For years, stories were all different but everyone understood them.

There was a connection between us all.

Today, a smaller group of Observer editors from around Battle Creek gathered again in Sacred Heart Basilica, Ryan Ver Berkmoes, one of the managing editors from the early 1980s, had lost his mother to a stroke. Two editors and I arrived at the Basilica a little after 9:30 a.m. for the funeral. After a short fractious conversation were there as well. We didn’t really know Ryan very well. Other than a few short conversations before and during the rest, I didn’t really have a connection to him.

But for some reason, we knew we had to be at the funeral.

When I told people I would be attending a funeral that morning, many expressed sorrow for my loss. When I explained to them that I didn’t know the deceased at all and only barely knew one of the many, I still was not sure why I was attending the funeral. They understood that somehow there was a connection that obligated me to be at the funeral.

As I walk away from this school with my degree in hand, I find myself much the sheet of paper. There is a strong bond I have between those who graduate with me, those who will graduate after me and those who have graduated before me.

I am not going to throw out cliches and pre-packaged Go Irish sappiness. I don’t believe in the Notre Dame Family and I could never have a connection to him.

Next, I get to treasure the connections that I have made at Saint Mary’s and the administration that runs it.

Now, I get to celebrate the connections that I have made and family violence.

Smyth wins Laetare Medal

By ANDREW THAGARD

Notre Dame alumnus Father John Smyth will receive this year’s Laetare Medal at the 2002 commencement exercises. The Chicago priest has spent the last 40 years working at Maryville Academy, a residence for orphaned and homeless children.

“Father Smyth is a man who has spent his entire adult life in ministry to vulnerable, disadvan­taged children,” said University spokesman Dennis Moore. “Maryville Academy has been one of the most successful institutions in the country.”

Smyth, who graduated from Notre Dame in 1957, was a stand-out athlete. He served as bask­et­ball team captain and was recognized as an honorary mention All-American player. After graduation, Smyth was selected by the St. Louis Hawks in the second round NBA draft pick. He turned down the offer, however, to enter the priesthood.

Since his ordination in 1962, Smyth has worked at Maryville Academy in the Chicago archdio­cese. He entered into service at the academy in 1962 and has assumed the duties of executive director in 1970.

The Notre Dame family has been proud of Father John Smyth since his days as a student here 50 years ago,” said University President Edward Malloy. “(This year) we particularly wish to cele­brate the exemplary manner in which in which he has served Christ in the children who are victims of neglect, prostitution, sexual abuse and family violence.

Smyth was selected to receive Catholic America’s oldest honor in May. A committee of Notre Dame staff, faculty, and adminis­trators made the recommendation, which was approved by the Office’s Group. The medal, established in 1883, is awarded on Laetare Sunday, because the recipient is announced on the Sunday before Lent.

Contact Andrew Thagard at athagard@nd.edu.

LOCAL WEATHER

5 Day South Bend Forecast

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National Weather

The AcuWeather forecast for noon Friday, May 17.

Events of the Weekend

Friday, May 17

2-4 p.m. 
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS HONORS CONVOCATION 
Washington Hall
4 p.m. 
BACALAUERATE MASS 
Angela Athletic Facility
9 p.m.-1 a.m. 
GRADUATION MASS 
Joyce Center - North Dome
Saturday, May 18
9 a.m. 
ROTC COMMISSIONING 
Joyce Center - South Dome
10 a.m. 
SERVICE BEND-OFF CEREMONY 
Washington Hall
12:00 noon 
COMMENCEMENT Mass 
Court of LeMoyne Hall
5-6:30 p.m. 
COMMENCEMENT MASS 
Joyce Center - South Dome
6:45-8 p.m. 
GRADUATION DINNER 
Joyce Center and North Dining Hall
Sunday, May 19
9:45 and 11:45 a.m. 
COMMENCEMENT LITURGY 
Church of Notre Dame
12:15 p.m. 
DISTRIBUTION OF BACHELOR AND MASTER DIPLOMAS 
Joyce Center - North Dome
Guests may begin entering Gate 10
2-4 p.m. 
COMMENCEMENT AND CONFESSIONING OF DEGREES 
Joyce Center - South Dome
4:30 p.m. 
LAW SCHOOL DIPLOMA CEREMONY 
Hesburgh library Reflecting Pool

ND, SMC award honorary degrees

Notre Dame will present 11 honorary degrees at its Commencement exercises on Sunday, May 17. Saint Mary’s will award three on Saturday.

Notre Dame recipients include: journalist and principal Commencement speaker Tim Russert; Margaret Bent, the first female senior research fellow at All Souls College in Oxford; Lord John Browne, group chief exec­utive of BP Amoco; Alfred DeCrane, retired chief executive officer of Texaco; Cardinal Walter Kasper, president of the Pontifical Commission for Promoting Christian Unity; Helen Lieberman, founder of a nonprofit organization serving the needy of South Africa; Sydney Pollack, an actor, director and producer; Helen Quinn, a renowned physi­cist; Darmuid O'Scannlain, a member of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, William Sxton, outgoing vice president for University Relations; Patrick Toole, a devel­oper at IBM; and Cicely Tyson, an actress, artist and humanitarian.

The College is honoring James Jack, execu­tive vice president and chief financial officer of MetLife Financial Corp., Marjorie Hamel, an alum­nus and former national chair of the Madeleva Steering Committee; and Sister M. O'Flynn, a Holy Cross Sister and adviser to former College presidents. 

Saint Mary’s will also award the President’s Medal to Louise M. Bennett, a College donor and confidant to College President Mary Lou Eldred.
Notre Dame class of 2002 leaves its mark

By HELENA PAYNE

The 1,872 members of the Notre Dame undergraduate class of 2002 will enter a new phase of their lives, leaving four years of memories filled with academics and service, along with tragedy and hope.

Since the day they stepped foot on the 1.250-acre Notre Dame campus in August 1998, prepared or unprepared to attend, the class of 2002 has seen many changes at the University.

"We're ready to make a big impact on the world outside of Notre Dame." - Drew Gawrych, senior

"With our class in particular, we're just carrying on that trend," Paster said. "We're carrying on the torch and hopefully this will be something that continues on for years to come." Paster was a drum major among other firsts and students who added new things to the University's 125-year-old Notre Dame marching band, said she believes her accomplishment was significant but one that began with members of the previous class of 2001, such as the first African-American Leperchaun Mike Brown or the first female Irish Guard Molly Kinder. Paster identified these individuals as representatives of a trend toward increasing diversity in the University as well as discovering new types of leadership.

"I'm really glad that I decided to run for student body president," said Brooke Cowell, the first female student body president and the first African-American drum major among other firsts and students who added new things to the University. "It's an amazing experience to be able to meet so many different people," said Norton of her four years at Notre Dame.

Norton, a graduating senior, said her election as well as the accomplishments of fellow classmates, has made the class of 2002 stand out.

"It just seemed like the turn of the century, the turn of the millennium equals a new phase, a new destination for Notre Dame," senior Tambre Paster said.

Paster, who was the first African-American drum majorette in the Notre Dame marching band, said she believes her accomplishment was significant but one that began with members of the previous class of 2001, such as the first African-American Leperchaun Mike Brown or the first female Irish Guard Molly Kinder. Paster identified these individuals as representatives of a trend toward increasing diversity in the University as well as discovering new types of leadership.

While witnessing the construction of the University's first Blessing Unto Others program at the Moreau Seminary, he said he is excited to hear about the future accomplishments of the class of 2002.

"We're ready to make a big impact on the world outside of Notre Dame," said Gawrych.

Contact Helena Payne at payne.30@nd.edu.
Dolezal, Furman to be honored as valedictorians

Furman achieves highest GPA while working as baseball manager

By SCOTT BRODFUEHRER Assistant News Editor

In addition to having the highest grade point average of all of her classmates, Saint Mary's valedictorian Katie Furman also served as the head manager of Notre Dame's baseball team, the equivalent of a full-time job.

Furman has a 3.98 grade point average and is double majoring in marketing and management with a minor in mathematics, but she said she was surprised to be named valedictorian.

"I obviously don't think about that kind of stuff because I am [at the baseball field] all the time, so I have never really have thought about being named valedictorian," said Furman.

Since her freshman year, Furman has been a manager. During her freshman and sophomore years, she worked with many sports but for the past two years she worked solely with the baseball team.

The baseball team was her main extracurricular activity, requiring her to work almost 10 hours a day during the season and travel extensively for the first part of the season, when the team is on the road for the first 22 games because South Bend weather is not conducive to base-ball games.

Furman said that she spends a great deal of time studying when she is not traveling and said that being busy helps her be more productive.

"Take a computer on the road and I do a lot of work before I am on the road and I spend a lot of hours in the library. I also think that when you're putting in other activities like baseball, I get more stuff done. I think if I just stay at home and didn't really do anything, I wouldn't be motivated to really, really, really busy has been a benefit to make me do my work," she said.

Furman said that her speech at Saturday's commencement exercises will be a fun one.

"The main focus of the speech is on the memories that we have had over the past four years. It will be kind of light-hearted, there will be a lot of laughter, but not a whole lot," said Furman.

Katie Furman
Saint Mary's valedictorian

Dolezal balances academics, service and spirituality

By SCOTT BRODFUEHRER Assistant News Editor

Valedictorian Tim Dolezal has lived in Carroll all his life.

In fact, he's lived in two communities: Carroll — a small Iowa town and Notre Dame's smallest residence hall. Both have helped Dolezal become the member of the senior class who will deliver Sunday's valedictory address.

Dolezal, a finance and business economics major with a minor in residence economics major with a 3.97 grade-point average, said his address will highlight the significance of the Notre Dame experience and discuss the responsibilities that are connected with earning a Notre Dame degree.

Dolezal said he is very humbled to be named valedictorian.

"I don't think anybody with their feet on the ground can look at the mirror and feel worthy of being the valedictorian in the class of so many wonderfully talented people, so it's a very humbling feeling," he said.

A third-generation Notre Dame student, Dolezal knew that he wanted to come to Notre Dame at a very young age. His father, Fred, graduated in 1965 and his grandfather, Robert, graduated in 1926.

"My only dream my whole life was to come to Notre Dame. It was the only school I applied to, it was the only school I wanted to go to," he said. "[Being valedictorian] is definitely a storybook ending to my dream come true."

While at Notre Dame, Dolezal served as Carroll Hall president during his sophomore year and as hall liturgical commissioner this year. He was involved with Campus Ministry, where he led a team at a Notre Dame Encounter retreat, coordinated a senior retreat and served as an elementary school catechist for two years. He also participated in the Appalachia Seminar this spring, helping a family in Dungannon, Va., to improve their home.

Dolezal said that he is extremely satisfied with his four years at Notre Dame and said the only thing he gave up on during the last four years was sleep.

"What we all strive for is to really just milk the Notre Dame experience for all it's worth — in every facet, starting with dorm life, socializing, spiritually and with service and student government," he said. "If you want to look at what a successful Notre Dame career is, you have to look at all those elements and all those have an equal benefit to make me do my work," he said.

After graduation, Dolezal will stay at Notre Dame and work in the University's Investment Office where he will help manage the University endowment and market the deal. Dolezal was hired after speaking to his applied investment management professor, Scott Malpass, who is also the University's chief investment officer.

"I started thinking about the idea of working for the mission of Notre Dame and using what Notre Dame has given me to help put the University in a position where it will be able to achieve its dreams and that was definitely needed," Dolezal said. "I was so excited and I told Mr. Malpass that if he offered me the job that I'd take it on the spot and a few weeks later I was able to talk him into hiring me.

Eventually, Dolezal said he plans to attend graduate school to obtain his master's of business administration and said one day he hopes to manage an endowment fund or a pension fund.

The selection of the Notre Dame valedictorian begins in February, when the registrar's office generates a list of the two students with the highest grade-point average in each college. These candidates then submit recommendations from the dean of their college, a peer and a draft of a 3-minute speech. The valedictorian selection committee then anonymously ranks the candidates and the committee interviews the final two or three students. From these finalists, the committee selects the valedictorian and the second place candidate is asked to give the invocation at graduation.

Contact Scott Brodfuehrer at brodfuehrer.l@nd.edu.
Notre Dame and Saint Mary's respond to terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and rural Pennsylvania. Classes were cancelled mid-session as representatives from the registrar's office visited individual classrooms. Seven-thousand students and faculty attended a mass on South Quad at 3 p.m. on the day of the attacks, which was consecrated by all campus priests and Auxiliary Bishop John D'Arcy. Throughout the day, students streamed to the grotto and took advantage of free cab service to donate blood.

Phone lines and Internet connections at both Notre Dame and Saint Mary's were overwhelmed as students called home to check on their family and friends. Like all athletic events nationwide, Notre Dame's football game against Purdue on the following Saturday was cancelled as the nation mourned the loss of thousands of citizens. At the Sept. 22 home football game against Michigan State, the entire stadium paused as University President Father Edward Malloy said a prayer and fans raised printed American Flags into the sky in an event televised nationwide by NBC Sports.

Four alumni were killed in the attacks: Robert Ferris, class of 1962, who worked on the 102nd floor of the south tower of the World Trade Center; Army Lieutenant Colonel S. Neil Hyland Jr., class of 1977, who worked at the Pentagon; and Peter Batscan, class of 1983, and Dora Marie Menchaca, class of 1977, who were killed on American Airlines Flight 77, which crashed into the Pentagon. Suzanne Kondratenko, a 1996 Saint Mary's graduate who worked in the World Trade Center, was also killed in the attack.

New alcohol policy unveiled

Father Mark Poorman introduced sweeping changes to the alcohol policy including a ban on hard liquor, a cancellation of all tailgate parties in specific lots. The new policy will take effect in August.

Student alleges gang rape

A 20-year-old Notre Dame student alleged that four football players gang-raped her at an off-campus house. The University expelled the students and President Father Edward Malloy denied the appeals. The prosecutor's office is still deciding whether to press charges.

Bush speaks at Commencement

President George W. Bush spoke at Class of 2001 Commencement, becoming the first president to speak at a Notre Dame commencement. House representatives and Notre Dame alumni helped to court Bush, whose visit was generally welcomed but protested by some who objected to his policies.

‘Monologues’ spark controversy

This year, Notre Dame held a performance of the "Vagina Monologues" under protest from various groups, including the Knights of Columbus. Still, Saint Mary's President Marline Eidt cancelled "The Vagina Monologues" but it was performed despite her decision.

Class loses three to leukemia

Three members of the Class of 2002 — Brionne Clary, Conor Murphy and Miranda Thomas — died of leukemia during the "class" four years ago. Notre Dame Memorial services were held for all three and the class has worked to establish an annual bone marrow drive that will be held in their memory.

Norton elected first female pres.

Last spring Brooke Norton accepted a position as student body president, the first female to hold the office. President Bill Clinton gathered in the U.S. Capitol rotunda July 2000 to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Father Theodore Hesburgh, president emeritus of Notre Dame, for a lifetime of public service.

Notre Dame unveiled new alcohol policy FoRmER UNIvERSITY PRESIDENT MACGILLIVRAYspark controversy

FOUR YEARS IN REVIEW

The Top 10 Observer news stories from the 1998-2002 academic years

Page 5

Friday, May 17, 2002

Campuses react to terrorist attacks

September 11, 2002

Trustees reject Big Ten

Fearing the loss of a unique identity as a university, the Notre Dame Board of Trustees voted against joining the Big Ten conference. If Notre Dame had joined the Big Ten it would have been one of only two private universities and the only member with a religious affiliation.

February 8, 1999

4 NCAA sanctions ND for violations

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

Jan. 19, 2000

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April 11, 2002

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Aug. 23, 2000

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2001 - 2002

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1999 - 2001

10 Hesburgh receives medal

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Aug. 23, 2000

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Aug. 23, 2000
Bono and his group U2 performed at the Joyce Center this fall, on South Quad.

Aug. 31: SMC responds to student reports of alleged rape in Keough Hall.

Sept. 6: Students and faculty began the month with a prayer vigil for the families of firefighters and police killed when the towers crumbled. In the spring, a number of classes were created across academic departments to focus on the history and aftermath of the attacks and America’s relationship with the global community.

Now, more than eight months later, soon-to-be graduates searching for jobs continue to feel the economic effects of the attacks on the American economy.

Campus Construction

Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s also continued campus expansions and renovations this year. Notre Dame completed construction on Malloy Hall, renovations on Hurley Hall and the Hayes-Healy Center and broke ground for the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts. The University also began additions and renovations for the Hesburgh Center for International Studies and the Stepan Chemistry Building. The Stepan and Hesburgh centers’ renovations are scheduled to be complete in the fall. The DeBartolo Center will not be ready until summer 2004. Saint Mary’s broke ground for the Student Center/Noble Family Dining Hall April 19.

By KATE NAGENGAST
News Writer

Sept. 11 Attacks

By far the most shocking and memorable event of the year was the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center towers in New York and the Pentagon in Washington. Canceled classes for one day, but traumatized Americans forever. Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s initial response to the tragedy was prayer. An approximately 7,000 people gathered for Mass on South Quad and an additional 400 filled Regina Hall’s chapel that unforgettable Tuesday afternoon.

In the months that followed, as airport security tightened and White House press conferences revealed information about the hunt for Osama bin Laden in the caves of Afghanistan, the campuses continued to pray and start to act.

A series of panel discussions, prayer vigils and fundraisers filled the fall semester — including one such effort during the Notre Dame-Michigan State game that raised $270,981 for the families of firefighters and police killed when the towers crumbled. In the spring, a number of classes were created across academic departments to focus on the history and aftermath of the attacks and America’s relationship with the global community.

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By RAY NAGENGAST
News Writer

The three-level, 80,000-square-foot, $17 million structure will be built in two phases. Phase I is construction of the new Noble Family Dining Hall, which is scheduled for completion in June 2003. Phase II, which includes demolition of the old dining hall and construction of the student center, should be finished by December 2004. Saint Mary’s student government donated $12,000 to the project.

U2 Elevation Tour

After months of anticipation and another chaotic ticket distribution, U2 kicked off the third leg of their Elevation Tour on Oct. 10 at Notre Dame’s Joyce Center. The crowd of 11,000 with the most fortunate packed inside a heart-shaped catwalk that lead singer Bono and guitarist The Edge strutted across throughout the show, was saved by hits from U2’s most recent album All That You Can’t Leave Behind as well as their classics.

In their typically politically sensitive manner, the band paid tribute to the heroes of Sept. 11 by bringing New York police and firefighters on stage when they performed a verse of “Peace on Earth” as an introduction to their closing number, “Walk On.” Bono also honored students who participate in service programs such as the Alliance for Catholic Education and “change the world” with their dedication to teaching.

Senior Tim Collins was reunited with Bono after first meeting the legend while visiting his girlfriend, who studied abroad in Dublin during the spring of 2000. In Dublin with Collins, Bono had said of Notre Dame, “It’s a place with a lot of soul.”

Coach Fiasco

If any chapter in Notre Dame history could be erased, the athletic department would probably pick the coaching search that rocked the University in December.

The torrid month began when Bob Davie was fired less than 12 hours after coaching the final game of his five-year career at Notre Dame. Davie had led the Irish to a BCS berth in the Fiesta Bowl a year before, but after a 5-6 season last fall — the second losing season in three years — fans clamored for his head. After Athletic Director Kevin White fired Davie, he launched a search for a new coach.

University President Father Edward Malloy presides over the campus-wide Mass on Sept. 11, 2001.

Aug. 30: SMC responds to DOE complaint about sexual assault reporting procedure

Nov. 28: Hoadley sues University for a lift on his suspension

Dec. 9: ND hires O’Leary

Dec. 14: O’Leary resigns

Dec. 2: Bob Davie fired

Aug. 31: SMC student reports alleged rape in Keough Hall

Sept. 21: State and local police begin tailgating crackdown at ND-MSU game

October

September

August

Sept. 11: World Trade Center attacked by terrorists

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Oct. 10: U2 performs at ND
nationwide search for his replacement. A week later, White returned with former Georgia Tech head coach George O’Leary. At a public press conference where O’Leary was introduced, the University distributed T-shirts that read “By George, it’s O’Leary!”

But while Davie’s reign lasted five years, O’Leary’s lasted only five months. After a reporter discovered that O’Leary’s biography contained false information about his college playing career and academic credentials, O’Leary resigned in disgrace after he admitted to Notre Dame he had lied about earning a modern degree and playing football for New Hampshire.

White then resumed the coaching search. In December, White had said he had seven candidates on his list and he had interviewed five face-to-face. He offered the job to two. The first was O’Leary, the second was Stanford head coach Tyronne Willingham.

White actually interviewed Willingham during the first phase of the coaching search, but didn’t feel he had a strong love for Notre Dame. When the two talked in late December, Willingham opened up about his love for the Irish, and White had found his man.

Willingham was formally introduced as Irish head coach on New Year’s Day, finally ending the months-long nightmarish coaching search that had publicly embarrassed Notre Dame.

Monologues strike back

When Saint Mary’s banned the performance of Eve Ensler’s controversial play “The Vagina Monologues” on campus in winter 2001, students protested with a series of silent protests and a petition. Although 20 women eventually gathered to read the play before approximately 150 students in the lobby of Regina Hall, the show never received any official recognition from the College. In January, however, Notre Dame welcomed to its campus the show sponsored by the departments of Theatre and Cinema, Television and Theatre Department and Gender Studies as part of a nationwide initiative also dovetailed by Student Poorman called “V-Day: Until the Violence Stops.”

Directed by senior Kerry Walsh, 35 women performed Ensler’s work in a standing-room-only audiences two nights in a row. This year’s performance, too, was not without controversy. Representatives from the Pro-Life Action League of Chicago distributed fliers to play-goers as they entered the theater, describing their beliefs that the “Monologues” is steeped in vile sexual language, denigrates heterosexual love and marriage and is verbal pornography that donates its proceeds to pro-abortion groups. Members of the Knights of Columbus also wrote letters to The Observer’s executive editor DeBartolo’s upstairs chapel before performances of the play.

Alcohol policy

For a student body typically criticized for its apathy, Notre Dame students responded viciously to alcohol policy changes Father Mark Poorman, vice president for Student Affairs, announced March 19. The new policy targets drinking among undergraduate students by banning “hard” liquor in residence halls, eliminating in-hall dances and requiring all party planning policy to permit students of legal age to drink in designated parking lots on football weekends.

More than 600 students marched in the Main Building chanting, “We need a voice” March 21 and 22 copies of the student handbook, du Lac, on fire. This initial rally was followed by a sit-in and a petition. A full-page letter published in The Observer in November, Poorman said alcohol policy is to be formally written fall. More than 4,000 student signatures and Student Senate resolutions proposing alterations to the proposed policy, none of which inspired any change to date. The policy is to be formally written this summer and take effect next fall.

The spring policy changes were fleshesthrough, however, by tailgating crackdowns at state and local police cited hundreds of students for violating du Lac’s rule banning students from organizing tailgates where alcohol is served. In a full-page letter published in The Observer in November, Poorman said alcohol policy changes have become the most serious health and safety issue at Notre Dame and that tailgaters had become “an opportunity to engage in behavior that would not be tolerated at any other time or our campus or anywhere else.”

Sexual Assault

Campus sexual assault also was a divisive issue. Since September, four cases of alleged rape and sexual misconduct have fueled debate at Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s and prompted some tough stands from both campus communities. It began in September with the alleged rape of a Saint Mary’s student. According to the court order, the woman may have ingested a date rape drug while at an Assumption party in the 4A section of Keough. The student also reported the alleged assault to Notre Dame SecurityPolice, whose crime log made no mention of a drugging incident. Meanwhile, an attorney for the woman eventually wrote to The Observer from students, many upset about the paper publishing the hall room numbers where the alleged rape occurred. The allegation eventually was referred to the St. Joseph County Prosecutor, and NDSF closed the case after the prosecutor declined to move forward with criminal charges.

Controversy also swelled in October, when a former Notre Dame student who planned to visit campus as a member of another school’s team, despite his alleged expulsion and permanent ban from campus in 1998. Keri Pienovi, a 2001 University graduate, brought to light Cooper Leggo’s possible return to campus for the Oct. 13 Notre Dame-West Virginia football game. She called for administrators to uphold the punishment imposed on Pienovi following a campus disciplinary hearing for the athlete’s alleged rape of Pienovi.

After three days of public outcry, Notre Dame officials released a thinly veiled threat that didn’t mention Leggo’s name but implied he would be arrested if he traveled to campus with his West Virginia teammates. Leggo did not come to South Bend.

In November, a Notre Dame student who allegedly fondled and sexually assaulted another student turned the tables on the University by suing the school following his October expulsion and ban from campus. Former student Ryan Hoadley appealed Notre Dame officials’ decision in late October to Student President Father Edward Malloy, who reversed the punishment in a two-year suspension without guarantee of a hearing. A five-year suspension suit seeks a court order to bar the University from enforcing the suspension.

In December, a St. Joseph County Superior Court judge denied Hoadley’s request for a preliminary injunction that would have temporarily lifted his punishment.

Hoadley was expelled on grounds of sexual misconduct. The allegation stems from a female Notre Dame student who accused him of touching her in an inappropriate manner and subjecting her to a 30-minute sexual assault at Hoadley’s Turtle Creek apartment following a night of drinking in September.

Meanwhile, four former members of the Notre Dame football team are awaiting word of whether the county prosecutor will file criminal charges against them in connection with a March 28 alleged gang rape of a female Notre Dame student.

The men were expelled following an April 25 campus disciplinary hearing. Officials on Tuesday upheld the decision on appeal.

A 20-year-old woman claim the men took turns raping her after luring her under false pretenses to a house east of campus. Expelled were former sophomores Lorenzo Crawford and Abram Elam, senior Donald Dykes and Justin Smith, a 2001 graduate who was taking graduate courses while finishing a fifth year of athletic eligibility. As allegations of sexual assault surfaced at Notre Dame during the year, the U.S. Department of Education’s investigation into crime reporting procedures continued at Saint Mary’s.

The DOE completed an on-site investigation into the way the College compiles and reports crime statistics. The review came in response to a complaint filed by a Saint Mary’s student who claimed the school wasn’t in compliance with the Clery Act.

The act mandates that schools update crime statistics annually, give students timely warning about crimes that have occurred on campus and educate students about sexual assault.

The Saint Mary’s student claimed she reported to Saint Mary’s security officials in 1999 that she was raped but that the college’s crime statistics listed no incidents of rape for that year.

Saint Mary’s and the DOE exchanged correspondence for several months prior to the agency’s on-campus investigation. While the DOE said in December that results of the investigation wouldn’t come for at least 30 days, officials to date have released no results.

Contact Kate Nagengast at
nagengast.39@nd.edu.

Jan. 1: ND hires Willingham

Feb. 25: ND performs "Vagina Monologues"

March 28: ND student allegedly gang raped by four ND football players

April 19: SMC ground-breaking for Student Center/Nohe Family Dining Hall

April 25: Four ND football players accused of rape

May 3: Four ND football players accused of rape

May 14: Malloy denies all four alleged rapists’ appeals to overturn their expulsion

Vagina Monologues performed. Officials introduce new alcohol policy. Campus deals with sexual assault.

2002.

Jesse Hensley holds a flaming copy of duLac as Ryan Schildkraut looks on during the alcohol town hall meeting.

Contact Kate Nagengast at nagengast.39@nd.edu.
Notable ND seniors will tie the knot

By MAUREEN SMITHE
Senior Staff Writer

At last count, graduating seniors Alison Lassetter and Jess Donnelly figure 25 on campus since the class of 2002 are engaged. Like many Notre Dame women, they've been keeping a low profile for the first day of senior year.

"We were talking about it one night over a few drinks, and we realized that there were a lot of people getting engaged," Lassetter said.

Their unofficial groupie calculations provide insight into this unsurprising trend.

Each spring, Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students await to hear which couples will be among a different rank - engaged. Popular estimates among the student body suggest that up to 70 percent of Damas marry a fellow Damer, although exact figures remain elusive.

According to a study published by Notre Dame Magazine, however, co-education at Notre Dame caused a drop from 1 in 4 Saint Mary's students marrying a Notre Dame man to 1 in 10 by the late 1990s.

Without a doubt, the sacrament of marriage is an important one in the South Bend, Indiana, culture. Notre Dame Magazine offers five reunions a year for both married and engaged couples. Most of the festivities fill up quickly.

The student body president

When former student body president Brooke Norton met her fiance Andrew Lais for the first time, she wasn't necessarily drawn to the Notre Dame freshman. But she fell in love with the dorm and grew to love him.

"He's the one," Norton said.

Lais said his family's impression of Norton is what made him realize that she was "the one." The two planned a trip to South Dakota to visit his family. Norton's flight got there three hours before his, and she had to make herself comfortable - without him.

"It was a great time, and he really hit it off with all of my family," Norton said.

Just two years later, they shared another important New Year's celebration - their engagement. Lais proposed to Norton on New Year's Eve at a hotel party in Chicago.

"We were dancing with a few of his good friends, but when the 11-second countdown came, Lais prepared to pop the question. At the stroke of midnight, he asked Norton to be his wife.

The two plan their wedding for June 28, 2003, at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

The Leprechaun

Notre Dame Leprechaun Adam Urra usually never has a problem voicing his excitement. The spirited voice of the student body, Urra is known for doing pushups on the Notre Dame football and basketball pep-up fans at basketball games.

The person who would initially silence this vocal titan, however, turned out to be his future wife with the night they met at an indoor dance. "She was only there for two seconds, but I saw her smile and just was blown away," Urra said.

His fiancée, graduating senior Sarah Affleck-Graves, also noticed the instant attraction even though she attended the dorm dance with someone else. Initially attracted by his good looks and personality, Affleck-Graves soon learned that there was more to this good-looking Irishman.

"[My favorite thing about Adam] is his sense of humor and laid-back attitude. I'm the exact opposite, and he helps me relax and have fun," she said.

Three months after they started dating, Affleck-Graves said she knew Urra was "the one" for her.

"My sister laughed at me then, but I proved her wrong," Urra said.

The two dated for a year and a half before getting engaged in a fall. Urra remembered the big moment with their faith in mind.

"Sarah and I always go to the Grotto before Mass at Siegfried...

...and the rosary and at the end I just asked Mary to pray for our marriage and gave her the ring and she said yes," Urra said.

Urra and Affleck-Graves said that Notre Dame's focus on faith and community enabled them to envision married life in a special way.

"Notre Dame has definitely impacted us and will impact our married life. Religion has become such a part of our relationship and that is due to the role it plays here on campus. It has definitely brought us closer together," Affleck-Graves said.

The two planned a wedding for Aug. 10 at Notre Dame's Basilica of the Sacred Heart.

A reception at the South Dining Hall will follow.

"Apparently I didn't go out for the SDH on campus," Affleck-Graves joked.

The "Double Domers"

When Chad Silker met Beth Sheehan in a history class sophomore year, he knew she was "the one" immediately.

"She'd never believe me, but the first time I felt I could be 'the one' was long before we were dating. She finished up an exam before me, and after I finally finished up sometime later, I walked out of the classroom, and she was waiting there for me. It would be hours later before we finally started dating, but I somehow knew that day that Beth was different from other girls," Silker said.

The two remained friends for another year before they started dating in March of their junior year.

A year later, Silker knew he wanted to ask Sheehan to marry him, but he also knew he'd have to ask her future first. An opportunity to drive to her hometown of St. Louis seemed unlikely - until a trip came into the picture.

"No one had claimed the car so I was going to keep him. Since he was only 6 months old and not declared he couldn't really stay at my house here," Sheehan said.

"We got home to St. Louis in time for dinner and felt early the next morning, but after dinner my mom and I went to check on the cat and while we were gone Chad asked my dad," Silker said.

A week after that fateful trip to Missouri, Silker popped the question at Sheehan's favorite place on campus, the Grotto. It had always been a special place for them, so after his last time as a campus tour guide, they walked down together, sat on her regular bench and began talking about their relationship.

"Before she knew it, Silker was down on one knee with a ring in his hand.

Sheehan and Silker agree that the Notre Dame experience prepared them for marriage.

"Once I came to ND and grew to love it and everything special about it, I hoped that I would marry someone who also had the Notre Dame experience," Sheehan said.

In fact, Notre Dame's impact on the couple will continue this fall when they both start law school here. Notre Dame was a perfect fit - just like them.

Contact Maureen Smithe at msmithe@nd.edu.
The University of Notre Dame's
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for
Science, Technology and Values

Is pleased to announce that the following students have been awarded the distinction of

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In The Five Year Double Degree Program in Arts and Letters/Engineering

Class of 2003

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David P. Saracino
Jennifer S. Spanbauer

Senior Army cadet earns national distinction

Cadet enters Transportation Corps of Army as No. 1 cadet in U.S.

By JUSTIN KRIVICKAS
News Writer

Graduating Notre Dame senior Nathaniel Hicks has been ranked nationwide as the No. 1 cadet entering the Army’s Transportation Corps. Hicks has also received other awards through the ROTC program this year.

"One of the many good things about the program here at Notre Dame is that the combined academic rigors and demands of ROTC force cadets to develop time management skills and grow to be very balanced individuals," Hicks said.

Hicks will be graduating from Notre Dame with a chemical engineering degree, and although his position in the Army will not make use of this education directly, Hicks plans to use the degree after he leaves the service.

"The management training I will receive in the army will help me with job opportunities in the future," said Hicks. On July 17, Hicks will begin training at Ft. Eustis and afterwards will be stationed in Germany as a Second Lieutenant. The Army transportation officer works with logistics and is in charge of the management and movement of people and goods with air, rail and truck. This officer produces, procures, provides and arranges or manages all surface transportation assets required to support and sustain the armed forces in peace and war.

Branch assignments in the military are determined during the cadets’ senior year of college after they have completed Advanced Camp. This exercise is the culmination of ROTC training and takes place at Ft. Lewis in Washington the summer after each cadet’s junior year of college. These cadets are evaluated numerous times while at Advanced Camp on various leadership roles and training exercises, and these scores are then added to all the other evaluations that each cadet receives throughout their four years of ROTC.

All these evaluations, physical fitness test scores, ROTC class performance, ROTC activities and academic performance are included in a packet that is sent to Cadet Command in Washington, D.C. Included in the packet is each senior’s requests for branch assignments and duty locations. Cadet Command then ranks all the cadets nationwide into an Order of Merit List. There are 16 different branches in the Army, and based on this order of merit list, cadets are branched into their choices until the needs of the Army are satisfied.

Contact Justin Krivickas at krivickas.3@nd.edu.
President Emeritus holds record for most honorary degrees

By HELENA PAYNE
News Editor

Just one day before his 85th birthday, University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh will receive his 150th honorary degree from the University of San Diego during May 26 commencement exercises.

Hesburgh, who received an honorary doctor of laws degree from the school in 1960, will receive a doctor of humane letters degree and deliver the principal address during graduation.

Hesburgh currently holds the record for having the most honorary degrees, according to the Guinness Book of World Records.

"I think the reason he's received so many honorary degrees is he's had a distinguished career in public service as well as education," said Richard Conklin, former associate vice president for University Relations.

Hesburgh has worked for Notre Dame in several capacities, spending many of his days presiding over Masses, writing or autographing books and traveling for various international and national committee meetings.

Although Hesburgh sits high in his campus office on the 13th floor of the library named in his honor, he said he tries to remain humble. With 16 presidential appointments under his belt, and soon, 150 honorary degrees, he even commented sarcastically, "I think it's time to quit."

But Hesburgh was referring to receiving honorary degrees, not to the work that he has done to earn the distinctions. He said he was most proud of his role in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

"I think that legislation changed the face of this country," he said.

Through that act, a civil rights commission was established. Hesburgh, who chaired the commission, said most of the credit goes to President Lyndon Johnson's leadership during the process of passing the act.

"I think no president before or after him could have done it," Hesburgh said.

In addition to working on the civil rights legislation of the 1960s, Hesburgh has also helped lower the number of nuclear arms in the world as well as reduce world hunger.

"He's an optimistic person at heart," said Conklin. "No matter what the issue, be it a civil rights issue or whether it be the proliferation of nuclear weapons, he's always been a person who would believe that you can make things better."

At the University level, Hesburgh was an instrumental force in elevating the national status of Notre Dame and overseeing its many changes. Under his 35-year tenure from 1953 to 1987, the University went from an all-male undergraduate liberal arts college governed by the Congregation of Holy Cross to a major co-educational research university governed by a lay board of trustees.

"His presidency saw the transition of Notre Dame from an undergraduate school to a university in the proper sense with a graduate and research component, and he's managed to do that without losing the Catholic character of the place," said Conklin.

Hesburgh currently holds the record for most honorary degrees as well as public service.

"He's the only person who can match that double degree," said Conklin.

Thanks for everything. You are amazing managers, co-workers, but most of all, wonderful friends. We'll keep your legacy alive. Congratulations, and best of luck in all your future endeavors.

Hesburgh said.

He added that Hesburgh has garnered respect because of his willingness to take a public stance on moral issues.

"He was unabashed to speak out on moral issues," said Conklin.

Hesburgh's involvement in public issues has received much attention. In addition to his honorary degrees, Hesburgh was also awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in July 2000 and the Medal of Freedom in 1964.

Contact Helena Payne at payne.30@nd.edu.

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Congratulations Graduates

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Notre Dame Service by the Numbers

Director of Senior Transition

Sebring graduates, select college seniors, and masters and doctoral program enrollees on the purchase or lease of eligible 2002 Chrysler or Jeep vehicles. Eligible vehicles are: Chrysler Sebring Convertible, Jeep Liberty and Jeep Wrangler. Must take retail delivery by 7/1/02. Residency restrictions apply. Please see your dealer for eligibility requirements and program details. Jeep is a registered trademark of DaimlerChrysler.

What students are doing

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Men vs. women

Ten percent of Notre Dame students choose to pursue service after they graduate.

Information courtesy of Andrea Smith Shappell, Director of Senior Transition Programs at the Center for Social Concerns.
The Alliance for Catholic Education is proud to welcome its ninth class of Catholic school teachers. We give thanks for their gift of service to America's Catholic schools. Please join us in congratulating the following graduates of Saint Mary's College and the University of Notre Dame.

Welcome
ACE 9!

Alissa Blair
Matthew Bohnenkamp
Sharon Bui
Rebecca Camillus
Colleen Clarke
James Cummings
Meg Daday
Gretchen Danysh
Mark Delgado
Samuel Fragomeni
Megan Griffin
Sara Gunderson
Otis Hill
David Horak
Angela Hurley
Timothy Jarotkiewicz
Kari Jenkins
Edward Johnston
Kelly Keegan
Adrian Kirley
Mark Kirzeder
Matthew Kloster
Kristin Kramer
Michael Mansour
Jared Marx
Patrick McMahon

Birmingham, AL
Plaquemine, LA
Fort Worth, TX
Fort Worth, TX
Mobile, AL
Birmingham, AL
Tucson, AZ
Baton Rouge, LA
Austin, TX
Fort Worth, TX
Pensacola, FL
Kansas City, KS
Dallas, TX
Biloxi, MS
Lake Charles, LA
Baton Rouge, LA
Charlotte, NC
Los Angeles, CA
Phoenix, AZ
Birmingham, AL
Charlotte, NC
Birmingham, AL
Jacksonville, FL
Tulsa, OK
Oklahoma City, OK
Tulsa, OK

Matthew McMerty
Courtney Mercer
Colleen Moak
Lauren O'Neil
Matthew Panzer
Brian Pawloski
Kelly Perry
Elizabeth Rodriguez
Tiffany Roman
Laura Rompf
Monica Rowinski
Tim Ryan
Jennifer Sirota
Babs Smith
Daniel Soldato
Jeffrey Steedle
Elisabeth Stroude
Nathaniel Trimmer
Erin Welden
Timothy Welsh
Jennifer Wolfe
Paul Ybarra
Colleen Ziemba

Montgomery, AL
Biloxi, MS
Austin, TX
Los Angeles, CA
Los Angeles, CA
Mobile, AL
Tucson, AZ
Los Angeles, CA
Dallas, TX
Oklahoma City, OK
Atlanta, GA
Nashville, TN
Los Angeles, CA
Biloxi, MS
Austin, TX
Baton Rouge, LA
Charlotte, NC
Montgomery, AL
Jacksonville, FL
Lake Charles, LA
Kansas City, KS
Phoenix, AZ
Phoenix, AZ
Fox cancels Commencement speech

By SCOTT BRODFUEHRER
Assistant News Editor

Two months after Notre Dame announced Mexican President Vicente Fox would be the principal speaker at Sunday's Commencement exercises, Fox became the first speaker in recent history to cancel his speaking appointment. In late April, Mexican embassy officials told the University Fox would be unable to speak due to political circumstances in Mexico.

"We don't know what made the United States leg of this trip untenable."

Dennis Moore
University spokesman

The decision is certainly politically motivated, these votes served as a wake-up call to tell Fox that he has to pay attention to domestic issues," said LeMay.

According to University spokesman Dennis Moore, Fox was scheduled to speak at Notre Dame immediately after traveling May 14-18 on a European tour. "Fox was to come here directly from Spain, an official state visit, which is why we thought we would have been in good shape. We don't know what made the United States leg of that trip untenable," said Moore.

Officials from the Mexican Embassy in Washington, D.C., did not return phone calls seeking comment on Fox's cancellation.

Contact Scott Brodfuehrer at brodfuehrer.1@nd.edu.

Congratulations to the following Citation of Merit winners:

Joseph Jarvis
Kristie Gleason
Kathleen O'Connor
Dominic Angiollo
Anne McGrath
John McKiernan
Robyn Harridge
Neil Ruddock
Rachael Ruthrauff
Michael Collins
Jeff Steedle
David Wainman
Lisa Jansen
Elizabeth Emerson

Alumni Hall
Badin Hall
Breen-Phillips Hall
Carroll Hall
Cavanaugh Hall
Dillon Hall
Farley Hall
Fisher Hall
Howard Hall
Keenan Hall
Keough Hall
Knott Hall
Lewis Hall
Lyons Hall

Christa Gray
Mathew Wohlberg
Bill Ferreira
Jennifer Roberts
Emily Rhyneg
Amy Heckel
Nick Sciola
Christopher Lux
Brent Smith
Matthew McMerty
Angela Hurley
Kendahl Lund
Ryan Becker & Brian Clemency

McGlenn Hall
Morrissey Hall
O'Neill Hall
Pangborn Hall
Pasquerilla East
Pasquerilla West
St. Edward's Hall
Siegfried Hall
Sorin Hall
Stanford Hall
Walsh Hall
Welsh Family Hall
Zahm Hall
Have You Had a Professor Who Has Changed Your Life?

For many students at this university, Laura Crago is this professor. She accepts nothing less than the best from her students and works tirelessly to bring out their excellence.

“I fully credit Professor Crago with making me the student I am today.” - Andrejz Bednarski

“In a university with many impressive teachers who have taught and touched me in so many ways, I have never had a professor with as much brilliance, dedication, and concern for her undergraduate students.” - Christopher Rupar

“Professor Crago embodies the ideals for which all Notre Dame professors should strive.” - Bridget G. O’Brien

Professor Crago has written 73 letters of recommendation for her students in this year alone, she has helped 6 students win Fulbrights in the past six years, 19 of her students have received various grants and research awards in the past eight years, and more than half of the senior history award recipients in the past nine years have been students of Professor Crago.

Despite all of this, Professor Laura Crago was denied tenure. To be denied tenure is to be essentially fired; Professor Crago must leave Notre Dame after next year.

Notre Dame has prided itself and often boasts that it is committed to undergraduate teaching. In fact, the May 2002 Provost’s newsletter remarks, “a distinguished team of external reviewers - including faculty members from Harvard, Princeton, Yale, and Berkeley - emphasized that...Notre Dame...must not neglect the crown jewel, the University’s traditional strength in undergraduate education.”

The present situation leaves us with the following questions for the Dean, the Provost, and the President:

• Do you truly care about undergraduate education, “the crown jewel” of Notre Dame?
• Do you seek to recognize and reward the selfless dedication of this University’s faculty?
• Do you want the University’s students to achieve success beyond the classroom through the acquisition of grants and fellowships and admission to prestigious post-undergraduate institutions?
• Do you believe in the Catholic character of this university, one that is committed to service, concern, and generosity of spirit?

If your answer to the above questions is “yes,” why did you deny tenure to Professor Laura Crago?

As students, parents, alumni, and faculty members, please voice your concern that the university has compromised its commitment to its undergraduates and proved false its rhetoric with this decision to the administration.

For Further Information, Please Contact:
Katharine Ortega and Phil Tedesco
Kortega@nd.edu and ptedesco@nd.edu

Paid for by the Polish Club
Journalist, Labor secretary speak at Commencements

Tim Russert to address Notre Dame 2002 graduates Sunday

Tim Russert, moderator of NBC’s “Meet the Press” will address the Notre Dame Class of 2002 as the keynote speaker for Notre Dame’s 157th Commencement on Sunday, May 17.

During the graduation ceremony, Russert will receive an honorary doctor of law degree along with 11 other honorary degree recipients. A graduate of John Carroll University, Russert also has a law degree from the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and is a member of the bar in New York and Washington.

His career with NBC News began in 1984. Seven years later, he joined “Meet the Press,” the longest running program in television history, currently in its 53rd year. He also serves as a political analyst for NBC news programs, including “Nightly News with Tom Brokaw” and “Today.”

Russert is the senior vice president and Washington bureau chief for NBC News, as well as a contributing anchor for MSNBC. He also analyzes the media’s role in American society every week on CNBC’s “The Tim Russert Show.”

Before his journalism career with NBC, Russert worked as a special counsel in the U.S. Senate and in New York state government.

Notre Dame spokesman Denny Moore said the University contacted Russert, who had been on the list of potential Commencement speakers, soon after the previously scheduled speaker, Mexican President Vicente Fox, changed plans.

Russert’s last visit to campus was in November 2000, one week after the controversial presidential election. He spoke in a standing room-only audience in McKenna Hall for the first Jack Kelly and Gail Weiss Lecture Series on Journalism and Politics.

Sec. of Labor Chao to speak at Saint Mary’s

U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao will deliver the commencement address at Saint Mary’s on Sunday, May 17.

Chao, a native of Taiwan, is the first Asian-American appointed to a president’s cabinet in United States history. She was confirmed by the U.S. Senate in January 2001.

According to Susan Dampeer, assistant to Saint Mary’s President Marilou Eldred, Chao was an appropriate choice for Saint Mary’s because she received her undergraduate degree in economics from Mount Holyoke College, an all-women’s college. Dampeer will host Chao on campus and hopes that the selection for the speaker will be welcomed by students.

Dampeer said she will suggest to the Commencement planning committee that a Saint Mary’s student accompany Chao for the day to represent the College.

Chao will also deliver the Commencement address at Depauw University in Greencastle, Ind., following her visit to Saint Mary’s.

As the head of the Department of Labor, Chao manages issues such as wages and work hours, workplace safety and pension and health benefits.

Before coming to the Department of Labor, Chao was a distinguished fellow at The Heritage Foundation, a Washington-based public policy think tank.

Previously she served as president and chief executive officer of United Way of America (UWA), where she restored public trust and confidence in the nation’s largest charitable giving institution after it was tarnished by mismanagement.

Prior to joining UWA, Chao was director of the Peace Corps, the world’s largest international volunteer organization.

She also served as deputy secretary of transportation under former President George Bush.

University of Notre Dame Department of Music presents

The Notre Dame Chorale & Chamber Orchestra

Alexander Blachly, Director

4:00 p.m.
Friday, May 17, 2002
Basilica of the Sacred Heart

Free & open to the public.

CONGRATULATIONS

LONDON PROGRAM STUDENTS

in the Class of 2002
Nanni to assume new VP position

By HELENA PAYNE
News Editor

Lou Nanni, vice president for Public Affairs and communication, will replace retiring Vice President for University Relations William Sexton July 1.

"I am both excited and humbled by the new responsibilities," said Nanni, who was recently elected by the Board of Trustees.

After 19 years in the position, Sexton will return to teaching full-time as a management professor in the Mendoza College of Business.

"It's an understatement to say that [Sexton] leaves a big pair of shoes to fill," Nanni said.

Nanni's position will involve the direction of four general areas in University relations: Development, Merchandise, Alumni Relations, Internal Advancement and Special Events.

Last July, Public Affairs and Communication and University Relations were split into two separate divisions, and since then, Nanni has been involved in developing the four departments that emerged out of the restructuring. The University has not yet decided on the person to replace Nanni in public affairs and communication.

"Change is never as smooth and easy as you'd like it, but I believe that it's in the University's best interest," said Nanni.

"I think that in the long run that we're going to be much stronger.

Lou Nanni
vice president for Public Affairs

ND expels alleged rapists

By HELENA PAYNE
News Editor

Notre Dame expelled four former football players allegedly involved in a March 28 rape, University spokesman Dennis Moore confirmed Wednesday.

Senior Donald Dykes, sophomores Lorenzo Crawford and Abram Elam, and Justin Smith, who was taking graduate-level classes while finishing a fifth year athletic eligibility, were all teammates at one point on the Notre Dame football team.

The University's latest decision is final and came one week after University President Father Edward Malloy reviewed the appeals submitted by the four students after Notre Dame initially expelled the men following an April 25 closed disciplinary hearing with Notre Dame's Office of Residence Life and Housing.

According to Smith's lawyer, Tony Zappia, the University reported the decision to his client Tuesday night.

"I confirmed with him last night that he did receive a telephone call from the University that his appeal has been submitted," said Zappia Wednesday.

Smith, who already received a bachelor's degree from the University in 2001, said the decision will affect him the most because he had planned to leave Notre Dame at the end of the year.

"Notre Dame has to do what it has to do," Smith said, adding that he would "still support Notre Dame and encourage people to come to school here."

Responding to the rumor about offers made to his teamates from other schools, Smith said that the other three students still have options to attend other schools despite the expulsion from Notre Dame.

"They can go anywhere in the country. They have their choice," Smith said.

Still pending, however, is the county decision of whether or not to file charges in response to a 20-year-old female student's claim that the four students gang raped her March 28 at a house on Warrick Street. The case has been under investigation in the prosecutor's office since April 19.

Prosecutor Chris Toth is still interviewing people related to the case, which could delay his decision another week, said Toth's spokesman Randy Denning.

"Chris Toth is not going to make a decision on whether or not to charge the individuals, until all his questions are answered," Denning said.

Crawford's attorney, Ken DeCleene, confirmed Wednesday that Crawford's mother received a phone call from the University notifying Crawford that his appeal was rejected.

Dykes, who would have graduated this weekend, had a prior incident with the police last summer when he was arrested last July for criminal trespassing. He pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge last August and was placed on probation for six months.

DeCleene maintained that the prosecutor's investigation was separate from the Notre Dame disciplinary process.

Dykes' and Elam's attorneys did not return phone calls made by The Observer.

Contact Helena Payne at payne.30@nd.edu.
Linebacker bouncer to launch new Web site

By V. VAN GILES
News Writer

Jaime Grayson is a fixture at the Linebacker Lounge, the famous Notre Dame bar that sports the best Long Island iced teas and plays the fight song at the end of every night. Grayson is 37 years old and stands at a towering 6 feet, 7 3/4 inches tall. He has lived in South Bend his whole life and is known throughout the Notre Dame community as having worked as a bouncer at the Linebacker for the past 11 years.

Grayson graduated from La Salle high school, and much to the disbelief of his many friends and co-workers, he has never played sports.

"People always ask me if I played football, and I tell them, No. They can't get over this," he said. "My friends and family are used to it by now, but people who frequent the bar always feel a need to hit me on the shoulder and tell me about their glory days on the football field."

Grayson has three children and has had the same girl-friend for the past 18 years.

"I like being characterized as a family man," he said. "People see me as a Big brute, but I am very much the same way at work as I am with my kids, Rachel, Jaime and Taylor."

Grayson has many other interests besides his night-time security work. He not only works at the Linebacker, but also as a short-order cook at the Olive Garden restaurant on Grape Road. He has worked there for 16 years.

The main joy in his life is writing and trying to get his publishing company off the ground. "I wrote a few things as a young child, plays, scripts and so on," Grayson said. "I would never show it to anyone, but now I feel a need to get my work out there as well as advance the work of anyone who might need help.

The name of his company is Writing Unlimited Publications.

Grayson has enjoyed his time at the Linebacker. He views it as a learning experience. He admits that he has met many interesting and intelligent people along with a great many loudmouths and drunks.

"It has been a hassle dealing with inebriated students as well as older bar patrons. I enjoy the students who come in, they are curious about me, and though I am a private person, I am more than willing to share myself with those who are willing to listen with an open mind," Grayson said.

The Linebacker Lounge is one of-if not the most- popular public house in South Bend. "I love the 'Backer,' no weekend is complete without a late night visit. My friends and I always see Jaime there. Walking over and saying 'Hi' to Jaime upon entering. There is definitely a great immense figure standing in the back with the flash-lights. He has many intelligent views on philosophy, politics and social issues," said senior Ryan Keegan.

Though Grayson works at a loud and crowded bar that often hosts many supportive and encouraged Notre Dame fans, he detests violence. "I have never thrown a punch at anyone while working here. I don't want people to be afraid of me. I want them to know I'm cool, but I don't like being referred to as a friendly giant. A lot of people know me as, 'The chief,' or 'The Big Samoan Dude.' I would like to be known simply as Jaime."

Grayson plans to continue working at the Linebacker until he can support himself completely on his writing enterprise.

Jaime Grayson, a bouncer at the Linebacker Lounge, is starting a new Web site called Writing Unlimited Publications. Grayson is well-known to many students by his job at the Linebacker as well as a neighbor to students living in Turtle Creek Apartments.

Contact V. Van Giles at vgil@nd.edu.

Keep your finger on the pulse of the Notre Dame and Saint Mary's campuses next year.

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Thank you for helping out at The Career Center!
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Sometimes you just have to dance to the music. You have to take what you're given and roll with it. You have to let loose, forget people are looking at you and just have fun. Those who frequent the Linebacker Lounge more than once a semester when their exams are done know that. But it was a lesson that took me a long time to learn.

The 'Backer creates no atmosphere; either you love it or you don't. If you love it, you're addicted; chances are you've got things pretty well figured out, even if you haven't realized it yet. Unlike other student-favorite hangouts, the 'Backer doesn't call for women to dress up in their tightest outfits, the 'Backer doesn't call for people to come to show off or put on an act. Women in formal attire and men in shorts mix together, the 'Backer doesn't call for anyone to come to be themselves. On the contrary, the 'Backer makes no assumptions and tried to live up to my own.

Kerry Smith Senior Staff Writer

Jump in, dance and be yourself

I studied with friends on the second floor of the library, not because I was worried about passing my Philology 101 exam, but because the spot served dually as a place to read over my notes and whisper about the girls at the next table or the guy that kept walking past, glancing in our general direction.

My roommate taught me how to use Instant Messenger and all of a sudden I had 38 Buddies, 17 of whom I wouldn't dare call on the telephone. I bought too many dorm-colored shirts and attended hall events like it was my duty, not my choice. I had so many friends, but so few who were as close as I would have liked or was used to.

College was fun, but it left something to be desired. Then I learned how to live. I didn't even notice it occurring. I'm not even sure it's my catalyst; maybe I just grew tired of the unconscious acting, the dancing out of sync with the music in my head.

The inevitable process of growing apart with my instant freshman friends occurred during my sophomore year, leaving me with two choices: I could continue to be the person I had thought I should be, or I could be the person I wanted to be. I chose to be myself.

And in that moment, it happened. I realized true friends were the ones who liked me in jeans and a sweater, not those who thought blank pants and high heels should beApart with my instant freshman friends occurred during my sophomore year, leaving me with two choices: I could continue to be the person I had thought I should be, or I could be the person I wanted to be. I chose to be myself.

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Wrapped in a dark gray hooded sweatshirt, chin-length brown hair swinging back and forth around my face, I was at a loss for what to do. I held my stepbrother tightly when I said goodbye to him four years ago. I wouldn’t let go as I began to sob harder, suddenly not wanting to see through. I didn’t want to cry. Right then, in the pre-dawn hours of my first day of college, with bags packed and waiting downstairs, I would do anything not to leave home.

I cried that morning because I was scared about what came next. I cried because I was afraid of leaving the friends who knew me best, leaving the family that had raised me and leaving everything I knew. I spent my life working toward the next step, and now that it had come, I didn’t want to be there. In the 18 years I had spent constructing that girl who was going to college, I had forgotten to consider what happened when she actually existed.

We spend our lives working toward the next step. In grade school we dream of high school, wearing a varsity jacket, going to prom. In high school we dream of college, living in a dorm, going to classes, taking long walks around a tree-lined campus. In college we dream of the future, sometimes boldly, other times tentatively, picturing ourselves working a dream job in a dream location.

But when we actually get to the next step, the next step we’ve spent our lives working toward, that transition is never comfortable, never easy. When we arrive, we wish we could stay at the step we’ve completed, because it’s always easy to stay in what we’ve mastered.

I learned quickly when I came to college that I was scared. I was scared of not living. I was scared of doing things. I was scared of not living. I was scared of doing things.

Sat., I will walk away from college with a degree under one arm and a car parked full of dorm remnants. I will leave with volumes of photos albums and CD mixes, looks from classes and a supply of college T-shirts to last the rest of my life. I will leave with boxes full of artifacts from this step in my life, doomed to a fate of a storage box in my attic at home, found years from now under clouds of dust bunnies.

I hope I leave with more, I am terrified, even more than in high school, about leaving this step. I am terrified of not having my best friends within a five-minute car ride. I am terrified of leaving the place where I constructed who I’ve become. But if I can’t become the person I have been, I don’t know if I’ll become the person I want to become. I know that college will have been about more than just a step. I want to walk away from college knowing not to be scared of life and embrace the next step rather than mourn the one I’ve left behind.

I don’t know if that’s happened. I guess I’ll know when I look my best friend in the eye to say the hardest goodbye. I will know when the tears start puddling in my eyes, causing my vision to blur and tear tracks to run down my cheeks. I will know when I’m told not to cry and I won’t be able to stop the time I pull my car onto I-80 east to begin the ride to the next phase in my life. I’ll know I’ve cried because it’s over, not because I want to stay.

Noreen Gillespie is a graduating senior at Saint Mary’s College and Former Managing Editor. She will return to Connecticut to work for The Associated Press following graduation, and plans to make the best time ever on the 712-mile road trip back east, hopefully avoiding speeding tickets. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Graduation brings freedom to choose

I think I slipped through the cracks. I transferred into Notre Dame as a confirmed, believing Catholic. I expected challenges that encourage intellectual growth, critical thinking and maturation. Whatever I should find to be dishheartening.

Coming from the University of Michigan, I looked for conservatism, Catholicism and intelligence. Before thinking of the Wolverines as your mortal enemy, consider the idea that the student that you are eager and driven as Notre Dame students, despite a conflict that involves football of the top-20 universities in the country (above Michigan), I will submit to you that Notre Dame is losing in its pursuit of students is overlooked.

Furthermore, one might imagine that Notre Dame would be an ideal place for a practicing Catholic to pursue an education, but I submit to you that this is not the case. Instead of deciding for ourselves the way in which our Catholic faith may shape our lives, we are forced from the moment we arrive to the Catholic teaching imposed by the administration.

Deciding that non-Catholics may attend Notre Dame, the administration sets the framework for diversity and discussion, but the fact remains that we are left hungry as to spiritual direction.

Whether or not the meat applies to the student body, we should have a right to eat on any day we please, regardless of liturgical season. Why not offer Catholic students a realistic setting that offers co-educational living arrangements? There is a point in a parent’s life when one must rely on nurture and virtue to guide offspring through a course of difficult, yet independent, decisions. Notre Dame fails to recognize the maturity of its student body as well as its independence, seeking to institutionalize its students in a case that doesn’t even reflect the real world.

Thanks, Notre Dame. Thank you for building my dreams into my academic career. You were always there to make sure I continued to deprive students of the right to make sound, adult decisions. Catholics should know by the time they enter college that pre-marital sex goes against traditional teaching, so why is there a rule? Arguing that partisans increases comfort for some students by offering a single-sex living environment is ludicrous. All of the dorms do not have to be co-ed. Those students who favor partisans and a separate sex environment should be allowed to choose their housing restrictions just as non-Catholics should have the same option.

I leave you with words of Bob Marley: “Most people think great God will come from the sky, make everything light, and make everybody feel high. But if you know what life is worth, you would look for your own light, you stand up for your right, yeah.” I implore you to ask questions, be yourself and do after graduation when I am confronted left stranded without a choice. What will I do after graduation when I am confronted with an issue and do not know what to do? I am not sure about you, but I consider those who have graduated and not know how to make the best time ever on the 712-mile road trip back east, hopefully avoiding speeding tickets. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

I

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Following a feminist path

My four years at Notre Dame have taught me more than I could ever squeeze into a final column. From the immigrant experience of the Irish to the philosophies of ancient Chinese scholars, I’ve experienced a world worth exploring. Each personal experience matters, and there will be a lot of people who will remember 2001 as the year they met their husband or wife or bought their first house or went to their first baseball game. And these are things that will matter the most. Even in the midst of such a horrifying and harrowing disaster as Sept. 11, life continues to progress, similar to, but different from the collegiate universe. I’ll remember time spent with friends accumulated over four years. I’ll remember tailgating in the rain before the West Virginia football game. I’ll remember a hodge-podge group of guys, who, in no way affiliated with this University, wiped the floor with Bowling Green’s men’s club hockey team. I’ll remember driving 22 hours from South Bend to Sanford, Fla. and... I’ll especially remember the 26-hour drive from the southern-most point in the United States back here one week after that.

I’ll remember walking downtown to my apartment on Sept. 11 on my way to class and seeing my campus flooded around the television watching one of the Twin Towers collapse. I’ll remember that same afternoon when my University banded together in prayer and reflection on the day that periﬁred the most powerful nation in the world. Those who hold other memories will line my mind when I think back on my senior year of college at Notre Dame. The truth is that for the graduating class of 2001, my last four years have been most succinctly deﬁned by this University. When we think about the things that have happened in the last four years, most likely, those things have occurred in the context of Notre Dame. We’ve laughed, cried, celebrated and mourned as part of a community. And now, by graduating, we remain a part of the community, but a level removed. There’s a hint of apprehension that accompanies no longer being at the heart of this community. Although it has its problems and its overprotective tendencies, some of those feelings add a hint of security to a world that may not always feel or even turn out to be that way. As graduating seniors, we leave a place that has most deﬁnitely nurtured us, and the rude awakening that looms ahead is scary. In a whole world, there aren’t any people who will care deeply for your well being. There certainly won’t be a community to join together in an attempt to make sense of such an unprecedented turn of events as Sept. 11.

This year was my senior year of college and it will be marked by many things, but the most important mark will be left by the place I’ve spent the last four years. That place has been the University of Notre Dame, and for that indelible mark I’ll be forever grateful. The things I’ve learned both in the classroom and out have shaped me into a better person than I would have otherwise been able to become. My goal here is not to sound sappy, but to try to express my gratitude for a place I dreamed of attending, and then was able to attend. For this, I consider myself lucky. I hope that my future colleagues will acknowledge the mark of this place and also carry its tradition with them wherever they go. Congratulations, class of 2002, and God love thee, Notre Dame.

Joe Larson is a senior English and history major. He will be pursuing his master of fine arts in ﬁction writing next year at Bowling Green State University. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
Four years in review:
Students comment on campus controversies

Should a Catholic university host ROTC?

ROTC students, as well as pre-med students, will most likely face decisions with life-or-death consequences someday. While moral education is important for all students, it seems clear to me that it is absolutely crucial for these students, who will hold so many lives in their hands. Any university would be negligent in not providing a moral education for ROTC students, and a Catholic university would be negligent in not providing a Catholic moral education, especially since just-war theory is so clearly defined and so tailored to ROTC students' future careers.

Sheila Payne
junior
Cavanaugh Hall
April 28, 2002

In our society there exist many injustices that will go unchecked without the power of a just military...

That is the very reason we need ROTC at this school. We need to have people with morals who will give those orders and have the will to disobey unjust ones...

ROTC at Notre Dame is essential to ensure that the future leaders of our military will conduct war in a just manner with Christian values guiding their decisions.

John Dues
sophomore
Dillon Hall
April 25, 2000

Administration must reach out to homosexual students

When we learned of the policy implemented by the administration of systematic discrimination against any advertisements from GALA, our hearts were deeply saddened and angered...

Where is the justice in censoring an ad that congratulated gay and lesbian students upon their graduation? What is it that makes this university scared to allow free inquiry of ideas? And why can a group of gay students not assemble while non-Catholic religious groups are invited to gather?

We, yet again, feel out of place and awkward being active in an institution which discriminates and angered...

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We, yet again, feel out of place and awkward being active in an institution which discriminates...

Again?

Let students choose

Allow 21-year-old students to drink alcohol while tailgating, no matter the tailgating "sponsor." On the whole, Notre Dame students are pretty responsible. Allow those of us who are legal to support our storied football program and have a good time doing it. After all, in less than a year we will be in the real world, and I think most of us who are legal to support our storied football program and have a good time doing it.

But this university is not one which is prepared to stand up for the rights of its gay people.

We, yet again, feel out of place and awkward being active in an institution which discriminates...

Davie. And you still coach like that, and no, they shouldn't preach that character and integrity are more important than ethics.

Some have said that Notre Dame students should preach and do a job. I am not saying that ethics, integrity and morality mean nothing; they are important for every job, especially in the accounting and medical industries, and Notre Dame football. However, no matter how ethical, moral and good of a person you are, you should not be held responsible for what you do, and no, they shouldn't preach that character and integrity are more important than wins and losses. No, they don't preach that, and no, they don't preach that ideal. Rather, they should preach and do a job.

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Some have said that Notre Dame students should preach and do a job. I am not saying that ethics, integrity and morality mean nothing; they are important for every job, especially in the accounting and medical industries, and Notre Dame football. However, no matter how ethical, moral and good of a person you are, you should not be held responsible for what you do.

My point is that whenever someone is hired for a job, they were hired to do a job. I am not saying that ethics, integrity and morality mean nothing; they are important for every job, especially in the accounting and medical industries, and Notre Dame football. However, no matter how ethical, moral and good of a person you are, you should not be held responsible for what you do.

Davie. And you still coach like that, and no, they shouldn't preach that character and integrity are more important than wins and losses. No, they don't preach that, and no, they don't preach that ideal. Rather, they should preach and do a job. I am not saying that ethics, integrity and morality mean nothing; they are important for every job, especially in the accounting and medical industries, and Notre Dame football. However, no matter how ethical, moral and good of a person you are, you should not be held responsible for what you do.
While many students filled their free time with parties and socializing, Prall spent his time helping out with various community programs and forming close bonds with other members of the seminary and the Holy Cross Congregation.

Prall helped out at the Circle K soup kitchen and frequently visited retired Brothers at the Dujarie house. Since November he has spent two evenings per week with an ailing patient as a Hospice volunteer. Two evenings per week were also devoted to dinners with other seminarians, brothers and fathers.

Not only was Prall’s undergraduate experience unique, his future plans are equally out of the ordinary. In July, Prall will leave for Hong Kong where he will spend one week at the Mary Knoll house attending a tutorial for teaching English. Prall will then be assigned to a post either near North Korea or in southern China where he will spend four weeks administering an intensive teaching course to grade school and high school students, before returning to the novitiate in Cascade, Co., to take his first vows.

Thorough Prall is aware that his life as a student varied greatly from that of most of the people he will be graduating with on Sunday, he is proud of his choice and the path he has followed.

“I’ve never had any doubts,” Prall said.

**Dedicated**

This is why Lauren Zajac doesn’t regret not spending her freshman year spring break on the beaches of Florida like so many of her classmates; she went instead to a poor rural town in eastern Kentucky and ended up falling in love with a place called the David School, where she’ll now be spending a year of service after graduation. As one of the experiential service seminars run by the Center for Social Concerns, the Appalachian Seminar program sends hundreds of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students each fall and spring break to sites throughout the impoverished Appalachian region. The students volunteer in various ways, from building homes to visiting the elderly, and some like Zajac even find that the experience changes them forever.

Since her first trip to David School in 1999, Zajac has returned to the site at least once a year and even joined the Appalachian Task Force to become even more actively involved in the program. “I felt a special connection with the David School,” Zajac said. “I believed strongly in what they were doing.”

“I’ve become committed to social justice because the University has made me care for me, as an activist, to justify my beliefs and my convictions and through opposition that they’ve made me more of an activist.”

Krista Schoening
senior

What makes the David School stand out in Zajac’s eyes is its approach to education. For over 20 years ago, the David School provides an alternative for disadvantaged youths who have fallen through the cracks of the public education system. The private school runs on donations and volunteer labor and provides a close family atmosphere for its students from grades 8 to 12.

“It’s a non-traditional approach to education, but it works,” Zajac said.

Volunteers from Notre Dame spend their time at the David School working one-on-one with the students and pitching in on maintenance projects around the school. Over her many visits Zajac has formed friendships with the students, and it was this sense of community that made Zajac want to give more in service to the David School.

“I always knew I wanted to do service [post-graduation]. As soon as I knew it was right,” Zajac said. “I fell in love with the place, and I kept coming back to do more service.”

Eventually she decided to return to the school as a full-time volunteer. Zajac will begin as the school’s science teacher this fall and hopes to-stay on for two academic years. She will also be working with the school’s female students in a women’s studies class and supervising college volunteers groups like those from Notre Dame who come to the school throughout the year.

Volunteers like Zajac are essential to the David School. “It’s important for the school to have role models and mentors close to their age, so they can see that they can succeed,” Zajac said.

Zajac will be part of one of the largest groups of full-time volunteers the school has seen in recent years. After her time at the David School, Zajac hopes to work in the field of environmental justice, drawing on what she has seen and experienced throughout her time in Appalachia.

“The Appalachia program and other CSC programs are an absolutely integral part of my time at Notre Dame,” said Zajac. “The emphasis on service is one of the best things about ND. When I talk to my friends at bigger state schools, I realize that opportunities for service just aren’t fostered there.”

Zajac is not alone in her sentiments or in her plans for next year. Each year, approximately 10 percent of Notre Dame’s graduating class commits to one or more years of full-time service in the United States or abroad. Programs like the Alliance for Catholic Education and the Jesuit Volunteer Corps attract many seniors considering service, but some like Zajac strike out on their own and find the service opportunity that is right for them.

“I can’t wait to get back to the David School this fall,” said Zajac. “It’s just such a special place.”

**Reminiscent**

This is who the class of 2002 will remember. Miranda Thomas, Bridget Looney, Clair and Conner Murphy, all members of the class of 2002, died of leukemia during their undergraduate years.

Thomas lived in Walsh Hall during her freshman year at Notre Dame, but remained at the University only one month before discovering that she was sick. She returned home to Sturgis, Ky., for treatment, but passed away during the summer of 1999. Residents of Walsh say they clearly remember her friendly nature and smile.

Clary, an "enthusiastic" mechanical engineering student from Tyler, Texas, and an active participant in interhall basketball was re-diagnosed with leukemia approximately one week before the beginning of the fall 2002 semester after going into remission during high school. She passed away Sept. 20, 2002.

This is the class of 2002.
After his condition inspired 600 people to join the National Marrow Donor Program in an on-campus drive during March 2000, Murphy developed pneumonia that compromised his immune system. Murphy was remembered as a “fun loving guy with strong faith” after he died on Jan. 31, 2001. All three students are honored in an annual Clary-Murphy-Thomas Run. In 2001 the race raised more than $5,000 for leukemia research. On-campus mar­row drives and memorial masses have also con­tinued in their honor.

Creative

This is a day that is long overdue for Rachel Jones. The 24-year-old Department of Film, Television and Theatre major (theatre concentration) has completed her degree six years after matriculating at the University. The South Bend native will be joining the touring chapter of the improvisational comedy group Second City as an understudy. When Jones entered the University she never dreamed she would be joining Second City. In fact, she had never had any stage or acting experience. She originally wanted to be a pharmacist. But when a friend asked her to audition for a play, “The Colored Museum,” during her sophomore year, Jones was hooked and dropped her double-majored in anthropology and politics.

“I wish I would have known that having fun all the time shouldn’t have been my main goal,” Jones said. “I wish I didn’t have to take that year and a half off, but now I realize how much the education really meant to me.”

Jones hopes to eventually act on “Saturday Night Live” or work behind the scenes at a movie or music production company. She is glad that FTT has given her the opportunity to express herself and feels that her experience at Notre Dame has given her the opportunity to express herself and feels that her views are also in synthesis with a campus that strongly supports the ideals she works for, in spirit at least.

Scien­tific side of anthropology in archeology, Schoening feels that her interest in human rights work is merely a reaction to University doctrine. Schoening, a four-year member of the University’s Amnesty International chapter and a participant in other campus activist groups such as the Progressive Student Alliance and the Peace Coalition, feels that her views are also in synthesis with a campus that strongly supports the ideals she works for, in spirit at least.

Conscien­tious

This is not what Krista Schoening imagined she would become when she stepped onto the Notre Dame campus four years ago. The 22-year-old, who double-majorred in anthropology and Spanish, entered the University a confused freshman hoping she had made the right decision. She was an under­graduate, and completing her studies. What she won’t be doing is returning home to Mid­land, Texas, thus fulfilling a prophecy from long ago: when O’Neill was just five, her moth­er’s childhood friend admonished her, “No matter what you do, do not let her go to Notre Dame. She will meet a boy from Connecticut and never come back to Texas.”

In the world of Notre Dame romances, things sometimes just work out that way.

As of 2002...

“I followed a different path where God was calling me at such an early age and I’m glad to have had that seriousness in my life.”

Tom Pratt

senior

Committed

This is why Casey O’Neill is glad she went to Farley Hall dormitory during her first week at Notre Dame: she met her future husband.

When asked if she ever thought she’d end up with the typical Notre Dame romance, O’Neill laughs and says no, remembering back to that first week of freshman year when she told one of her friends that there was no way she was looking for a boyfriend. But things soon began to change after the fair­tal “Dis-O” party where she met Kevin Friedman, then a junior pre-med major from New Milford, Conn.

The two began hanging out and attending Mass together. O’Neill credits Father Poorman’s daily Masses in Keough Hall not only bring her closer, but ultimately giving them the priest who will celebrate their wedding. The couple met at Farley Hall’s freshman “Disoration” four years ago. Friedman proposed to O’Neill by Saint Mary’s Lake.

After her marriage, Friedman returned to his studies. What she won’t be doing is returning home to Mid­land, Texas, thus fulfilling a prophecy from long ago: when O’Neill was just five, her moth­er’s childhood friend admonished her, “No matter what you do, do not let her go to Notre Dame. She will meet a boy from Connecticut and never come back to Texas.”

In the world of Notre Dame romances, things sometimes just work out that way.

Kevin Fried­man ‘00 (left) and Casey O’Neill are engaged and will be married in the Basilica on Oct. 19. The couple met at Farley Hall’s freshman “Disoration” four years ago. Friedman proposed to O’Neill by Saint Mary’s Lake.

Kevin Friedman ‘00 (left) and Casey O’Neill are engaged and will be married in the Basilica on Oct. 19. The couple met at Farley Hall’s freshman “Disoration” four years ago. Friedman proposed to O’Neill by Saint Mary’s Lake.
Secondary weakened as Malloy upholds decision

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

What was one of the strongest and deepest positions on the Irish football team heading into the spring could become one of the weakest and thinnest after — University President Father Edward Malloy upheld a University decision to expel three football players accused of rape.

Entering the spring, thesecondary was seen as one of the strengths of the Irish. But after the expulsions of projected starter Donald Dykes and key backup Abe Elam, the Irish only have two scholarship safeties on roster.

Dykes and Elam, along with George Sapp and Glenn Earl, were expected to be major contributors on defense. Dykes had started at safety eight games last year for the Irish and Elam was a key backup who had a knack for being at the right place on the field at the right time.

Now, Sapp and Earl are the only scholarship safeties on the roster. Walk-on Matt Sar, who has significant experience but never played a down, is the lone backup.

While coaches refuse to discuss anything related to the expelled football players, it is clear that the Irish return both starting cornerbacks and have six scholarship backups. Leron Bolen, the lowest player on the depth chart, could move to safety. Incoming recruit Jake Carey could also fill the gap.

"If the player expelled, wide receiver Lorenzo Crawford, wasn't expected to make significant contributions next season but his departure hurts a weakly thin wide receiver corps. Crawford had yet to catch a pass and didn't have an impressive spring.

But the Irish lack a quality stand-out wide receiver. Arnaz Battle looked the most impressive in the spring game and Omar Jenkins and Ronnie Redmon both have some experience. But Jenkins has the most receptions of any returning receiver — and he has just seven. In the fall, the Irish will benefit from highly touted recruits Maurice Simms and Rhema McKnight, who will be expected to contribute immediately.

Contact Andrew Soukup at assoukup@nd.edu.

FOOTBALL

Devine remembered as fine man and coach

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Sports Editor

The Notre Dame community suffered a great loss on May 9, when former football coach Dan Devine died after suffering from prolonged illness. He was 77.

Devine spent six years with the Irish from 1972-78, winning a national championship and three bowl games. Assuming the position of head coach at Notre Dame following the ever-popular Ara Parseghian was a daunting task for Devine.

Despite his success on the football field — a 56-13-1 record and three top ten finishes in six years — he didn't have the undivided support of the fans.

"He was a great football coach, and he had a marvelous record at Notre Dame," said former Irish running back Vagas Ferguson. "Dan Devine was a good man and a great coach. He cared a great deal for his players, and his players cared back."

Devine was a great football player, too. He was a quarterback at the University of Washington. His son, Mike, took over as the head coach at Washington after Devine's death.

"I was a sophomore when my father was hired at Washington," Mike Devine said. "He was a great football player."

Devine's love of football didn't stop with his playing career. He continued to play football even after he retired as a coach.

"He was a great football player, and he was a great athlete," said his son, Mike Devine. "He was a great athlete, and he was a great football player."

Devine's death will be felt by all who knew him, both on and off the field. He will be missed by all who knew him, and he will be remembered for his contributions to Notre Dame football.

Contact Chris Federico at cfederic@nd.edu.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Peterkin selects Irish

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

Omar Peterkin was hoping to walk-on to Miami's basketball team. But he was, until someone wanted to see the videotape of the Virgin Islands high school senior to several college basketball programs in the United States. Including Notre Dame.

After visiting Indiana, Connecticut and Notre Dame, Omar Peterkin officially signed a letter-of-intent last week to play for the Irish.

The 6-3, 190-pounder Peterkin joins Torin Francis, Rick Crowett and Chris Quinn as freshmen in fall.

"Our players who played with him feel about him as a player," said Irish head coach Mike Brey. "He's got the right package."

Brey didn't expect to land another recruit this late in the year. While the Irish had scholarships to spare and were looking to add a high school senior or college player to the team by April, they had pretty much given up on adding another player so late in the recruiting season.

It was, until assistant coach Anthony Solomon heard rumors about an overlooked player from the small island of St. Thomas.

"Recruiting is a day to day thing, you never know what's going to happen," Brey said.

Brey said, "This is an example of a guy coming out of the woodwork, and you can't analyze him. In recruiting, you just have to make a decision quick, and we made a quick one."

What made Peterkin pick the Irish over Indiana and Connecticut was Notre Dame's strong academic program. He hopes to major in biology and was impressed that Notre Dame had a solid combination of athletics and academics.

Brey compared Peterkin to graduating senior and team captain, Omar Soukup, who was a 6-8, 215-pound forward.

"Peterkin is a lot of a guy, and he can knock down looks like he's got the summer to get ready and he'll have a month of practice. It probably won't be as much as he'd like, but it'll be enough before the first game before the first game."

Contact Andrew Soukup at assoukup@nd.edu.
Three-way tie for first leaves Irish in control

BY CHRIS FEDERICO
Sports Editor

Heading into the final Big East weekend of the regular season, the Notre Dame baseball team is in complete control of its own destiny regarding the postseason.

The Irish currently stand in a three-way tie for the Big East lead with Virginia Tech and this weekend's opponent, Boston College. The Irish can take care of the Eagles by winning the weekend series. They also hold the tie-breaker advantage over the Eagles if the two teams finish the season with the same conference record.

"It's nice to be in that situation at this point in the year," centerfielder Steve Stanley said. "I think these will be the three biggest games of the year for us like we've said all along."

The Irish only need to win one of the three games against Boston College this weekend to be assured of a spot in the four-team conference tournament. A three-game sweep would guarantee them the regular season Big East title and the No. 1 seed in the tournament.

Winning the regular season title and the Big East Tournament could be very important for Notre Dame's hopes of hosting its second consecutive NCAA Regional at Frank Eck Stadium.

"For us to host a regional, we have to win the regular season Big East title," Stanley said. "That's a prerequisite — we have to do that. I think this year we even have to win the Big East Tournament, so there are some things we haven't accomplished yet. But now we can't even think about hosting a regional because we don't have one, own it if we're one."

In their last Big East matchup, the Irish traveled to Villanova and came away with two wins from the three-game series. The Irish stumbled a little in the opening game Saturday, blowing a 7-3 lead in the bottom of the seventh to allow the Wildcats to tie. In the next inning, pitcher J.P. Gagne gave up three straight singles to Villanova batters to allow the go-ahead run to cross the plate in the Wildcat 8-7 victory.

In the doubleheader Sunday, Irish bats exploded for five home runs, including two from sophomore first baseman Joe Thaman, as Notre Dame knocked off the Wildcats 8-1 and 9-5.

The first game saw dominant pitching performances from freshmen John Axford, who picked up the win going 4.2 innings and allowing one run, and Chris Niesel, who contributed 2.1 innings of hitless relief. Niesel made his return to the mound after a month-long absence due to mononucleosis.

"Niesel was outstanding," Irish coach Paul Mainieri said. "During the week we let him do some side work, and he looked very good and felt good. The ideal situation would have been to put him in for two innings with a nice lead. But Axford ran into a bit of trouble in the fifth inning and loaded the bases. So we had to bring in Chris with bases loaded and two outs in his first game back. But he did very well, and I think he struck out four in a row at one point."

In the concluding game, second baseman Steve Sollmann went 3-for-5 with four RBIs and two runs scored in leading the nine-run Irish attack.

Junior pitcher Ogilvie started the game and gave a solid 6.2 innings, four-run outing before yielding to relief help. After a stint by junior Brandon Vioria, Gagne was called upon from the bullpen after the difficult outing the previous day. The junior right-hander entered the game with runners on first and third and two out, but got the first batter to strike out to escape from the inning.

Gagne stayed in the game and pitched two scoreless innings with four strikeouts to earn the save.

"J.P. [Gagne] has as much courage as any player I have ever coached," Mainieri said. "After that game Saturday, there was no one more upset than him. But I told him that if that same situation came up the next day, he would be getting the ball again. That's exactly what happened, and he came in and did a great job. He's been outstanding for us this year, and I wasn't going to let one unfortunate outing affect what he does for us."

In midweek action, Wednesday, the Irish outplayed a much smaller 13-man Rochester College squad for a 10-3 victory. With many reserves getting a chance to start, Notre Dame committed four errors but made up for the defensive struggles with 17 hits, led by the efforts of designated hitter Mike Holba's 3-for-4 day.

Freshman Martin Vergara pitched six innings and allowed one run on three hits for the win.

In the second game of the day, the Irish erupted against Detroit, defeating the Titans 23-1 in a game that was called after seven innings. The 22-run difference was the largest margin of victory for the Irish since 1922.

Senior third baseman Andy Bushey set a Notre Dame record by driving in seven runs in seven runs in the game. Right fielder Brian Stavisky was 5-for-5 with five runs scored in the contest.

The two wins move the Irish to 38-14 on the season. The first game of Notre Dame's series with Boston College is slated for 6 p.m. Friday evening. The doubleheader is set to begin at noon Saturday.

Note: Senior centerfielder and co-captain Steve Stanley set two more Irish records Wednesday. In the first game against Rochester, he surpassed J.J. Mainieri's team record, which matchups, started list with 239. In the nightcap against Detroit, Stanley appeared in his 240th career game to pass former teammates Alex Perez and move into first place on that list as well.

Contact Chris Federico at cfederico@nd.edu.

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Contact Chris Federico at cfederico@nd.edu.
Tumultuous season brings coaching change

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

Everybody knew Bob Davie would be fired. Few people knew who would be hired.

But nobody expected what happened in December.

When Notre Dame started the season with losses to Nebraska, Michigan State and Texas A&M — the worst start in school history — Davie’s fate seemed sealed. Notre Dame athletic director Kevin White met with Davie shortly after the Irish were embarrassed by Texas A&M 24-3 and essentially told Davie his job status would be evaluated at the end of the season.

News of the impending evaluation leaked to the media, and the Davie Watch was on. Irish fans printed T-shirts with “Dump Davie” written across the back. He was booed during the 1812 Overture. Reporters grilled him at weekly press conferences. He stopped speaking at pep rallies.

But Davie didn’t quit coaching and the Irish didn’t quit playing.

Notre Dame won its next three games against Pittsburgh, West Virginia and USC to even their record at 3-3 but dropped three of the final five games, beating only lowly Navy and Purdue and losing to Boston College, Tennessee and Stanford to finish the season 5-6, the second time in three years the Irish failed to break .500.

Players quickly pointed out that the losses weren’t the coaches’ fault. Quarterback Matt LoVecchio started the first two games of the season, but Carlyle Holiday took over as starter at the Texas A&M game. However, Holiday tended to win more games with his feet than his arm. By the end of the season, opposing defenses were focused on shutting down the option and daring the Irish to beat them in the air.

They couldn’t. The offense couldn’t execute the most basic plays and killed themselves with turnovers. After an atrocious game at Stanford where Holiday completed just 1-of-16 passes, offensive coordinator Kevin Rogers angrily said, “The kid couldn’t throw the damn ball.”

So when Notre Dame athletic director Kevin White announced Davie’s firing less than 12 hours after the Irish beat Purdue, it was a remarkable turnaround for Davie, who’s job seemed secure after White gave him a five-year contract extension in 2000.

But the extension was a mistake, White said.

A year ago at this time, I believed that we had turned the corner under Bob and that we were prepared to reclaim our traditional standing among the nation’s elite college programs,” White said. “Today I can no longer say that.”

White fired Davie on a Sunday, and by Monday he disappeared from view as he launched a massive coaching search. A week later, White returned to South Bend with former Georgia Tech head coach George O’Leary.

“I’m very happy to be at Notre Dame,” O’Leary said. “I think the two best jobs in America are the head football coach of Notre Dame and the manager of the New York Yankees.”

The fiery O’Leary was introduced at a public press conference where hundreds of T-shirts were printed with “By George, it’s O’Leary” emblazoned on the front.

But his reign only lasted five days. A reporter from New Hampshire writing a story about O’Leary’s college football days started a chain reaction of events that caused O’Leary’s resignation after he admitted that he lied about obtaining a master’s degree and playing football at New Hampshire.

His search was slower and more cautious. While it took White only a week to hire O’Leary, it took him 16 days to hire Tyrone Willingham, the former Stanford head coach.

“This is an exciting moment,” Willingham said on New Year’s Day, the day he was formally announced as Irish head coach. “It is a moment that you often go back in your life and you try to figure out what has brought you to this moment.”

Now Willingham faces the challenge of trying to resurrect an Irish program that hasn’t won a national championship since 1988. But his straightforward, no-nonsense attitude and West Coast offense already has Irish fans excited.

However, Willingham doesn’t spend too much time thinking about what could happen. He’s too busy trying to make things happen.

“I don’t think,” he said after one spring practice. “I just go.”
Although Blair was named to the all-MIAA first team for her play during the 2001-2002 basketball season, it's more than her skill on the court that has impressed coaches and teammates.

Blair became a much-needed confidant for players and coaches alike. "She's a very unselfish person, just very caring about those around her and she puts a lot of pressure on herself to do things right," said head coach Suzanne Smith, who has worked with Blair for the past two seasons. "That just makes a great example."

At the end of the 1999-2000 season, Roeder resigned and Smith stepped in. With a new coach and another young team, Blair found herself in a leadership position that she wasn't used to. With mediocre retention rates among seniors — especially seniors who could be leaders — may have been problematic for the Belles. But this year, Blair surprised everyone, including herself, and became the leader the team really needed.

"I never was the strong leader or able to be outgoing; now I'm able to care of anything," Blair said. Blair has become the go-to person on the court and off. Her openness has made her the perfect person for teammates to go to with problems, and she's Smith's No. 1 choice for discussing possible problems with the team.

As one of three seniors, Blair was the one who took the leadership role. As a captain, she proved to be the missing link between players and coach. "She has been fantastic both seasons I've been here as far as being that link between the players and myself. She's never been afraid of conveying their needs to me," Smith said.

Although Blair has no definite plans to play or coach in the future, her love for basketball is something the Belles are proud of. As a fifth grade basketball fan will never lose. 'I'll always love basketball but I don't see it as the most important part of my future,' Blair said. "But the love for it will go on."

Contact Katie McVoy at mcvo5695@saintmarys.edu.

Senior Anne Blair combined her love for basketball with her love for teaching by coaching a fifth grade basketball team.
The year started with a question. It ended with a statement. And as a charter plane flew a basketball team that fell in the second round of the NCAA Tournament back to Notre Dame, the Irish basketball team definitively told the nation it was back on the map.

Nobody thought that after former Irish All-American Troy Murphy declared for the NBA draft, skipping his final year of college, that the Irish would return to the NCAA Tournament. And this was a team that, before Murphy's leadership. With the Murphy-less Irish, the Irish basketball team established for the season was to produce on their own. The Murphy-less Irish were a different team, indeed.

Part of the reason they were so successful was the emergence of highly touted freshman Chris Thomas. Thomas arrived at Notre Dame with the highest expectations on his shoulders. At times, it seemed he wasn't asked to replace departed point guard Martin Inglesby, but Murphy. But if anyone buckled under pressure, it's not Thomas. The flashy freshman easily surpassed every prediction and every expectation. In his first college game, Thomas merely recorded the first triple-double in Notre Dame history. By the end of the season, Thomas earned multiple Freshman of the Year honors.

"I think what helped Chris Thomas was those four guys up front," Brey said during the season. "He's playing with four men." Thomas and the Irish started out red-hot. They won nine of their first 10 games and appeared poised to break into the Top 25. Then, the Irish started struggling. They dropped five of their next eight games, including embarrassing defeats against Syracuse, Kentucky and Georgetown. Brey even shuffled the starting lineup around, an action that often inspired defense. But Thomas couldn't do it all, and Graves, Humphrey, Swanagan and Carroll helped him realize that. By the end of the year, Thomas was winning games not with his shot but with his decision-making skills.

The Irish finished second in the Big East West Division and easily handled St. John's in the quarterfinals of the Big East Tournament. But they fell to Connecticut in the semifinals and anxiously awaited news about whether or not they would be back in the NCAA Tournament. Players were disappointed with the No. 8 seed in the South and decided to make a statement.

"This year, Thomas was winning games not with his shot but with his decision-making skills." - Tom Ream, Irish Insider

On May 17, 2002, the Irish started their journey to the Final Four, the first team in the nation to reach the tournament.

The staff of the Center for Social Concerns congratulates all the members of the 2002 Senior Class on their graduation.

"I hope you come to find that which gives life a deep meaning for you. Something worth living for... something that energizes you, enthralls you, enables you to keep moving ahead. I can't tell you what it might be - I can just encourage you to start (and/or continue!) looking, and support you in the search." - Ita Ford, M.M.

Blessings to you, as you go forth from Notre Dame, to create, in your own way, "a more just and humane world."
Inexperience leads to disappointing season

By KATIE McVOY
Asst Sports Editor

The uniforms Notre Dame wore during their final loss of the season in round two of the NCAA tournament told the tale of the 2001-2002 Irish. They were green.

For the Irish, who took home a national championship last year, this season was anything but a replay. It was a transition year. It was a young team.

Inexperience leads to disappointing season

Friday, May 17, 2002

NO ACC
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NCAA

Two freshmen and only one returning senior, the Irish knew they would have to work out for them to head into the 2001 season. Head coach Muffet McGraw, who knew she could count on her veteran core and program's last year, didn't know who or what she could count on this season.

"Because nothing is expected, when something good happens everybody gets excited about it because it's not like last year where we expected to win by 20." McGraw said at the beginning of the season. "This year we just have to play hard and see what happens."

It was a whole new Irish team that took the court in November. There was no Ruth Riley, no Kelly Siemon, no Nicole Ivey. Instead, there was Jackie Batteast, who was named Big East Rookie of the Year, Kelsey Wicks, Alison Bustamante, Theresa Burton. It was a young group of women led by sophomore guards, a non-vocal Alicia Flattay and senior Ericka Haney who struggled with her own game in the first months of the season.

The beginning of the season was less than perfect. On Dec. 24, Notre Dame fell 72-64 to Rice, a school the 2000-2001 Irish had destroyed. Those games were barely at 500. A game that was supposed to be a warm-up after Christmas break left the Irish cold. McGraw left the press conference in tears. Her young team just didn't seem to be getting the job done.

Just five days later, however, things began to turn around. With a 69-65 victory against Big East opponent Marist, the Irish had their first road win and found their groove.

If they weren't dominant in the Big East, the Irish were at least holding their own. After decisive victories against Virginia Tech, Syracuse and Boston College, the Irish managed to move to second place in the conference, and the team finished the season in the top 5.

For the Irish, this was a transition year. For the Irish, it was a learning year. For the Irish, it was a year to build.

"Our team is young, this is a learning experience for us," McGraw said after the game. "This is how you grow as a team, to go through something like this. You go back, watch the film and figure out what you have to do to get better and how to get to where we want to be. That's what we're going to work on."

As the Irish look ahead to next year, they will be themselves feeling more like a team than they did at the beginning of this season. Happy, graduated, and junior center Amanda Barksdale transferred, but the Irish are returning the rest of the team.

"Notre Dame may be returning our green uniforms to celebrate St. Patrick's Day next year, but the team won't be quite as green."

Contact Katie McVoy at mcv0509@stmarys.edu.

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ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Freshman forward Kelsey Wicks attempts to get around a Tennessee defender during Notre Dame's second-round loss in the NCAA Tournament.

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!!!THANK YOU!!!

To all the students who are giving their summer to service-learning. Your dedication to compassion and social justice is evident. We hope the relationships you will form with many of your daycamps, shools, AIDS programs, shelters, children's homes, outer cities, clinics, women's shelters and hospitals, etc., will be valuable life experiences.

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The Observer • SPORTS page 29 Friday, May 17, 2002

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Kathie Williams!The Observer

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Contact Katie McVoy at mcv0509@stmarys.edu.
Runners hope to tune-up at Georgia Tech

By NOAH AMSTADTER
Senior Staff Writer

The Notre Dame track and field team is sending a number of athletes to Georgia Tech this weekend for a final tune-up before the NCAA Championships. But head coach Joe Plante made one thing clear when the weekend's lineup was compiled — graduating seniors Liz Grow, Luke Watson and Ryan Shay will be staying put in Indiana.

"I told these kids all the time, the graduation isn't for them, it's for their parents," Plante said. "The parents want to be there for this and this is something the parents have been dreaming about longer than (the students) have. I'm not going to try to snatch that away from any parent."

Without Grow, who has already automatically qualified for the NCAA meet in the 4x400 meters and is a key member of the Irish 4x100 and 4x400 teams, the other members of Notre Dame's sprint group will concentrate on their individual events.

That includes sophomore Ayahsa Boyd, who reached the NCAA provisionally qualifying time in the 200 meters in late March. Boyd, whose time of 23.6 seconds ranks her 31st in the country heading into the weekend, does not hope to improve upon that mark to sneak into the NCAA meet.

"I want to give her another shot at improving her time," said sprint coach Scott Windsor.

Without Grow, the 4x400-meter relay team, currently ranked eighth in the country, will have to sit on its May 11 provisionally qualifying time of 3 minutes, 34.46 seconds. Two other members of that team, juniors Kymia Love and Kristen Dodd, will compete in the 400 meters.

Millar is also confident that her women's 4x100 meter team will make the cut without a final competition. That team, comprised of Grow, Boyd, Love and junior Tameshia King, is currently ranked eighth.

King, who already provisionally qualified for the NCAA meet in the long jump with a leap of 6.31 meters on March 30, is looking to end the regular season on a high note. After competing in the hurdles and relay events at the Big East Championships, King can use this meet in her hometown of Atlanta to concentrate on one even.

"She's been struggling on her approach a little bit, hitting the board," said sprint coach Scott Windsor. "She's been jumping far, but she's either fouled it or she's been missing the board. This weekend, we're just looking for improvement."

Another woman, freshman Lauren King, looks to use the Georgia Tech meet as a springboard for the NCAA Championships in the 1,500 meters. King currently sits on the Georgia Tech qualifying standard in the 1,500 meters. Neither has reached an NCAA qualifying standard yet this year, so the Georgia Tech meet is meant as a sort of capstone to their seasons.

"What are their chances of qualifying for the NCAA's? To be candid, I don't think they're great," Windsor said. "That's not our reason for going down there. Our reason for going down there is to try to get them to run faster."

Sophomore Tameisha Mobley also reached the provisionally qualifying standard in the 10,000 meters earlier this season at Stanford. But Mobley is ranked so low that neither he nor Plante anticipate he will making the cut. Mobley has already returned home to Michigan.

Contact Noah Amstadter at amstadter.1@nd.edu
Shay continued from page 44

Central Lake High School in Northern Michigan. While he placed first at the state cross-country meet all four years and won seven state titles in track, Shay — whose graduating class numbered 26 — only competed against other small Class D schools.

"I think he felt that he had a lot to prove coming in as a freshman," said Irish head coach Joe Piane.

Something to prove

The first time Luke Watson and Pat Conway saw Shay run, they didn’t exactly see a runner they were going to want to try to become like the elite," Shay said. "But not all of the Irish runners shared Shay’s enthusiasm. They didn’t go out as hard as practice. And some didn’t seem to regard track and cross-country as priority No. 1, which irked Shay at first but later he came to understand.

"I realized that that’s not the goal of everyone out there running, especially at a school like Notre Dame where athletes are coming here to get an education and their passion is maybe in their major, to get a job or something," Shay said.

Shay’s frustration continued into his sophomore year. By that time the senior leaders from the cross-country team had graduated, and the team performed below Shay’s expectations. Whereas Shay advanced to the NCAA Championship race with his team as a freshman, he had to go out individually as a sophomore.

"I had no leadership on the team," Shay said. "The guys who were the leaders were seniors who already graduated and the seniors that weren’t really leadership material. I was still in that state where I was really individually focused."

By Shay’s junior season, he knew that if the team was to perform at the level he expected, he had to take some of the leadership role upon himself.

"I realized that if I really want to make a difference in this program, I can’t just do it by example," Shay said. "You have to motivate other people, communicate with them, help them out. Let them feel like they’re a team, like everyone counts."

It was a decision that helped the team, which returned to the NCAA Championships with the same core of runners as the previous year. And it was a change that ultimately helped Shay.

"When you’re just thinking about what you need to do individually, you can get caught up in that too much," Shay said. "It’s almost like you’re putting too much pressure on yourself. When you spread that out amongst some of your teammates, it’s less stress on you."

These days, Shay shares an apartment with teammates Watson, Nate Andrubonis and Sean Zander. And he regards their friendship as one of his most important memories of Notre Dame.

"We feel comfortable communicating with each other, letting each other know what’s going in on our lives," Shay said. "I’m always going to be here for them and they’re always going to be there for me."

Leaving a legacy

When Shay started looking for a place to run in college, he looked for a mix of academics and athletics. Wake Forest, Arizona State and Stanford were among the schools on his list. But Shay, who grew up with his friends and was already familiar with Michigan State, never thought much about Notre Dame.

"I probably wouldn’t have even considered Notre Dame if Coach Piane hadn’t called me because I didn’t want’t a Notre Dame fan growing up," Shay said. "But when he arrived, Shay, who was coached by his father in high school, found that Piane’s coaching philosophy differed greatly from that of his father, who had already helped four of Shay’s older siblings earn college scholarships.

Shay wanted to go out hard and treat every lap in practice like it was the final turn at the Olympics. Piane was more cautious.

But working with Piane, whose athletes have earned All-America status 40 times in his 27 years at Notre Dame, soon began to pay off for Shay. At the Big East Cross Country Championship in New York City during Shay’s junior season, Kim Kelly of Providence took a dominating lead from the start. Shay wanted to catch up with him, but Piane kept urging Shay to stay back, counting on Kelly falling behind later.

On the final hill, Kelly — who won the NCAA Championship in cross-country a year later — did drop back, and Shay caught and passed him for his first and only first-place Big East finish.

"I think Coach Piane taught me that when you’re racing to be patient, that some races are tactical and it’s always the best strategy to go right to the front as hard as you can from the start to finish,” Shay said.

Junior year was also around the time when Shay started to become a student of the sport. He read books by various experts in the sport, became a student of the sport, and spread that out amongst his team.

"At first he’d be like, ‘Well okay, well, do this workout, we’ll see how you feel and if you want to do more you can do more,’ Shay said.

As time went on, Piane began to work with Shay to adapt the team’s workouts to those Shay designed for himself. Shay also began securing more and more time in Piane’s office suggesting practices.

"Sometimes I have a hard time getting Ryan to leave the office," Piane said. "He’s here as a lot. That’s good. I would rather have that as a problem than to trying to pull kids in."

Shay’s junior season ended with the NCAA Championships in College Station, Texas, where Shay won the NCAA Championship in 10,000-meters, finishing second in the Olympic team,” Piane said. "It’s almost like you’re putting too much pressure on yourself. When you spread that out amongst some of your teammates, it’s less stress on you."

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"Leaving a legacy" When Shay started looking for a place to run in college, he looked for a mix of academics and athletics. Wake Forest, Arizona State and Stanford were among the schools on his list. But Shay, who grew up with his friends and was already familiar with Michigan State, never thought much about Notre Dame.

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Miracle season concludes in Elite Eight loss

By Chris Coleman
Sports Writer

It was a miracle season for the Notre Dame women’s lacrosse team. The Irish won the Big East Division I title for the seventh straight year, and then went on to face four years ago which had left club status.

They took a chance on us and have gotten the program where it is today.... They took a chance on us and have gotten the program where it is today. The seven seniors on this year’s team — Maureen Henwood, Kate Scarola, Natalie Dillenburger, Tina Fedarcky, Kathryn Lam and Alissa Moser — came into a program four years ago that had left club status only two years before. Since their arrival, the team has gone 36-25. They have proven that they were the backbone of a team which would go on to a team bond.

Moser was a tri-captain and finished the season second in scoring with 27, moving up to fifth on the all-time scorers list. Lotus also had a career, finishing second and third in points and goals.

The Irish defense was the team’s strength and was consistently one of the best nationally. Thanks to captains Lam and Fedarcky, along with Henwood. This threesome has faced every game since arriving their freshman year and holds the 1-2-3 spots at time in ground balls. Each year they only allowed an average of 7.3 goals per game.

The team rolled through the early part of the season, superbly regrouping after a tough preseason weekend in Loyola. The women opened up by defeating Delaware 13-1 and then traveled to California and beat rival Stanford 10-5. After beating George Mason 18-10 the women opened up a five-game homestand which started with a 14-5 smacking of Big East opponent Boston College.

Cornell had come in ready for 4-0 Notre Dame and opened up to a quick lead. The Irish struggled back but time ran out before the comeback was finished and the Irish lost by one goal, 10-9. It would not be the only heartbreak this season for the Irish. The team had come from behind to win 11-10 last season, but this year in the Big East tournament appearance, the Irish were defeated 7-6 in overtime against Virginia Tech and sent the Hokies home losing 15-4. At 6-1, Notre Dame faced the Syracuse Orange, a Big East team they had never beaten. But Syracuse, picked to finish second in the Big East, looked a bit flat, and the Irish came out strong and finished the same way they started, beating Connecticut on the road, the team began the tough part of the schedule — four ranked teams in 11 days.

The women lost another heartbreak­er to Ohio State 12-11, and then had to come home to face the then-sixth seed Duke. In the biggest game of the year the girls again came from behind to push the game into overtime with 20 seconds left. In the third overtime, Duke snuck in a goal after Lotus’ last attempt rang off the post. Pumped up after their third one goal loss the Irish came out and defeated Yale 11-8.

Defender Kassen Delano scoops up the ball during a first-round NCAA Tournament victory over Ohio State. The Irish lost to Princeton in the second round.

Georgetown, then ranked No. 2, was a game too much for the Irish and for the first time, they lost a game by a large margin, 17-8. The 9-4 Irish picked up and destroyed Northwesterns and Rutgers and beat Vanderbilt in overtime to finish the regular season 12-4 and second in the Big East.

Contact Chris Coleman at
colema1@nd.edu.
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Irish storm through end of regular season

**Irish rally to win Big East Tournament after losing first game**

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Sports Editor

After a disappointing start to its 2002 season, the Notre Dame softball team came on strong during the stretch of Big East play.

The Irish got off to a rocky start while facing one of the toughest slates of opponents they had ever seen. In the first 20 games, the Irish faced eight ranked opponents and went 8-12.

"Since beginning Big East play, however, the Irish have been on fire, going 24-4 and pushing their season record to 42-15.

During Big East play, Notre Dame knocked off fourth-ranked Nebraska in Lincoln, Neb., and captured the Big East regular season title by going 18-2 in conference play.

Last weekend, at the Big East tournament, the Irish again faced some early troubles by dropping their first game to fourth-seeded Virginia Tech, 3-0.

The usually solid Irish pitching struggled in that first game. Freshman Stefanie Stenglein gave up three home runs in three innings before being replaced by classmate Carrie Wisen, who allowed another four runs over her four innings pitched.

"My pitches really weren't moving that day, so that allowed their hitters to be more effective," Stenglein said. "I don't know what my problem was that day. I just couldn’t get the movement I usually do.

With the first-game loss, the Irish realized they would have to win the next four games to avoid elimination and win the tournament.

"Losing that first game wasn’t exactly the path we wanted to take, but we knew we had the ability to win four straight," catcher Jarrah Myers said.

The Irish warded off elimination by Syracuse in the second day of play on the strength of three home runs from third baseman Andrea Loman and right fielder Megan Ciolli. Ciolli's long ball in the last inning with a tie score to put the Irish on top.

In their next game that day the Irish again stood on the brink of elimination. Down 4-3 in the last inning against Villanova, Notre Dame rallied with a two-run home run from Loman and an insurance RBI double from shortstop Andrea Bliesoo.

On the last day of the tournament, the Irish again faced Virginia Tech, and had to defeat the Hokies twice to win the title. In the doubleheader, the pair of freshman Irish pitchers demonstrated the command on the mound they had shown most of the season. Stenglein pitched 10.2 innings in the doubleheader and allowed two runs while picking up the two wins. Wisen came in to earn the saves in both games, contributing 3.1 innings of scoreless work.

"Coach Gumpf and [catcher] Jarrah [Myers] really helped me out," Stenglein said. "They helped me to be more mentally and physically prepared. I mixed my pitches up more in those games to keep their hitters more confused and off-balance."

**Stefanie Stenglein pitcher**

The victors earned the Irish an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament. Notre Dame was awarded a third seed in the Region VII bracket in Iowa City, Iowa. The Irish faced regional-host Iowa in their first game. The Hawkeyes defeated the Irish twice last year in the same venue to knock them out of the tournament.

"Playing Iowa again worked out very nicely," Myers said. "I think we just need to show up, relax and play. We are very capable of beating them because I think that we are a better team. We also have the revenge factor which doesn’t hurt."

Other teams in that bracket included three previous Irish opponents: top-seeded and No. 7 Nebraska, second-seeded and No. 13 Oregon State, fourth-seeded and No. 22 Iowa and sixth-seeded Illinois-Chicago. Wisconsin is in the fifth seed in the bracket.

The first day of play at Iowa was Thursday. The games were completed after The Observer went to press.

**Notes:**

- Senior catcher Jarrah Myers became the fourth Irish player to earn the Big East Player of the Year award during the Big East Tournament weekend. She led the conference in batting average, home runs, runs scored, RBI, on-base percentage and slugging percentage.

 Myers also was the only unanimous pick for the all-Big East first team.

- First-year Irish head coach Deanna Gumpf and her staff — Charmelle Green, Kris McClary and Bill Roggeman — claimed the second consecutive coaching staff of the year award for the Notre Dame.

- The Irish dominated the all-Big East first-team list, landing seven players on the squad. Myers joined teammates Loman, Lisa Mattison, Jenny Kriech, Ciolli and Stenglein in earning the honors. Ciolli, Stenglein and Wisen also were named to the all-rookie team.

Contact Chris Federico at cfederic@nd.edu.

Third baseman Andrea Loman makes a throw during a recent Irish game against Oakland. After losing their first game, the Irish rallied to win the Big East Tournament.
We just achieved in the postseason. My seasons at couldn't get of other things when down to it. always talent. There are a lot College and saw their chance at the school's first trip to the team." Myers and Miller retired Friday, May 17, 2002, After for- After fellow captains Jenny Kriech and coach Deanna Gumpf. Myers and Jarrah Myers catcher

Smooth Transition Gumpf was the Irish pitching coach for four seasons before taking over as head coach on July 3, 2001. With a leader like Myers on the team, Gumpf's job was easier. Having Jarrah as one of my seniors is like a dream come true with this being my first year, Gumpf said. The seniors, including Jarrah, made the transition very easy.

"I think the other two senior captains and I really tried to go out there and lead..." Jarrah Myers catcher.

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"Having Jarrah as one of my seniors is like a dream come true with this being my first year," Gumpf said. "The seniors, including Jarrah, made the transition very easy."

Showing confidence in her catcher, Gumpf lets Myers call her own pitches. "I don't think it's much different from what Deanna would do since I learned the strategy from her," Myers said. "This [past] summer I called my own games. It helps me to be a lot more easy to call my own games. I think it helps me to be a lot more easy to call her own pitches."

"I think the other two senior captains and I really tried to go out there and lead..." Jarrah Myers catcher.

Enjoy the Ride Playing four full seasons for the Irish, Myers has also made her mark on the career records. Against the Irish, Myers has also made her mark on the career records. After the regular season, Myers had 34 home runs and broke the Notre Dame record for career home runs. After the regular season, Myers had 34 home runs and broke the Notre Dame record for career home runs.

"Offensively, I haven't seen a better catcher than her. She is unbelievable," Irish pitcher Steffany Stenglein said. "Defensively, there is no college player I would have rather as my catcher. I have total complete confidence. She'll block everything I throw up there."

"Myers has also helped make the transition to the college game much easier for Stenglein. "Jarrah has helped me out tremendously," the freshman pitcher said. "There are times when I think about pitching. Jarrah knows. She's helped me with my fundamentals, what to pitch, like anything there is."

"It's something I still really..."

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"I think the other two senior captains and I really tried to go out there and lead..." Jarrah Myers catcher.
Wisconsin badgers its way to a victory

By COLIN BOYLAN
Sports Writer

The Notre Dame women's tennis team saw its turbulent season come to an end last Saturday with a 4-2 loss to the Wisconsin Badgers in the first round of the NCAA playoffs. The loss dopped the team's final record to 14-14, and while the .500 winning percentage may have been mediocre by Irish standards, their gritty performances in most matches this season were anything but average.

"I'm really proud of how hard this team has fought this year," Irish coach Jay Louderback said prior to the NCAA tourneys. "We've had some key injuries this season, but we've always played through them.

Indeed, the season started on a disappointing note when starter Caylan Leslie saw herself sidelined for the year by shoulder problems. The injury robbed the team of its No. 4 singles player and forced freshman Sarah Jane Connolly into a starting role for the duration of the year. Connolly handled the move in stride, and the team jumped out to a couple of early wins. Most notable among these early season performances was the team's 5-2 victory against top-seed opponent USC in the USTA National Team Indoors Championships.

Senior Nina Varnum and sophomore Alicia Salas provided fuel for the victory by winning their doubles match and proceeding to score impressive singles wins against Luana Magnani and Tiffany Brymer. Unfortunately for the Irish, that match would stand as the high-water mark of the season rather than an indication of things to come.

In their next three matches, all against top 10 opponents, the Irish were defeated convincingly by Vanderbilt, North Carolina and Tennessee. The lone bright spot during this stretch was Salas, who continued her torrid streak, winning her singles matches in all three of the contests and extending her winning streak to eleven.

At this point in the season, the Irish sat at 4-5 and were looking for a spark to turn things around. Seniors Becky Varnum, Lindsey Green and Leslie Cunha next season combined to exceed the Irish's high-water mark of the season, the 10-5, the Irish may have found themselves looking ahead to those teams, as they dropped the ball in a couple of surprising losses to San Diego State and Purdue.

"I don't think we were looking ahead, we just didn't come prepared to play against those teams," Louderback said at the time. After briefly righting the ship with a 4-3 win against Illinois, the team traveled to North Carolina for an Easter weekend showdown against its top opponents. Louderback juggled the doubles lineup in hopes of increased doubles success and the move almost paid off. Even though the Irish lost the crucial doubles point, they stormed back in singles to tie the match 3-3 before the Devils handed the Irish 6-1 losses.

A large home crowd and the emotional advantage allowed the Irish to score an important Big East victory against Miami only days later. The match was designated "Ace for the Cure," in honor of Cunha's mother who has been afflicted with colon cancer for almost a year.

As hundreds of fans came to support the event, Cunha fittingly won the clinching match to assure the team a No. 1 seed in the Big East tournament. At the end of the regular season, the Irish had attained a 13-12 record and were setting their sights on the Big East Championships.

Under the intense sun in Coral Gables, Fla., the team easily disposed of Boston College before running into a brick wall against Miami. Aside from winning the doubles point, the team looked flat and failed to capture a singles match in the 4-1 loss.

Louderback suggested that the low 90's heat may have had a negative impact on the Irish players, but was quick to point out that Miami was a very tough opponent. Seniors Varnum, Green and Vaughn played tough all season and withstood the pressure of playing in the 1-3 singles spots.

Moreover, the play of underclassmen gives hope for an improved showing next year. Salas' spectacular year saw her easily top 20 wins, while Cunha and Connelly proved capable of handling the pressure in tough match situations.

And the expected return of Leslie next season combined with a solid recruiting class makes the future pretty bright for the Irish.

Contact Colin Boylan at cboylan@nd.edu.

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NOREEN GILLESPIE/STAFF Writer

Sophomore Jeannie Knish bats back a ball during the first round of the NCAA Tournament. The Belles first trip to the tournament ended in a first-round loss.

**Belles make first trip to NCAA tournaments but fall in first round**

By NOREEN GILLESPIE

ST. LOUIS

The national stage proved harder than conference competition for the Belles tennis team, which fell in the first round of the NCAA Division III Tennis tournament last weekend.

Saint Mary’s earned its bid for the national tournament after clinching its second consecutive NCAA title earlier this month. The team, which won the first conference title in school history in 2001, is also the first team from Saint Mary’s to qualify for any NCAA tournament.

But the national tournament wasn’t as kind to the Belles as the conference championship, as they struggled from the onset of competition, losing to Denison University 7-2.

"Obviously, I’m not pleased," said Saint Mary’s head coach Steve Sanger. "I like to win. We didn’t come here to lose."

The No. 2 doubles team of Kaitlin Cutler and Elisa Ryan won the first match of the day for Saint Mary’s, defeating Allison Leenst and Kristen Hanio 6-1, 6-1. Ryan also walked away with a victory in the singles competition, when Hanto deflected after the third set.

"We would have liked to walk away with a "W," said senior Annie Knish, who dropped both No. 1 singles and doubles matches in the competition. "I think we all wanted to advance to the second round."

Denison, ranked 19th nationally, fell 7-2 in the second round of the tournament, Saturday to Washington University, who will advance to the final round of national competition this weekend.

But while the Belles left the court without a victory, they couldn’t erase the euphoria of being the first team from the school to compete in the national tournament.

For senior Knish, she remembered laughing at Stevenson three years ago when he said making it to the tournament was his goal. At his first practice, Stevenson took out a list and read to the team three goals: beat Hope, win conference, and make it to the NCAA tournament. For a team that hadn’t yet beat NCAA powerhouse Hope, those goals seemed far off.

The Belles secured the nomination following the second conference title, but a berth in the tournament was never a guarantee during the season.

The Belles defeated two Division II schools at the Midwest Invitational earlier in the season, and that may have propelled them into the national spotlight.

"We got in there and proved we really belonged," Stevenson said. "I think we caught a few people’s eyes."

Still, there is no exact science to the nominations, and the Belles could only sit back and wait after winning the MIAA crown.

Stevenson found out one day after the MIAA tournament that the team had announced its nomination at a school pep rally last Monday.

"I knew we had a chance," Stevenson said. "It’s a political decision, so you can never be quite sure. But I knew we had a shot to get the invite before I got the call."

"Obviously I’m not pleased. I like to win. We didn’t come here to lose."

Dee Stevenson
head coach

"I’m thrilled with the way the team has progressed," Knish said. "Coming in my freshman year, we had an okay team, but didn’t place high in conference. This is a great note to end on."" obviously Knish will graduate Saturday, sister Jeannie Knish, Kaitlin Cutler, Kris Spriggle, Elise Ryan and Angela Sander and hope to make a return trip to the tournament next year, and Stevenson will work on finding Division I-caliber players well into the summer, he said.

"I’m happy to be here, to represent the school," Stevenson said. "It’s something to build on for the future."

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Men's Cross Country
The Irish started the season with four seniors, but freshman Lauren King, juniors Jen Handley and Jen Fibuch and sophomore Megan Johnson stepped up and led the team to exceed early expectations.

ND Cross Country
The Irish started the season the way they always do: slow. But they found their rhythm as the season progressed. Senior Kristy Kreher was named Preseason Big East Player of the Year.

SMC Soccer
It was a season that was promising. It was a season that offered hope for improvement. It was a season that could have been the first step on the ladder to national prominence. But ultimately, it was a season that ended in near-defeat.

ND Volleyball
It was a season of personal accolades and conference success for the Notre Dame volleyball team before head coach Debbie Brown's team fell to Michigan State in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

SMC Volleyball
Last year, the Belles managed a seventh place finish, and they finished as high as third in 1997. But with only one victory this year, eighth was where the Belles found themselves in their last game of the year—a first-round playoff game against the Alma Scots—because they finished the season with their heads held high.

Men's Golf
The 2001-2002 golf season was an educational one for the Notre Dame men. With an inexperienced squad consisting of three freshmen and first-year head coach John Janskins, the team had low expectations and treated the spring as a learning process, preparing for future successes while forsaking present glories.

While the team's inconsistent play generally reflected its lack of experience, senior captain Steve Ratay quietly put together the best single season in school history, shooting a glitzy 73.03 average.

But the Notre Dame women's golf team has minimal regrets from its first season under head coach Debbie King, the program's first full-time coach.

But Notre Dame's women's golf team has minimal regrets from its first season under head coach Debbie King, the program's first full-time coach.
Men’s Swimming

They didn’t get the second-place finish they were hoping for at the Big East Championships, but the men’s swimming and diving team was satisfied with its performance.

Rallying from sixth place during the three-day competition, the Irish wrapped up their season in Uniondale, N.Y., with a fourth place overall finish.

"We got faster and scored more points, we just stayed in the same place," it’s clearly a sign of how much improvement is taking place," said head coach Tim Webel after the competition. "We are getting better and so is the meet."

Irish senior co-captain Jonathan Pierce set a Notre Dame school record in the 400-yard individual medley at the meet, lowering the mark to 3 minutes, 56.24 seconds. Pierce also placed high in the distance events at the meet, earning a fifth place finish in both the 1,600-yard freestyle and 500-yard freestyle.

"It will be hard to replace great swimmers like Jonathan Pierce, but, I think we’ve got a good team," said sophomore distance swimmer J.R. Teddy at the meet. "I was a growing experience for us."

-Noreen Gillespie

The Notre Dame men’s swimming team rallied from sixth place on the first day of the Big East Swimming and Diving Championships to finish fourth overall.

Notre Dame, also undefeated in the dual meet season, sent seven athletes to the NCAA Championships in Austin, Texas, in March. Senior diver Heath Mattingly and senior sprinter Carrie Nixon earned individual All-America accolades at the meet, where the team placed 19th overall.

-Noreen Gillespie

Notre Dame won an individual title as she won the women’s 500-yard freestyle.

Senior Carianne McCullough closed her career by earning third team All-American honors for the first time in her career. On the men’s side, only junior Ozren Debic was named a first team All-American. Junior Jan Viviani, freshman Derek Snyder and senior Andre Crompton earned second team honors.

- Mike Connolly

Hockey

After starting out the season a disastrous 1-5-2, the Notre Dame men’s hockey team finally found its offensive touch and swept the Canisius Crimson in December and January and a five-game winning streak to end the regular season.

The turning point of the season came after a two-game sweep by Alaska-Fairbanks in early February. The Irish lost consecutive games, 7-5 and 6-5, Irish head coach Dave Poulin was not happy with the defensive effort.

The week after the Fairbanks sweep, the Irish changed up their defensive scheme. The scheme worked and Notre Dame ended up finishing eighth in the CCHA regular season. The 2002-03 season was a rebuilding year. The Irish were able to compete with teams like Michigan and Wisconsin and were able to win games.

Noreen Gillespie

SMC Swimming

The Belles made a major move this season, a move from being a nameless team into a team that is a real threat to the MIAA. Last season, the Belles finished at the bottom of the pack — last place in the MIAA. This season they moved up to fifth and are looking to finish next season in the top three.

I think a few more divers and a few more swimmers next year and we’ll be right there with everyone else," said junior Lauren Smith. "... Anything can happen next year. Everyone’s working really hard and I think our team will prove [that we can compete]."

Saint Mary’s ended the three-year MIAA reference meet with eight top 12 finishes in the top six, and finished in the top six. The strong third-day finish left an impression on the MIAA.

"Especially on the third day, I had so many coaches come up and say, "Wow, what a day you guys had," said head coach Greg Petcoff.

-Katie McVey

Fencing

Despite a strong start by the women’s side, the Notre Dame fencing team finished third at the national championships for the second straight year. Third-place finish marked head coach Yves Augustus. The Irish ranked 5th nationally after being ranked 18th.

After losing by 23 points to rival Kalamazoo two weeks earlier, the Belles used a 14-23 second half scoring advantage to pull off the stunning 66-53 upset in their last regular season game at home. Two days later Saint Mary’s nearly spoiled another opponent but lost 62-54 in the first round of the MIAA tournament against Adrian College.

The Belles battled through injuries to key players, players quitting the team and a tough MIAA schedule to play their best through it all at the end of the year.

"We went through a lot of obstacles, team issues with different things and just basketball in general, but I think we overcame it all and came together well as a team," three-year captain Anne Blair said. "We kept on building on the ladder that Saint Mary’s basketball is trying to reach."

-Joe Hettrick

Rowing

A strong spring season for the Notre Dame women’s rowing team should provide a four-person boat board at this weekend’s Central Region Championships at Milton Hill Lake in Oak Ridge, Tenn.

The meet is one of the most important of the year for Notre Dame as some of the best teams in the nation compete with the 14th-ranked Irish to earn an invitation to the NCAA Championships, held from May 31 to June 2 in Indianapolis.

The spring season began with a bang for the Irish in Knoxville, Tenn., where Notre Dame took four of five races from the Volunteers.

Later in the season, the Irish lost narrowly in the San Diego Crew Classic and held their own against some of the best squads in the nation.

Notre Dame ended the two-day meet in fifth place behind top-ranked Wisconsin, Ohio State, SMU, University of California, and No. 13 Stanford. The weekend included race victories over No. 6 Virginia, No. 5 USC, No. 10 Texas, No. 9 Michigan, and No. 19 Oregon State.

In the Big East Rowing Challenge over the last weekend of April, the Irish fell just short of then 13th-ranked Syracuse to take second place in the meet. Notre Dame won one event as the varsity four crew of coxswain Kathleen Long, Sarah Keefler, Katie Sedun, Elizabeth Specht and Lauren Carew finished fifth and a half seconds ahead of Syracuse’s first boat.

The Irish again lost in the Central Region Championships this weekend will be another tough competition for the Irish as it includes five teams in the national top 20 — No. 3 Ohio State, No. 5 Michigan, No. 11 Michigan State, No. 20 Duke and No. 14 Notre Dame. In total, 15 athletes are competing this weekend including, Texas, Wisconsin, Clemson, Cincinnati, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kansas State, Miami, Minnesota, Murray State, North Carolina, SMU, Tennessee and Tulsa.

Racing begins Saturday at 9:15 a.m.

- Chris featherso

The Notre Dame men’s lacrosse team, which reached the Final Four last season, finished 6-8 during a rebuilding year.

Men’s Lacrosse

The 2002 season for the men’s lacrosse team was a rebuilding campaign as the squad struggled to replace the departure of eight starters from a team that reached the NCAA Final Four only a year ago.

This year’s team, comprised predominantly of freshmen and sophomores, finished with a midd­est 6-8 record. Four of Notre Dame’s losses were heartbreaking.

Sophomore Dan Berger led the team in scoring with 29 goals while senior captain John Flanda paced the Irish with a team-high 14 assists. Both players tied for the team lead in points with 34.

Although the Irish failed to recapture the Great Western Lacrosse League title and return to the NCAA Tournament, the future looks bright with the Irish losing only two starters from this year’s team. Next season will mark the first year that Notre Dame will offer scholarships in men’s lacrosse.

-Joe Licandro

SMC Softball

The Belles softball season may have looked like it was coming to an end. In a one-week period during which the Belles were supposed to play six games, all were either canceled or rescheduled. With the cancellations, the Belles managed an 8-15 overall record, although their 3-11 MIAA record left them in seventh place in the league.

The Belles won their final game of the season, defeating Ancilla 6-2.

"The season ended really well," senior Kristin Martin said. "In the last game, we all played really well. I am happy with the way it all ended."

The game was the last one that head coach John Ganell coached. With two weeks in the season left, Ganell resigned, effective the end of the season, citing a mix of financial reasons and a need for time to further personal goals.

"Part of it is financial," said Saint Mary’s athletic director Lynn Kachmark. "But he’s going back to college and that’s a big part of his goal and he’ll lose his flexibility when it comes to class time.

Ganell’s resignation prompted three softball players to request releases in order to transfer.

-Katie McVey
Humiliating coaching search follows Davie firing

On Dec. 2, 2001, following a 5-6 season, athletic director Kevin White fired football coach Bob Davie and the search began for a new coach to lead the Irish back to prominence. At a public press conference on Dec. 9, over 1,500 fans welcomed new football coach George O'Leary, a man who found his dream job at Notre Dame.

However, O'Leary's tenure with the fighting Irish lasted just five days before he was forced to resign for lying on his resume. After over two weeks of national embarrassment, another 16-day coaching search finally led White to Stanford and Tyrone Willingham, who White announced as head coach on New Year's Day.

1 Irish win national championship

With 5.8 seconds remaining and the NCAA Championship game tied at 66, Ruth Riley calmly hit two free throws that left Notre Dame the 2001 women's basketball national champions. 1,500 fans showed up to welcome the team back with President George W. Bush honoring the team two weeks later at the White House.

April 2, 2001

2 Brey returns Irish to prominence

Since taking over as men's basketball coach two years ago, Brey has led a resurgence in the Irish basketball program. During his tenure, the Irish recorded back-to-back 20-win seasons, two straight NCAA Tournament appearances, a Big East West Division title and a near upset of top-seeded Duke in the NCAA tournament.

2000-2002

3 Coaches exit SMC revolving door

In a two and a half month period, three Saint Mary's coaches resigned. The athletic department, which can barely pay its head coaches $6,000 a year has been unable to attract and retain quality coaches. John Johnson, John Ganey and Theresa Kachmar all left Saint Mary's during the spring.

Spring 2002

4 Football earns Fiesta Bowl bid

After a horrendous 1999 season, it looked like the end of the road for Bob Davie. However, behind freshman quarterback Matt LoVecchio, the Irish earned the first BCS bid at Notre Dame. However, against Oregon State in the Fiesta Bowl, the Irish suffered a humiliating 41-9 loss to finish the season 9-3.

Jan. 1, 2001

5 Irish teams earn No. 1 rankings

When the Irish baseball squad ascended to the top of the College Baseball poll, it became the first team to reach a No. 1 ranking in the Bobby Valentine era.

Mid-October

6 Berticelli dies of heart attack

Irish men's soccer head coach Mike Berticelli died suddenly of a heart attack.

Berticelli, 48, coached the Irish for 10 of his 23 years as head coach and compiled a 104-80-19 overall record. Berticelli led his team to the 1996 Big East Championship title and three NCAA tournament appearances.

Jan. 26, 2000

7 Wadsworth resigns as AD

When Michael Wadsworth resigned as athletic director, University President Edward Mallory announced a restructuring of the athletic department.

Later that year, Mallory named Kevin White the new athletic director and said White would report directly to him.

Feb. 8, 2000

8 Men's lacrosse makes history

The Irish recorded their best finish in school history, reaching the Final Four for the first time in school history before falling to Syracuse. The feat was even more remarkable considering the Irish, who didn't have a single scholarship athlete, defeated several powerhouse squads filled with scholarship players.

May 2001

9 Humiliating coaching search follows Davie firing

10 Saint Mary's cuts track program

Under the recommendation of athletic director Lynn Kachmark, Saint Mary's President Marilou Eldred decided to discontinue the track and field program following the 2001 season.

Kachmark made the decision, in part, to keep two full-time coaches.
The Year in Sports 2001

February
13 Final four selection: Duquesne
16 Men's basketball coach suspended for the remainder of the season after he accidentally broke an NCAA rule by playing in two tournaments.

March
17 The men's soccer team knocked off the Fighting Irish for the first time since 1987.

April
15 The women's track team won the CAA title for the third time in seven years.

May
18 SMC tennis teams compete in championship

June
4 Notre Dame's Marton Gyulai competed in the national championships.

July
7 Longhorn signee Probis selected by the Bluejackets.

August
15 The Observer :: SPORTS

September
28 A&M. 10-3 A&M.

October
3 Notre Dame men's soccer coach suspended for the remainder of the season after he inadvertently broke an NCAA rule by playing in two tournaments.

November
13 Notre Dame men's soccer coach suspended from the national championships after he was suspended for a marijuana incident over the summer, received an injurious to keep playing for the Fighting Irish.

December
20 Dad's football coach

January
5 SMC tennis team's first NCAAs championship

May 5 SMC tennis team's first NCAAs championship

2002
MEN'S TENNIS

No. 14 Irish hope to eliminate Illini in rematch

By JOE LINDSLEY
Sports Writer

After beating Michigan and Purdue last weekend, the 14th-ranked Notre Dame men's tennis team partakes in the Round of 16 at the NCAA Championships at Texas A&M this weekend in College Station, Texas.

Consequently, the Irish are making their third encounter this season with Illinois, currently ranked third nationally. For seniors Javier Taborga, Casey Smith, Andrew Talarico and Andrew Lafin, Saturday will be the last time they take on Illinois, with the match taking place on the same day as Notre Dame's commencement.

"We're really excited," Irish coach Bob Bayliss said. "Illinois is obviously one of the two or three best teams in the country, but we feel we can win. We'd like to prove that it wasn't a fluke beating them earlier."

Notre Dame split with Illinois during the regular season, with the Irish winning an outdoor match and the Illini winning indoors.

When Notre Dame defeated Illinois on March 7, the triumph was narrow, with the Irish snatching the victory because Taborga, with a 4-2 victory at the Blue-Gray Classic. The Illini pose a challenge that partly stems from the momentum of their 13-match winning streak. That streak might have included their win over Notre Dame had the Illini not lost to No. 1 Georgia on March 22.

"I think we can win [on Saturday]," Bayliss said. "We'll have to play very well for the doubles point, having won it on a tie-breaker last time."

But Bayliss said losing the doubles point will not kill Notre Dame's hopes. Taborga, ranked 15th nationally, has never lost to Illinois' No. 1 player, Amer Delic, whom he will play on Saturday.

In addition, Bayliss believes Lafin, Smith, Talarico and sophomore Matt Scott will be able to avenge their earlier losses to Illinois players. It is fitting that Notre Dame has the opportunity to play Illinois in the NCAA tournament, given that Bayliss considered the win over the Illini the proudest moment of a season in which Notre Dame tennis achieved its highest ranking since 1994.

A win on Saturday, allowing the Irish to move one step closer towards the national title, would probably surpass that March 7 victory as Notre Dame's best memory of the season.

Bayliss is confident in his players, calling this squad one of the better teams he has ever coached.

"In most teams, by the end of the season, you will have one or two dead spots in the lineup, where you know that that guy is not going to step up," he said. "We really don't have that."

A lack of holes in the lineup, along with the leadership and tenacity of seniors, has enabled the Irish to have a championship-caliber season, with only a few setbacks, the major one being the upset loss to No. 46 Michigan.

"I think dealing with the expectations that come from high rankings was our toughest challenge," Bayliss said. "We played pretty darn well in almost all of the matches with highly ranked teams."

Spores of 16 at the men's tennis team partakes in the Round of 16 this weekend, the 14th-ranked Notre Dame Station. Texas.

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With the exception of Michigan, we were really able to keep our nose above the water and keep floating," Bayliss said.

Contact Joe Lindsay at jlindsle@nd.edu.

Who's happy to have a few more Fighting Irish on their team?

The answer is

We would like to congratulate each and every one of these Notre Dame students on their full-time positions and internships with our growing organization:

Full-Time

Joseph Benyo
Jayden Bonaguro
Anna Costello
Katherine Darne
Zachary Dvorak
Kevy Gallagher
Elsie Groppe
Sharon Handbo

John Heil
Christopher Jackson
Shen Kan
Brian Kerrenmann
Jean LaBrucherie
Etiquette Livingston
Steven McCullough
David Ngata

Marianne O'Brien
Jordie Ramiszske
Patrick Rudn
Joseph Ruttledge
Katieschwardt
Nina Vaughan
Michael Vossen
Brooke Wagner

Interns

Preston Benson
Laura Bradenbarg
Paul Buser
Kerrie Clevland
Jennifer Dabash
Brett Gansen
John Gusburne
Christine Grimmer

Kelsey Harris
Margot Howard
Valerie Kruse
Steven Lickus
Brian MacKinnon
Allan McDonald
Jackie Nessan

Janelle Picciarno
Enn Rogke
Kevin Schumm
Sapan Singh
Danil Sirken
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BRIAN PLUGG/ND Observer
Senior Aaron Talarico returns a serve during the first round of the NCAA Championships. The Irish will face the Illinois this weekend in Texas.
FOXTROT

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2. Rider who lived a mile
3. Bride's "little" car of song
4. An asterisk or parenthesis
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Puzzle creator: Puzzler

Answers to any clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-285-5006 ($1.20 per minute).

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**OUSTANDING SENIOR ATHLETES**

**Best of the class**

+ All-American Shay is most decorated runner in Irish history

By NOAH AMSTADTER

Senior Staff Writer

One look at his résumé quickly makes it obvious why the Michigan license plate on Ryan Shay’s car reads “U.S. SHAY”.

With eight All-American finishes under his belt already and a chance to add two more later this month, Shay is the most decorated runner in the history of an Irish track and field program that was once coached by Knute Rockne.

Shay, who competed in the 2000 Olympic Trials in the 10,000 meters, won that event at last year’s NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships, Notre Dame’s first individual national championship outdoors since 1954. He earned All-America honors in the 5,000 meters during both the indoor and outdoor seasons as well as two All-America finishes in cross-country.

With that list of accomplishments, it was not difficult to select Shay as The Observer’s 2001-2002 Outstanding Notre Dame Male Senior Athlete. Not surprisingly, though, is telling Shay’s story.

Shay was not one of the nation’s top recruits following four successful seasons at Notre Dame, the most decorated runner in Irish history, with eight All-American finishes and a trip to the Olympic Trials. Despite the overwhelming number of records she broke, Jarrah Myers (right), the Outstanding Notre Dame Female Senior Athlete, is still looking for a trip to the College World Series.

**Myers leaves name all over the Notre Dame record books**

By MATT LOZAR

Sports Writer

As she prepares to leave the Irish, Jarrah Myers left her name all over the softball record book. At the end of the regular season, the senior captain’s season statistics in walks, home runs and RBIs were in the top 5 in Irish history and Myers was just out of the top 5 in batting average and stolen bases.

But the records mean nothing to Myers. The Observer’s 2001-2002 Outstanding Notre Dame Senior Female Athlete wants her name left in Notre Dame softball history for only one reason — qualifying for the College World Series.

“World Series. That’s all I want,” Myers said. “I don’t care if I go 0-for the rest of the year, I just want to go to the World Series; that’s fine with me, I just want to be there.”

**Staying home and taking the lead**

+ Blair became a leader on a team in transition

By KATIE McVOY

Associate Sports Editor

Compared to California, South Bend doesn’t seem to have much to offer. It’s cold half of the year and rainy or humid the other half. On the other hand, a Californian may not seem to have much to offer South Bend. But for one West Coast resident, coming to South Bend was right on target.

Anne Blair moved to South Bend after seventh grade and found the weather didn’t quite agree with her. By the time she was a senior, her brother and sister had moved back to the West Coast. South Bend doesn’t hold any long-term prospects for the 6-foot-1 graduating Saint Mary’s senior, but it gave her something she will always be grateful for — four years of learning how to lead and live.

“I think I grew a lot throughout the four years,” said Blair, The Observer’s 2001-2002 Outstanding Saint Mary’s Senior Athlete. “Senior year we really needed someone to be a leader. I needed to have that leadership.”

Blair came to Saint Mary’s in the fall of 1998 after former head coach Dave Roeder asked the South Bend local to think about joining the Belles. Four years of playing for St. Joseph High School had indoctrinated Blair into the South Bend community and staying at Saint Mary’s offered her an opportunity to keep that feeling of community alive.

Not to mention that being just minutes away from free laundry service is a perk any local would love.

“I just wanted to stay close to home and it was kind of an easy decision,” Blair said. “The coach wanted me to play and I figured it would be good to be close to home. My parents are really big supporters and it would be good if they were close.”

In addition, staying near home Blair made the connection between the two great loves in her life — basketball and teaching. As an education major, Blair began her student teaching at McKinley grade school, helping teach the first grade. But her teaching didn’t end in the classroom. She also began coaching the fifth grade basketball team.

“I’ve student taught and I was able to bring a lot of community kids in,” Blair said. “I helped coach a team and a lot of those kids were interested in coming in [to support the team].”

**Outstanding Saint Mary’s Senior Athlete, Anne Blair, graduated as team captain and the link between coach and players.**