Incoming freshmen boast high academics, varied involvement

By HEATHER VAN HORGARDEN
News Writer

During a year when everything from the president of the University in the head football coach to the dean of First Year of Studies has changed, one thing has been constant — Notre Dame freshmen continue to get stronger academically.

The class of 2009, comprised of 2,600 students selected from an applicant pool of 11,316, is as unique and talented as ever before, said director of admissions Dan Saracino.

"It sounds like an old record, but this class is stronger than ever," he said. "In terms of academics and in terms of broad diversity this class is the strongest ever."

The class comes to Notre Dame in a time of transition, with University President Father John Jenkins having taken office July 1, and new football coach Charlie Weis set to coach his first game Sept. 3. In the First Year of Studies program, theology professor Rev. Hugh Page takes over for Father John Jenkins having taken office July 1, and new football coach Charlie Weis set to coach his first game Sept. 3. In the First Year of Studies program, theology professor Rev. Hugh Page takes over for Notre Dame admissions GRAHAM EBETSCH/Observer Graphic see STRONGEST/page 11

Stores revel in college shopping rush

Target, Meijer, T.J. Maxx, other retailers stock up for move-in weekend

By MADDIE HANNA
Associate News Editor

The Seus women are power shoppers, and South Bend is loving it.

"Good, it's all a blur," exclaimed Saint Mary's freshman Maureen Seus, referring to her family's pursuit of the perfect dorm room furnishings for her and sister Chrissy, a Saint Mary's sophomore.

The Seus family left their home in southern Oregon and came back to South Bend days early to do their shopping here. They've already hit Super Target, Meijer, T.J. Maxx.

While not everyone may subscribe to the Seus' "shop-till-you-drop" plan of attack, the mad rush to snatch up the last dorm room deals hits the South Bend area annually as college students return for the school year.

"Second to Christmas, it's pretty much our busiest season," said Glenn Stevens, assistant manager of the

see SHOPPERS/page 9

NOTRE DAME CLASS OF 2009

Enrollment: 2,000
21.9% are ethnic minorities.
Average SAT: 1379
22% are children of alumni.
Average ACT: 31.3

The average student ranked in the top 5.5% of his or her high school graduating class.

Source: Notre Dame admissions GRAHAM EBETSCH/Observer Graphic

Saint Mary's sees rise in talented freshmen

SAINT MARY'S CLASS OF 2009

The average GPA ranges from 3.96 to 3.07.
The average ACT ranges from 23 to 27.
The average SAT ranges from 1700 to 2200.

Most of the freshmen ranked in the top 22% of their high school graduating class or better.

Source: Saint Mary's Admission GRAHAM EBETSCH/Observer Graphic

By MEGAN O'NEIL
Saint Mary's Editor

Recovering from a significant drop in enrollment last year, Saint Mary's welcomed an academically strong and geographically diverse first-year class of 379 students to campus this weekend.

Members of the Saint Mary's class of 2009 hail from 33 different states. While Indiana, Illinois, Michigan and Ohio once again topped the list, there were also impressive numbers of students coming from Pennsylvania and Florida, said Dan Meyer, vice president of enrollment.

see SMC/page 10

New class arrives on campus

By KAREN LANGLEY
News Writer

The last time Jonathan Metallo visited Notre Dame, the high school senior found a cold, grey day in February. But as he checked into Morrison Hall Wednesday, the sun was out and the freshman was full of enthusiasm for band tryouts and the Notre Dame experience.

"I'm a little nervous but looking forward to it," he said. "I'm ready to start choosing and meet people."

While the vast majority of Notre Dame's 2,000 incoming freshmen arrived on campus Friday for Freshmen Orientation, some students began their college careers during move-in weekend.

see MOVE-IN/page 10

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Inside Column

In Good Company

What a year to be new to Notre Dame!

You’ve got company unpacking your suitcase and hooking up your laptop—and I’m not just talking about the roommates and dormmates who will be chanting and sweating by your side all weekend. This company is on the ornate fourth floor of the Main Building, where new University President Father John Jenkins is settling into his office and his influence. It’s on the famed field of Notre Dame Stadium, where new Head Coach Charlie Weis is breaking in his vocal chords and his team.

Yeah, sure, you say. “I have as much in common with those guys as pariahs do with sense.”

You’re partly right. You have something they don’t. Breathing room. As the new president and new coach embark on their first year, they’ll have dozen of trustees, thousands of alumni and countless more fight song-breathing Notre Dame enthusiasts looking over their celebrated shoulders and shining a spotlight of scrutiny on their actions, words and intentions. You, on the other hand, are free to make your share of inconspicuous—and glorious—mistakes.

If they mess up, they’re whisked unceremoniously out of their honeymoon period. If you mess up, you’ve got a great story.

I’m not saying there’s no pressure. You’re part of the smartest class in University history, and I bet most of you didn’t come to Notre Dame expecting to do anything but leave it with you.

But you’ll never be brand new again, and a few harmless rookie mistakes couldn’t hurt.

So get lost on the way to DeBartolo. Twice. Splurge consistently at LaFortune, and watch your waistline expand and your Flex Points dwindle. If they mess up, they’re whisked unceremoniously out of their honeymoon period. If you mess up, you’ve got a great story.

That’s what freshman year is for. Even at perfection-obsessed Notre Dame—especially at perfection-obsessed Notre Dame—that’s what freshman year is for.

Take it from a classic Domer perfectionist who would never live her freshman year again but wouldn’t change a thing—you’ll learn infinitely more from one year of college mistakes than from four years of high school striving. You’re not perfect, and this year won’t be, either. Embrace it.

Father Jenkins could raise tuition, Weis could punt on fourth-and-short, and he’d have fans booing. But you could spill your tray in the dining hall, and leave your friends laughing. Unlike your counterparts getting contemporary under the Dome and in the house that Rockne built, you can get away with being new in town. So manage the football cheers beyond recognition. Procrastinate for days. Run out of spending money by Thanksgiving.

You’ll never again get to enjoy the best part of being new — being so wrong, and so right.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Contact Claire Heininger at cheining@nd.edu

Question of the Day: What Advice Do You Have for Incoming Freshmen?

Colleen Loris freshman Caravanagh
Fritz Shadley sophomore Siegfried
Emily Kennedy sophomore Howard
Catherine Pinnao sophomore Pasquerilla East
Nick Chambers sophomore Alumni
Erin Greenberg sophomore Welsh Family

"Beware of quarter dogs."
"Don’t be a facebook stalker."
"Become friends with at least one duck."
"Don’t break parietals your first night here."
"Don’t know a girl’s name? Nod and smile."
"Don’t take too much advice."

Orientation Weekend

Notre Dame Orientation Activities
Saturday, August 20
1:00 PM - Official Orientation
Joyce Center
3:15 PM - Parent Orientation
Joyce Center
8:00 PM - Meetings in Halls WithRectors and Hall Staff
Sunday, August 21
10:00 AM - Eucharistic Liturgy
Joyce Center
11:30 AM - Box Lunch
Joyce Center
12:00 PM - The Spirit of Notre Dame
Joyce Center

Saint Mary’s Orientation Activities
Saturday, August 20
12:00 PM - Orientation Picnic
Library Green
3:00 PM - Open House
Dining Hall
5:00 PM - Orientation Mass
Angela Athletic Facility
Sunday, August 21
10:45 AM - Farewell Brunch
Dining Hall

Local Weather

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ROTC branches greet freshmen with drills, training

By KAREN LANGLEY
New Writer

While most Notre Dame and Saint Mary's freshmen were greeted Friday by exultant Fresh-O squads square-dancing dorm rooms, 66 students began their orientation earlier in the week with demands from their Officers in Charge.

From physical training (PT) exercises to pizza parties, marching drills to movie nights, Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) orientation provided freshmen with both a foundation of military knowledge and an opportunity to bond with some of their fellow ROTC students before school begins.

Students from Notre Dame, Saint Mary's, Loyola College, Indiana University South Bend, Valparaiso University and Bethel College converged on the Notre Dame campus, which is home to three branches of ROTC. The Army, Navy, and Air Force ROTC branches each held their own freshman orientation, complete with different rules and varying activities. Navy students arrived Sunday, while Army and Air Force students arrived Monday.

Though times and times varied between the branches, all ROTC freshmen engaged in physical training and learned about military rules and customs. Many activities were led by ROTC upperclassmen who had undergone similar orientations in years past.

"I thought it was a challenging week as a freshman, and so it's interesting to be on the other side," said Dylan Gardner, a sophomore in Navy ROTC. "While the freshmen might feel as if the week is coming to an end this week, as staff we know that everything serves for the purpose of making them strong leaders and good naval officers." 

Courtney Collins, a new member of the Army ROTC, said that the orientation served as a warm welcome to school. She was less than thrilled, however, with the timing of some orientation events.

"The last two days have been the longest days of my life," she said Tuesday. "We wake up at 5:15 a.m. for 5:30 a.m. PT." That intensity is deliberate, said Lt. Theresa Brown, who runs the Army's ROTC freshman orientation.

"It's basically a crash course on what we do in the army," Brown said. "They learn the basic skills needed to be a soldier. They take the APFT (Army Physical Fitness Test), and if they pass, they are given a scholarship."

Brown also emphasized the social bonding that occurs during orientation.

"It's what finally brings classes together," she said. "These are people from around the country who will go on past college (in the armed forces). It's a chance to get to know friends right away, friends who will become your family away from home."

The Navy ROTC has 25 male and five female freshmen midshipmen. Air Force ROTC welcomed 10 male and five female freshman cadets to its corps. Army ROTC now includes 12 male and nine female freshman cadets.

"So far (orientation) has been lots of fun," said Brittany Shekton of Air Force ROTC. "This is a good way to transition into the school year and the ROTC program.

Orientation was a time for the ROTC upperclassmen to familiarize the freshmen with rules and drills, but it also provided the new students with a chance to make friends in the coming years.

"This is the time for them to bond and get to know each other," Air Force cadet Jen Sayers said.

Before students are able to begin the ROTC program at Notre Dame, they go through a detailed process to gain acceptance. Each branch of ROTC then uses its own system to award student scholarships.

For the 2004-05 school year, 20 to 25 percent of the 120 Air Force ROTC cadets were on full-tuition scholarship, according to a Feb. 23 article in The Observer. The scholarships are awarded based on high school records and academic standing. Another quarter of Air Force ROTC students are given an 80 percent scholarship, and the remaining 50 percent receive half-tuition scholarships, said Colonel Mike Zenz, department chair of aerospace studies.

Naval ROTC does not award partial scholarships — students are either on scholarship or they are not. Those scholarships cover tuition, mandatory fees, a monthly stipend and $600 a year for books. There are currently five cadets in Naval ROTC participating without a scholarship.

Arm ROTC is unique in that all students in the program receive full scholarships to match the yearly tuition, even with yearly tuition increases, said Major Gary Massapoilo, battalion executive officer of the Army ROTC program at Notre Dame, in the Feb. 23 article.

While Notre Dame students are given full tuition, scholarships for women participating in Army ROTC from Saint Mary's are capped at $20,000, Massapoilo said.

Kelsey Larson, a freshman Army cadet, praised the orientation experience.

"It involves great ways to meet new people, like when we get off from doing the ropes course," she said. "We get to meet our classmates before classes start."

Contact Karen Langley at klangley@nd.edu
Summer reading not a requirement for ND Class of 2009

First Year of Studies breaks two-year pattern, instead encourages freshmen students to attend September inauguration

By KATIE PERRY
News Writer

Though Notre Dame’s incoming freshmen have plenty to do to prepare for college life, they have one less thing to worry about now that summer reading material is no longer required.

For the past two years, the First Year of Studies department has required soon-to-be Domers to read a specified book in preparation for an academic convocation in the fall. The assigned literature was also integrated into the curriculum of many First Year Composition classes.

But this year, the September inauguration of new University President Father John Jenkins is slated to include a forum similar in style to past freshmen academic convocations, so the reading requirement was waived.

The event, which will be hosted by former NBC Nightly News anchor Tom Brokaw, will also include “intriguing guests from several countries and various religious backgrounds,” said Kevin Rooney, associate dean of FYS.

“We decided not to run a similiar [acadmic convocation] this fall,” Rooney said. “Instead, we will be helping to build interest in this exceptional event.”

A First Year Studies letter mailed this summer recommended incoming freshmen to read selected writings from some of the guests of Father Jenkins’ inauguration posted online, Burdin said.

Last year, every member of the class of 2009 received a summer mailing containing "The Vanishing Voter: Public involvement in an Age of Uncertainty" by Thomas F. Patterson. Students were asked to read the book as well as participate in online message board discussions about related concepts and ideas prior to arriving on campus in August.

In September, FYS invited the Class of 2008 to attend a convocation at the Joyce Center. "Election 2004: A Watershed?" was designed to give students a venue to speak with Patterson about the upcoming presidential and congressional elections.

Contrary to the University’s wishes, some freshmen did not read the book, let alone attend the subsequent event. An estimated two-thirds of the crowd that did attend "Election 2004: A Watershed?" left the convocation early during the question-and-answer session, according to a Sept. 3, 2004 article in The Observer.

Sophomore Pat Tennant chose to read "The Vanishing Voter" before coming to Notre Dame "mostly because it was required and also because it was nice having something to read during [summer] work.

"I don’t know if it was a worthwhile experience," Tennant said. "There were some ideas I found interesting, but I can’t say it influenced me in any particular way." Other students, like sophomore Kate Dugan, read parts of the book but were turned off by its subject matter.

"I started to read the book, but I am not that interested in politics-so I just read enough to get the general idea," said Dugan, who did not attend the convocation and estimated that only half of last year’s freshmen class read some portion of "The Vanishing Voter.

"Very few of my friends actually completed the book," Tennant said. "Incoming Notre Dame freshman Taylor Burdin was not aware that summer reading had been required in the past, as he received no instructions this year.

"The only people that I know of who received notice about summer reading were those students in the Honors Program," Burdin said.

Students invited to the Honors Program have always received a summer reading list from the University, Rooney said. Futures summer reading assignments and convocations hinge on the outcome of this year’s events.

"We will evaluate the success of [this year] and then think about the best way to provide an interesting intellectual experience for next September," Rooney said. Contact Katie Perry at kperry5@nd.edu

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Do you know about the RECTOR FUND?

Student Government & the Office of Student Affairs do not want ANYONE to miss out on the "Notre Dame experience."

- If you or someone you know does not have money available to pay for things like football tickets, section dinners, fall/spring break service trips, hall dance tickets, concerts on campus, retreats, or other "quality of life at ND" events, the RECTOR FUND can help.

- To use this money, just talk to any Rector. He or she can use the RECTOR FUND to assist with events like these for students with financial need.

- Proceeds from "The Shirt" fundraiser supply money for the RECTOR FUND.

For more information, check our website: http://osa.nd.edu/rectorfund.shtml
WE’VE BEEN PUTTING OUT* EVERY NIGHT FOR ALMOST 40 YEARS.

*WE’RE TALKING ABOUT NEWSPAPERS. HAVEN’T YOU HEARD OF PARIETALS YET?

Meet editors from News, Sports, Viewpoint, Scene, Photo, Graphics, Ads & Business to find out what you could do for the Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s daily

Please Join Us for
The Observer Open House

Monday, August 22
4:00p.m. – 6:00p.m.
Basement of South Dining Hall
Food will be served.
Muslim professor’s visa revoked. Ebersol, dad hurt in plane crash, brother dies. Provost leaves for Wake Forest.

The Year 2004

Summer 2004 - Notre Dame decides not to renew the athletic department’s $50,000 yearly sponsorship agreement with Taco Bell because of concerns caused by the Progressive Student Alliance.

August 2004 - For the second straight year, Notre Dame tops Pac-10 Review’s “Academic Life in Review” category.

August 2004 - Due to rising numbers of both seniors staying on campus and accepted female freshmen, most women’s dorms faced an overcrowding crisis this year.

September 2004 - Notre Dame’s Student Life was forced to convert every available study lounge into a liveable space and raise many double occupancy rooms to triples.

Trustees also said the proposal sounded too much like other van systems that failed in the past at Notre Dame. They cited concerns over student behavior on the buses as well as the question of who would staff them, saying the University and Notre Dame Security Police could not tolerate under- staffed buses.

After the Board of Trustees meeting, Irish and Bell took the Board’s suggestion to pursue a contract with a private bus company, contacting Transgo, which currently provides bus service to students. However, this never materialized, and SafeBus fell by the wayside, mostly due to a lack of funding.

Ebersol family involved in plane crash
Notre Dame senior Charlie Ebersol survived a November charter plane crash that killed his younger brother Teddy, 14, and two crewmen and injured his father, Salim, NBC Sports Chairman Dick Ebersol. The crash happened during takeoff in Montrose, Colo., as the Ebersols were returning to South Bend Nov. 28 after a gathering at the Notre Dame football game that Saturday against the University of Southern California, where Charlie Ebersol, 18, is a freshman. The family had stopped in Colorado to drop off Dick Ebersol’s wife, Susan Saint-André, and their son, who was starting his college career.

The private jet, carrying six people, crashed during takeoff from Montrose Regional airport, which is located approximately 158 miles southwest of Denver, and serves the Telluride Ski Area.

The plane skidded sideways after impact, ripping off the cockpit and one of the wings, an eyewitness told the Associated Press.

Teddy Ebersol was ejected from the plane and died instantly, Montrose County Coroner Mark Young told the Montrose Daily Press, and Dick Ebersol was pulled out of the wreckage by Charlie Ebersol.

Teddy Ebersol’s body was found the Monday after the crash under the wreckage following an extensive search of the wooded crash site, Young said.

Charlie Ebersol, 21, played a vocal role in Notre Dame student government, twice running for student body president and being elected as the student body president in 2003 and 2004. During the 2003-04 term, he served as manager of the Student Union Board and was a member of the Council of Representatives.

Dick Ebersol, 57, became president of NBC Sports in 1989, and make approximately 10 stops on campus and at various bars and study complexes.

Irvin and Bell took this proposal to the fall meeting of the Board of Trustees, where it was met with harsh criticism.

The Board questioned the timing, feasibility and logistics of the SafeBus plan, saying that SafeBus and Bell should not have broached the topic with trustees before pursuing the plan through usual student government and University channels.

The proposal was that a University-sponsored bus, SafeBus, would shuttle students to and from off-campus locations. Initially, the proposal called for the bus to run from 1 to 6 a.m. on 30 minutes.

Jolm Jenkins

Sept. 30, 2004 - First Year of Student Life in Review

Taco Bell manages to stay in the game.

Sept. 12, 2004 - Ryan O’Connor, a 2002 Notre Dame graduate, was struck and killed by a car driven by a Saint Mary’s sophomore as he ran into the street after leaving a local bar.

Sept. 16, 2004 - A university-issued van driven by a freshman on the Irish men’s golf team is hit and totaled by a semi truck on Interstate 80, injuring the six team members at the vehicle.

Nov. 8, 2004 - A male is reported to be in Pasquella West during the hours of 7 and 8 a.m., apparently vandalizing the dorm with obscenities and frightening several residents.

Nov. 8, 2004 - Notre Dame senior Charlie Ebersol survives a plane crash that injured his father, NBC Sports Chairman Dick Ebersol, and killed his younger brother Teddy Ebersol, 14, and two crewmen in Montrose, Colo.

Nov. 27, 2004 - Notre Dame’s football team is selected by USA Today 48-10. It is widely reported that the loss prompted an investigation of the University’s president, Father John Jenkins and selected members of the Board of Trustees to discuss the possibility of a new football coach.

Saturday, August 20, 2005

Muslim professor’s visa revoked. Ebersol, dad hurt in plane crash, brother dies. Provost leaves for Wake Forest.
Trustee charged with domestic battery. Dome begins regretting, seniors speak out. Monk remembered in last year.

2005

In Review

appointed a professor of psychology. He will be responsible for all academic matters on the second-ranking official at the University.

Trustee charged with battery, resigns post
For the first time in 19 years, the American and trustee Dave Duerson was charged with assaulting his wife Feb. 3 at the home of a result revealed his post on the Board of Trustees.

Duerson, a University trustee since 2001, voluntarily resigned his post after the inci­ dent and is also no longer the president of the Menschagram Club, where his term was set to expire in June.

He was charged with two counts of batter­ y and two counts of domestic battery, each a class A misdemeanor.

Another Republican trustee, Vincent, charged as a supplemental affidavit on the case, Duerson allegedly struck his wife, Alicia Duerson, and pushed her out of their hotel room early that morn­ ing. She was treated at a local hospital and released.

The Duersons were on campus for the winter Board of Trustees' meeting, and Dave Duerson, a member of the Board's Student Affairs Committee and Audit Committee, did not attend either of the trustees' sched­ ule sessions.

Dave Duerson deferred his initial court date to the judge's next available calendar until April 26.

Duerson, a 1983 Notre Dame gradu­ ate, is the president, founder and CEO of Duerson Foods, LLC, a high-volume meat processor based in Chicago.


Dave Duerson also received the presti­ gious Norin Award from the Notre Dame Marching Band in 2001. He is well-known on campus for his point­ ed criticism of the University's football program, especially after the accident that killed the football program and several other people.

Transition occurs at the top of the Church

The Pope John Paul II was passed away in April after 26 years at the helm of the Catholic Church, and Notre Dame honored his papa­ ypa with memorial services across campus.

The pope, who was well-known for his work with World Youth Days, was honored in rosary programs, Masses and vesperns at Notre Dame.

Students from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's were among the first to respond to the news.

St. Peter's Square to witness John Paul II's last moments

John Paul II was remembered at Notre Dame for his worldliness and his many travels. Many campus professors were fea­ tured in major publications as well as on major networks to talk about John Paul II and his impact on the world, the church and his successor as the pope continues.

Father Virgil

Emmanuel, a visiting professor in Notre Dame's Latino studies depart­ ment, resonated his visit with the pope in 1982 in San Antonio, Texas. Notre Dame had University representa­ tives at the funeral in Rome — the Superior General (Cardinal) of the Congregation in San Nicola Crus, Very Reverend Hugh Grady, his two assistants and Father Carl Ivey, the provi­ dence of the Congregation.

Eventually, the traditional white smoke was­ awn, and German Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger was chosen as the 265th pope. Taking the name of Benedict XVI, the new pope was seen by Notre Dame and Saint Mary's professors as a very conservative choice.

Ratzinger was described as a Vatican insider by some professors, and others saw him as an intellectual person and a thought­ ful, spiritual individual.

Dome relatives open to debate

Notre Dame announced March 4 that the Golden Dome was going to be rededicated for the 10th time in school history. The project, with an initial cost of $300,000, is necessary due to the deterioration conditions of the Dome, according to University officials.

The fact that the process would not be completed until the fall, some were backlash from the senior class, as many students were upset that the Dome would be covered in scaffolding for their May graduation.

Dave Duerson resigned March 8 that he would resign as president of the Montfort Club and Notre Dame's student body in 1986 to 16.6 percen­ t in 2004, according to a survey conducted by the Office of Institutional Research.

Malloy also was honored at a farewell Mass April 17, when all Notre Dame professors were invited to the Student Center. The Mass was held in the Notre Dame Student Center.

The three-story building houses the Student Center. The Dome was also home to the Internet cafe and the outdoor patio facing the Dome.

Contact Heather Van Hooaghen at bvanhoeg@nd.edu

Nov. 30, 2004 — For the first time ever, Notre Dame fires its football coach before his original contract ends. The expec­ tion of the change on campus with students and faculty.


Jan. 14, 2005 — Keough freshman Dan Keil, 19, dies in an Indianapolis hospital after complications during heart surgery to implant a pacemaker.

Jan. 21, 2005 — University Provost, first female vice president, wins election to second-ranking officer in the Notre Dame administration, as named president at Wake Forest University in 30 years at Notre Dame.

Feb. 5, 2005 — Student Government launches a free, one-month trial of The Observer. There is also a new women's resource center to supplement the current LeMall Hall space.

Feb. 6, 2005 — Student Government announces a 7 percent tuition increase for next year, an increase of $2,820. Saint Mary's will announce tuition increase next year by 4 percent.

Feb. 16, 2005 — Vogue's Monograph author Fox Franks speaks on campus, triggers protests.

April 2, 2005 — Pope John Paul II dies after a 26-year reign as pope. Students mourned at the Dome, in San Antonio, and at St. Peter's Square, and the University sends representatives to the funeral.

April 5, 2005 — Faculty Senate announces the formation of a committee tasked with creating a new mechanism for students to review courses.

April 19, 2005 — Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger is elected successor to Pope John Paul II and takes the name Benedict XVI.

April 22, 2005 — Assistant Director of Notre Dame Security Police Chuck Harkey is fired for the University for allegedly being untruthful in an investigation in which former Notre Dame trustee Dave Duerson was charged with an incident at the Morris Inn.
Best Wishes
for the 2005–2006 Academic Year
From the Division of Student Affairs

Rev. Mark L. Poorman, C.S.C.
Vice President for Student Affairs
316 Main Building
631-7394

Ms. Ann Firth
Associate VP for Student Affairs
316 Main Building
631-2685

Sr. Mary Louise Gude, C.S.C.
Assistant VP for Student Affairs
316 Main Building
631-5550

Mr. William Kirk
Associate VP for Residence Life
316 Main Building
631-6144

Sr. Jean Lenz, O.S.F.
Assistant VP for Student Affairs
316 Main Building
631-5550

Dr. G. David Moss
Assistant VP for Student Affairs
316 Main Building
631-5550

Ms. Jennifer Monahan
Executive Assistant to the Vice President
316 Main Building
631-5550

ALCOHOL & DRUG EDUCATION
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311 LaFortune Student Center
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CAREER CENTER
Mr. Lee Svete, Director
248 Flanner Hall
631-5200

GENDER RELATIONS CENTER
Ms. Heather Rakoay, Director
217 LaFortune Student Center
631-9340

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES & ACTIVITIES
Mr. Bong Miquiabas, Director
204 LaFortune Student Center
631-3825

MULTICULTURAL STUDENT PROGRAMS & SERVICES
Ms. Iris Outlaw, Director
210 LaFortune Student Center
631-6841

RESIDENCE LIFE & HOUSING
Mr. Jeffrey Shoup, Director
305 Main Building
631-5878

SECURITY
Mr. Rex Rakow, Director
204 Hammes-Mowbray Hall
631-5555

STUDENT ACTIVITIES
Mr. Brian Coughlin, Director
315 LaFortune Student Center
631-7308

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER
Dr. Susan Steibe-Pasalich, Director
University Counseling Center
631-7336

UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES
Ms. Ann E. Kleva, Director
Student Health Center
631-7497
**Dorms**

continued from page 1

in some dorms, slightly increasing enrollment and the University's 96 percent retention rate from freshman to senior year are responsible for the bed shortage, Kachmarik said. "We may have to do a lottery for seniors to determine who can live on campus," he said.

And while creating even more cramped quarters is working for the short term, Kachmarik says new dorms need to be built sooner or later to solve the problem. The University's strategic plan, released last November, outlines the construction of four new residence halls within the next 10 years.

The new dorms would be built not so much to accommodate more students as to address the University's commitment to maintaining its current enrollment — but rather to relieve the overcrowding problem.

"Enrollment has been growing by 10 or 12 students every year, but that doesn't help," Kachmarik said. "Students want to live on campus. But the reality is that we need students to eventually move off campus. We need at least 1,600 students every year to move out of their residence halls."

Last fall the overflow was experienced mostly in the 13 women's residence halls, but this year, the 14 men's dorms are just as full.

Of the men's dorms, Keough and O'Neill have experienced the overflow most this year, Kachmarik said.

Father Peter Jarret, rector of Keough, said this year's dorm will reach its highest population since its construction in 1996. Thankfully, the dorm was built to adapt to overcrowding, he said. "The study lounges in Keough and O'Neill were built to be converted into extra dorm rooms," Jarret said. "They are pretty much the same size as doubles so space-wise it's not really an issue."

Jarret said the students seem more or less unaffected by the increasing number of residents in his hall. "They take it in stride," he said. "The more the merrier."

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

---

**Savings up to 50% off reg. prices**

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277-9711

**Mon-Fri 9am-8:30**

**Sat 9am-5**

**Suns 1-6**

**Back to School**

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**Shoppers**

continued from page 1

Mishawaka Super Target. "It's a huge upswing in a small time," Stevens said. "We've seen an increase in the number of people coming to get what they need."

Stevens said Super Target prepared by designing a staffing plan months in advance, examining what areas were hit hardest by last year's flood of students, then deciding what merchandise to stockpile.

"We'll see about a 25-30 percent bump this week and next," said Tim Corbett, store manager for the Grape Road Meijer. "We turn around and re-merchandise the store almost exclusively for the college students."

Corbett referred to this Tuesday through this Sunday as the "move-in swing."

Meijer's busiest sales period.

"It's there with Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas," he said. "It's very, very strong for the categories it impacts."

Store managers have been smart about loading their shelves with anything and everything the college student needs.

"Really, what you're looking at is anything you'd take to set up an apartment," Corbett said. "It's laundry baskets, light bulbs, Brita water filters, beanbags, U-lockets."

"Of course, the basics for school, pens and paper," Stevens said. "For our college students, it's the futons, the body pillows, our body pillows are selling off the shelves."

Even small businesses are getting in on the act. Gwen Addis, assistant manager for the Futon Factory, said she sees a definite sales increase each year.

"We buy more stock in general, more less expensive options, because the students already have so much expense," Addis said.

Some stores also expand their hours for the move-in period. Shirley MacDonald, office manager of the Grape Road Bed, Bath and Beyond, said the store opened earlier and closed later the past few days.

"We normally close at 9:30, but this is to accommodate these kids," MacDonald said. "Because that's when everyone usually hits town."

Most stores have taken some measures to attract students. Some are to be expected, like nationwide advertising campaigns; others are a little more surprising.

Take goldfish drag racing, for example.

"There's two rain gutters (where the goldfish are dropped); people pick their goldfish and can win tickets to a drag race," Corbett said of Meijer's somewhat bizarre event, held for the second time this year. Meijer has also offered events like rock wall climbing, T-shirt tie-dying and gummy worm and sundae eating contests.

Despite the extra effort required, store managers say they enjoy the annual student swarm, raking the accompanying spike in sales.

"It's always good when the college students come back," Stevens said. "It's just a little bonus. They shop our clothing more. It's probably good for most South Bend-Mishawaka businesses."

Corbett said the period gave Meijer a chance to customize its business.

"We really pride ourselves on becoming a destination point for students," he said. "If you aren't on top of your game, it shows pretty quick. You get to be more of an entrepreneur, and that's one of those things we really like."

Contact Maddie Hanna at mhanna1@nd.edu

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**Back To School Carpe**

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**Savings Up To 50% Off Reg. Prices**

**Carpet Remnant Sale**

15% to 50% Off

Our Already Reduced Prices

- Carpet
- Vinyl
- Wood
- Ceramic
- Area Rugs

**Floor Center**

Decorators Walking Shopping Center • Grape at Day Road, Mishawaka

**Over 1000 Carpet Remnants On Sale!**

**Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu**
Move-In
continued from page 1

days earlier because of obligations to athletics. Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) or band.
Dorm residents have been doing their best to ensure that the freshman transition goes smoothly for both early and standard arrivals.

Welsh Family rector Candace Carson prepared a packet for the freshman that includes the hall weekend schedule, the University orientation schedule, hall staff information, tips on room configurations, conversation guidelines, this season’s football schedule and a list of local taxi numbers.

Carson also gives each student and her parents a copy of her business card, complete with hall staff names and numbers on the back.

“We greet not only the girl but also her family,” she said. “We want to make everyone feel comfortable. We take the name Welsh Family seriously. We are a family. Notre Dame is about community, and that starts in the dorms.”

Dorm freshman Orientation staffs have also been preparing throughout the summer for the weekend’s events.

“We’ll be there with a big smile and a helping hand. We’ll show them the ropes,” said Emmanuel Zervoudakis, a Dillon junior.

Zervoudakis’ freshman Orientation memories include a “Braveheart” night when Dillon freshmen ate stew with their hands and then engaged in a water gun fight. Fellow Dillon junior Jon McKenna remembers running through the fountain.

While freshman Sarah Schreiber has wanted to attend Notre Dame for an early age, she acknowledged that leaving home and college brought with it mixed emotions. The change was eased by phone calls received from home and in both Farley and the band, she said.

“I want to live in the dorm, but the band on the sidelines,” said Schreiber, a Las Vegas native whose biggest concern about Notre Dame is the weather.

“I’m worried about the winter,” she said. “I’ve also never had humidity before.”

Avery Ambrose, a citizen of Trinidad and Tobago, will also be in for a change of climate. Part of the three percent of students in the Class of 2009 from outside the United States, Ambrose selected Notre Dame for its history and reputation in athletics.

“I want to have fun and get my degree,” he said.

Freshmen in the ROTC program moved in for the second time on Wednesday, when they transitioned to their own dorms from temporary housing.

Ken Shamrell and D.J. McMill were more than happy to move into their Siegfried double after a visit in Keenan, which housed ROTC male freshmen.

Shamrell, a Vancouver native, described the transition as “glorious.”

Incoming freshmen at Saint Mary’s expressed many of the same emotions as those at Notre Dame, emphasizing the difficulty of gathering up all their belongings and moving them into a dorm room.

Becca Mason described the frustrations of packing her clothes, posters, pictures and books for the drive from St. Joseph, Mich.

“The hardest part about packing was just getting everything done,” she said. “I wanted to do it all myself, but it was already packed. My mom was getting angry at me.”

Neither Mason nor classmate Alicen Miller described their farewells as overly emotional. Miller and her mother drove from Indianapolis to Saint Mary’s in a car packed full of her college necessities. She arrived at school early due to commitments with the Saint Mary’s cross-country team.

“I’m ready to be out of the house,” she said. “I get along with my family and whatnot, but I am ready to move on.”

Contact Karen Langley at klangley@smc.edu

SMC
continued from page 1

president for Enrollment Management.

The median GPA for first-year students ranges from 3.36 to 3.79. Meyer said, and the average high school class ranking is the top 22 percentile. The median ACT score ranges from 23 to 27 and the median SAT score is between 1070 and 1220.

The incoming class also includes 18 high school valedictorians and one salutatorian, Meyer said.

Admittedly, the class is comparable to those of past years, said interim director of admissions Mona Bowe.

“It is very similar as the last two years, a little bit stronger,” Bowe said. “The median scores are a little higher. I am very happy with the quality of the class.”

Roughly one third of the class have mothers who graduated from Saint Mary’s, a typical figure, Bowe said. An unusually small Saint Mary’s first year class last year, composed of just 352 students, caused concern on campus and forced admissions counselors to intensify recruiting methods.

“We did a second push with applications right after the beginning of the year (in January) and that worked,” Bowe said.

The admissions office targets a special group of students and gained 58 more women for the class, Bowe said.

A missions counselors also kept in much closer contact with applicants and potential applicants throughout the winter and spring, Bowe said. Targeted high school seniors who did not initiate communication with the school themselves were called or sent information.

New facilities on campus, including the Noble Family Dining Hall, Opus Apartments and the Student Center served to attract potential students to the College, and feedback after campus tours was strong, Bowe said.

Bowe said that Saint Mary’s is competing for a very small pool of students. Less than five per cent of the total college applicants nationally are interested in attending a women’s college, she said.

“Most of the students who apply to Saint Mary’s apply in spite of the fact that it is a women’s college, not because it is a women’s college,” Bowe said.

Saint Mary’s applicants rarely apply to other women’s colleges but rather to large coeducational schools, both public and private, Bowe said.

While Bowe said she is confident in the progress the admissions office has made, she and her colleagues will continue to refine their recruiting efforts.

“I think we need to focus more on transfers,” Bowe said. “This year we have 33. I think that is an area where we can improve.”

International students is another demographic the College needs to emphasize, Bowe said. The class of 2009 has only one foreign student, an unusually low number.

Contact Megan O’Neill at one@smc.edu

WALMART What: ~ Shopping trip to your local Wal*Mart for all your college needs ~ A FREE CARE PACKAGE FOR ALL STUDENTS When: Sunday, August 21 - Pickup times ~ 1pm; 2pm; 3pm - Drop off times @ campus ~ 4pm; 6pm (6pm is last drop-off at campus) Monday, August 22 - Pickup times ~ 1pm; 2pm; 3pm - Drop off times @ campus ~ 4pm; 6pm (6pm is last drop-off at campus) Where: Our chartered bus will pick up and drop off students at the Library Circle on Notre Dame’s campus.

Who: - ALL Saint Mary’s, Holy Cross’, and Notre Dame students! How Much: The bus fare is free, and the school supplies are the lowest prices of the year at your South Bend and Mishawaka Wal-Marts! Questions? Please contact Misty @ (219) 457-3510 ext. 103 3701 Portage Road
Notre Dame freshmen from foreign countries listen at the international student orientation Thursday at LaFortune Student Center.

_Continued from page 1_

Dean Eileen Kolman, who retired last spring after 15 years at the helm of the program. There is even a new entrance to campus.

"It's an exciting time to be here," Saracino said. "What I would say to a first-year student is to look what you're a part of right now. From the new entrance to the campus, to the new home, to the new president, to the new provost, to the new dean of the First Year of Studies, to the new football coach — you’re part of an exciting transition at Notre Dame. It's a great time to be at Notre Dame."

But even with these changes at Notre Dame, the Class of 2009 is similar to previous classes in its involvement. Eighty-four percent of students were involved in community service and 72 percent earned at least one varsity letter in high school.

"We look at the same measures," Saracino said. "The class is a little bit stronger across the board. To achieve those goals we really are doing students that are one-dimensional. When we select a class it's really a thoughtful process — we're not just looking at one thing."

One quality of this class, however, that disappointed Saracino was diversity, as 21.2 percent of incoming freshmen are of an ethnic minority background — a figure that has stayed relatively constant the past two years.

"That is a disappointment because we want it to grow; we don't want it to be stagnant," Saracino said. "When we are reaching out to get the best students that we can academically and extracurricularly and we definitely want to reach out to increase ethnic students — more black students especially. We did not see at all an increase in the number of black students — and that's not acceptable."

Saracino said that he hopes with more aggressive recruiting these talented students will want to come to Notre Dame.

The following facts help paint a picture of the class of 2009.

- Fifty-one percent were involved in the performing arts in high school
- Thirty-nine percent were involved in a sport in high school
- Forty-six percent were involved in student government
- Thirteen percent were editors of high school publications
- Seven percent were either senior class or student body presidents
- Seven percent are first generation college students
- Six percent were Eagle Scouts or won the gold award

Because of this involvement, Saracino said it’s difficult to identify one specific thing that makes the class of 2009 different.

"I don't think I can think of one thing that makes them stand out," Saracino said. "They each have their own stories, each class has some things that make them special. Each class has its own character, but I think the character will play out during the course of their experience at Notre Dame."

Contact Heather Van Hoogarden at hvhoog@nd.edu

سلطان نورث دام جرير، كلية 2009: تلاميذ نورث دام على النطاق

- تلاميذ النطاق: 50.1% من التلاميذ الذين ولدوا في الخارج.
- 70% من التلاميذ الذين حصلوا على أيدلار في فيصل دارنج من سباقات للطلاب في نورث دام.
- 90% من التلاميذ الذين حصلوا على أيدلار في مدرسة الابتدائية.
- 80% من التلاميذ الذين حصلوا على أيدلار في مدرسة الثانوية.
- 70% من التلاميذ الذين حصلوا على أيدلار في مدرسة الابتدائية.
- 60% من التلاميذ الذين حصلوا على أيدلار في مدرسة الثانوية.
- 50% من التلاميذ الذين حصلوا على أيدلار في مدرسة الابتدائية.
- 40% من التلاميذ الذين حصلوا على أيدلار في مدرسة الثانوية.
- 30% من التلاميذ الذين حصلوا على أيدلار في مدرسة الابتدائية.
- 20% من التلاميذ الذين حصلوا على أيدلار في مدرسة الثانوية.
- 10% من التلاميذ الذين حصلوا على أيدلار في مدرسة الابتدائية.

"أنا لا أستطيع أن أفكر في واحد الأشياء التي تجعلهم يقفون على الشاكلة," قال ساراينو. "كل各有 الأشياء التي يجعلونهم يقفون على الشاكلة. كل各有 أشياء تجعلهم خاصاً. كل各有 شخصية تضعها خلال فترة خبرتهم في نورث دام."
Kickoff 2005

**STEP 1** Pick-up Ticket Application

- ND On-Campus Undergrad (except Freshmen)
- ND First Year Students
- **ND Off-Campus Undergrads**
- ND Law/MBA/Grad
- Saint Mary’s students

In your mailbox

On August 21 at 6:00 p.m. in the Joyce Center

On August 22, 10am-3pm, at the Off Campus Fair, Notre Dame Stadium Gate C

From your college

From SMC

**STEP 2** Obtain your lottery number on Enrollment

**Monday, August 22, 9am-5pm, Stadium Box Office**

Students will be seated by class. Each student may bring up to SIX applications. You MUST have a lottery number in consecutive numerical order with your group in order to be able to sit with them.

The starting lottery number will be drawn at 8:30 p.m. on Monday, August 22. E-mail and phone announcements will be made following the lottery of the number. The sequence number can also be found at sao.nd.edu after 9:00 p.m. To reflect the smaller class size, Law/MBA/Grad students will have a separate lottery number.

**STEP 3** Purchase your season tickets at the Stadium Box Office

**Guidelines for Ticket Distribution Schedule:**

If your number is within:
- * 400 of the selected number, show up at start time
- * 400-800 of the selected lottery number, show up 20 minutes past start time
- * 800-1200 of the selected lottery number, show up 40 minutes past start time
- * 1200-1600 of the selected lottery number, show up 1 hour past start time
- * 1600-2000 of the selected lottery number, show up 90 minutes past start time
- * If you have no seating preference or no lottery number, show up 3 hours after start time

**Check calendar below for start times by class**

Bring Ticket Applications and I.D.s. Cash or checks only. Checks must have the student’s phone number on them! Each student may bring up to six I.D.s.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00am-5:00pm Lottery sequence numbers available at the Notre Dame Stadium Box Office. <strong>You MUST have a lottery sequence number in consecutive numerical order with your group to be able to sit with them.</strong> (i.e., If you plan to sit with 10 friends, you must have 10 sequential lottery numbers.)</td>
<td>8:00am SENIOR start time for ticket purchases at the Notre Dame Stadium Box Office.</td>
<td>7:00am JUNIOR start time for ticket purchases at the Notre Dame Stadium Box Office.</td>
<td>7:00am SOPHOMORE start time for ticket purchases at the Notre Dame Stadium Box Office.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30pm Lottery number drawn. Email and phone announcements will be made to notify students.</td>
<td></td>
<td>1:00pm Law/MBA/Grad start time for ticket purchases at the Notre Dame Stadium Box Office.</td>
<td>1:00pm FRESHMAN start time for ticket purchases at the Notre Dame Stadium Box Office.</td>
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MON 8/22
LaFortune
open House
4:30 pm

FRI 8/26
8:00 pm
The Show
7:00 PM
featuring
Akon & CAKE
Alumni Field

SAT 8/27
10:00 pm
Legends Opening Night:
Juliana Theory

SAT 9/3
7:00 pm
Pittsburgh Gamewatch
North Quad & Legends

THURS 9/8
10:00 pm
Movie and Munchies
South Quad

SAT 9/10
8:00 pm
Live Band
Washington Hall

FRI 9/16
Paul Goebel,
King of TV
LaFortune Ballroom

SAT 9/10
Bus Trip to Michigan Game

SAT 9/10
11:00 am
Gamewatch
Legends

SAT 9/17
Sweet Mama Gumbo
North Quad

SAT 9/10
9:00 pm
LaFortune Ballroom

THURS 8/25
8:00 pm
"Dodgeball" and Lake Night Grill
Fieldhouse Mall

TUES ACTIVITIES NIGHT
AUG 30

SAO

STUDENT ACTIVITIES
SAO.ND.EDU
The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs welcomes the Class of 2009.

**What is the Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs?**

We members of the Standing Committee are administrators, gay and lesbian students, and faculty who are a resource in identifying the ongoing needs of our gay, lesbian, and bisexual students. By implementing campus-wide educational programming on gay, lesbian, and bisexual issues, the Committee strives to eliminate homophobia and make Notre Dame a place that accepts and prizes the uniqueness of all its students. For more information, consult our web page: [www.nd.edu/~scglsn](http://www.nd.edu/~scglsn).

**Current student members:**

- Guillermo Alfaro  
  5th-year, Architecture Major
- Joanna Basile  
  Junior, English and Gender Studies Major
- Jim Fobert  
  Senior, Political Science and German Major
- Andy Magee  
  Senior, Organ Performance and Computer Science
- Tiffany Thompson  
  Senior, Accounting Major
- Chris Vierig  
  Junior, Political Science and Film, Television and Theater Major

**RECEPTION for Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual First-Year Students**

**WHO:** Gay, lesbian, bisexual, and questioning first-year students at Notre Dame

**WHAT:** Drop-in Reception

**WHEN:** Monday, August 22nd, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** 316 Coleman-Morse (3rd Floor Lounge)

**WHY:** Come meet student members of the Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs and find out more about resources available to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and questioning students on the Notre Dame campus.

For more information, please visit our web site: [www.nd.edu/~scglsn](http://www.nd.edu/~scglsn).

Check under “Current Events.”
Maturity will come, but it can wait

The first day I arrived on Notre Dame's campus my freshman year, I did my best to do things differently. Standing in front of the Main Building, I looked at the intimidating steps that led to the main entrance and remembered what cut-throat classmate and upper-classmen had already told me: undergraduates who walk up those steps risk not graduating.

It's a silly legend, I told myself. A stupid superstition.

So, with the spirit of Rocky in my Philadelphia-born blood, I walked to a plateau I had never imagined would be in reach.

I turned and there I was, looking at God Quad, with Washington Hall and its student center on my left, the Basilica and Sorin Hall to my right.

There were no fist pumps, and there was no "Eye of the Tiger" song playing in the background, just a quiet confidence that no one could stop me from doing anything.

And that's when it hit me. I shouldn't have done it. Or should I have?

The overriding theme at that point in my life was its inconsistency. I'd make decisions, then regret them. Make others — for different reasons — and be content.

That's how it is when you're a freshman, and by the time you get to senior year, those regrets disappear.

There are aspects of Notre Dame that will excite you, places that will intimidate you, rules you'll disagree with (trust me) and people you'll love.

You'll take classes that you'll wish you'd never signed up for, and you'll have class with teachers who will become your good friends. And all it means is that you're going to change, nothing more or less.

There is no right way to do things, only the responsibility to be loyal and fair to yourself and your friends as you go.

Be what you are and do not change for anyone but yourself. Unconsciously, you will mature because the constructs, the people and the classes at this University are among the finest and most supportive in the country.

Pat Leonard
Managing Editor

The Observer Online
www.thesouthobserver.com

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

The news is reported as accurately and objectively as possible. Unsubstantiated reports are accompanied by expressions of the majority of the Editor in Chief, Managing Editor, Assistant Managing Editor, the student editors, the dean and columnists, the views of the author and the opinion of The Observer.

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

Questions regarding Observer policies should be directed to Editor in Chief Claire Hintinger.

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Dear Class of 2009,

Welcome to Notre Dame! On behalf of the Notre Dame community, it is my great pleasure to welcome you and express our excitement that you are here to begin your undergraduate years.

We hope that your time here will be of intellectual stimulation, fruitful inquiry and growth in knowledge and understanding. You will, no doubt, form lifelong friendships, and also, we hope, grow in faith.

May you soon come to feel at home on campus, and to love this place, as do so many graduates of past years. I hope to meet you personally in the coming years.

In Notre Dame,

Jenkins

Reverend John I. Jenkins, C.S.C.
President
University of Notre Dame
August 19, 2005

I would like to extend to you a warm welcome on behalf of all of us who work in the Division of Student Affairs the Offices of Alcohol and Drug Education, Campus Ministry, the Career Center, Counseling Center, Health Services, International Student Services and Activities, Multicultural Student Programs and Services, the Office of Residence Life and Housing, Security, Student Activities and the staffs of your residence halls.

Although we provide a variety of services, we share a common desire to do everything we can to help facilitate your intellectual, spiritual and personal growth.

We extend a special welcome to our new students, first-year students, transfer students and new graduate and professional students. We welcome back the sophomores, juniors and seniors, as well as the returning graduate and professional students.

As a community, we draw our strength from the unique and diverse gifts offered by each of you. We hope that all of you, both those who are new and those who are returning, will be able to achieve the goals you set for yourselves this year.

I hope that I will have the opportunity to come to know you as many of you as possible in the months ahead. Until I am able to greet you in person, please know that you have my very best wishes for a year filled with all God's blessings.

In Notre Dame,

Father Mark Poormen
Vice President for Student Affairs
University of Notre Dame
August 19, 2005

On behalf of the University of Notre Dame du Lac student body, we want to welcome you to this great institution. As we are sure you know, your acceptance is no small accomplishment, and you should be proud of yourselves.

We encourage you to enter the vibrant faith life at the Orientation Mass. You will find a different meaning for each of you. You will find your leadership skills sharpened every day through your interaction with faculty, staff, administrators and your peers. The depth and breadth of your academic journey will strengthen you to be a woman of distinction. That distinction will have a different meaning for each of you. You will also, we hope, grow in faith.

I hope that I will have the opportunity to come to know you as many of you as possible in the months ahead.

Until I am able to greet you in person, please know that you have my very best wishes for a year filled with all God's blessings.

In Notre Dame,

Dave Baron
Notre Dame student body president
Lizzi Shappell
Notre Dame student body vice president
August 19, 2005

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Saint Mary's College, I extend a warm welcome to the class of 2009 and to our transfer students. As a graduate of Saint Mary's and now its 11th president, I care deeply about this special place and about our students. By choosing Saint Mary's you are following in the footsteps of generations of remarkable women before you, and like them, your distinct talents will leave your mark on the college.

At Saint Mary's College we will challenge you. We will help you learn the extent of your capabilities and to use them well. You will be encouraged to stretch and to take advantage of the many opportunities open to you here. With a 161-year-old tradition of educating women to make a difference in the world, we provide an excellent education in the context of developing the whole person.

As a Catholic college, we cherish our educational pursuits because they enrich our understanding of God and God's creation, which in turn helps us build and sustain just and supportive communities. We hope that one result of your Saint Mary's education is that you develop a sense of obligation to the common good and that your life and work will reflect that understanding.

I welcome you to Saint Mary's and the greater educational community to which we belong. I hope our time here will be rich with possibilities.

In Saint Mary's College,

Linda Timm
Vice President for Student Life
Saint Mary's College
August 19, 2005

I would like to extend to you a warm welcome on behalf of all of us who work in the Division of Student Affairs the Offices of Alcohol and Drug Education, Campus Ministry, the Career Center, Counseling Center, Health Services, International Student Services and Activities, Multicultural Student Programs and Services, the Office of Residence Life and Housing, Security, Student Activities and the staffs of your residence halls.

Although we provide a variety of services, we share a common desire to do everything we can to help facilitate your intellectual, spiritual and personal growth.

We extend a special welcome to our new students, first-year students, transfer students and new graduate and professional students. We welcome back the sophomores, juniors and seniors, as well as the returning graduate and professional students.

As a community, we draw our strength from the unique and diverse gifts offered by each of you. We hope that all of you, both those who are new and those who are returning, will be able to achieve the goals you set for yourselves this year.

I hope that I will have the opportunity to come to know you as many of you as possible in the months ahead.

Until I am able to greet you in person, please know that you have my very best wishes for a year filled with all God's blessings.

In Notre Dame,

Father Mark Poormen
Vice President for Student Affairs
University of Notre Dame
August 19, 2005

On behalf of the University of Notre Dame du Lac student body, we want to welcome you to this great institution. As we are sure you know, your acceptance is no small accomplishment, and you should be proud of yourselves.

We encourage you to enter the vibrant faith life at the Orientation Mass. You will find a different meaning for each of you. You will find your leadership skills sharpened every day through your interaction with faculty, staff, administrators and your peers. The depth and breadth of your academic journey will strengthen you to be a woman of distinction. That distinction will have a different meaning for each of you. You will also, we hope, grow in faith.

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Notre Dame student body president
Lizzi Shappell
Notre Dame student body vice president
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Father Mark Poormen
Vice President for Student Affairs
University of Notre Dame
August 19, 2005
It keeps getting better

You're a Belle now, too

Maureen Reynolds
Assistant Managing Editor

Sarah Vabulas
Assistant Managing Editor

Five ways to make Notre Dame your own

I came to Notre Dame for one reason and one reason only - intramural.

I know it sounds crazy, but it is 100 percent true.

There are endless clubs and four intramural championships later, I would have come to Notre Dame for 1,000 other reasons.

The Grotto, Touchdown Jesus, St. Stan's Drink, Grotto Basketball, full-contact interball football, Notre Dame Football, the Band. And now, the Guglielmo Athletics Facility, the Deitrick Performing Arts Center, the Eckardt Science building. Notre Dame is full of symbols of tradition, prestige and lure. But we all know that, doesn't mean we won't stay up all night and share everything. I want to walk across campus on a sunny, quiet fall morning and know in my heart that I'm home, not just at school.

For the most part, I've been able to succeed at those goals. You see, there's a reason I counted the days until I could cross the border in, not because I'm excited to have homework. It's because for the past three years, that little voice in my head hasn't let me forget that it's not all about good grades, the Dean's list or getting into those prestige sports schools.

But I know that orientation weekend is just full of people who want to offer their advice, which invariably turns out to be the same advice to just chill off and enjoy your hour an ago. (Infact, I think I counted how many people told me to "hire friends with professors," during my orientation, and it was upwards of 10.) For that reason, I didn't want to stuff this column with platitudes about "making every moment count," "taking time to smell the roses," or (God forbid) "getting to know your professors."

But then I realized that one thing is worth hearing hundreds of times, even if you don't realize it yet: college is more than just school. So don't lose that voice of reason that will remind you that it's not the grades that matter, but the people and the feeling of home.

There is one thing wrong with college: it keeps getting better. And that's going to make it very hard to leave come May, but I don't think it's ever going to get right? After all, this isn't just any school it's Notre Dame. Finally.

Maureen Reynolds is a senior accounting and business administration major from outside Chicago and whose main goal during her time at Notre Dame is full of symbols of tradition, prestige and lure. But we all know that, doesn't mean we won't stay up all night and share everything. I want to walk across campus on a sunny, quiet fall morning and know in my heart that I'm home, not just at school.

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Rising early for breakfast can be a chore, especially on weekends, but the Colonial Pancake House makes it worth the effort. Featuring generous portions and affordable entrees, this delectable little establishment is the perfect place for a pre-game breakfast or brunch the following day with family and friends.

Nothing says Irish better than a meal at Fiddler’s Hearth, a family-friendly restaurant devoted to Celtic food, fun and atmosphere. Constructed to look like an actual Irish pub, Fiddler’s Hearth offers live Celtic music and dancing as weekend staples. Highland bagpipes usher in the weekend at 5:45 pm each Friday.

Nick’s Patio doubles as a casual Greek dining experience and a tasty breakfast joint. Well-priced entrees are available in a relaxed atmosphere that’s open 24 hours a day. Perfect for fulfilling a late night munchie craving when the only other option is fast food.

Pasta and sandwiches make up a sizable chunk of the menu at Macri’s, a laid-back Italian restaurant. The food tops off a festive spot to enjoy a meal while watching a basketball game. The giant mozzarella sticks are a must.

Casa Del Rio’s slogan promises “a real taste of Mexico” and delivers on its word. There’s no better place for a quick Mexican meal garnished with enchiladas or fajitas. Keep Tuesdays circled on the weekly calendar to enjoy dollar taco nights.

Rocco’s is a perennial favorite for enjoying a slice of pizza and soaking in Notre Dame’s rich traditions. The autographed pictures of past coaches and famous visitors adorning the walls, the large, comfortable booths and the delicious smells combine to create a powerful slice of pizza-fueled euphoria.

Carrabba’s is a popular, recognizable choice for a chain restaurant that freshmen recognize from back home. A diverse menu allows visitors to enjoy anything from individual-sized pizzas to soups, salads and plenty of pasta entrees.
Getting out from under the Dome

A guide to life in and out of the Notre Dame bubble

Attractions:
8. University Park Mall
9. College Football Hall of Fame
10. Cinemark Movies
11. Kerasotes 16
12. Chicago
13. Cedar Point
14. Michigan Dunes
15. Road Trips
16. Traditional Food
17. Tradition 101
18. Football Weekends
19. Drummer's Circle
20. Pregame Traditions

Eating Around Campus:
Café de Grasas
Café de Grasas, located on the first floor of Science Hall, is off the beaten path for anyone who doesn’t live in Mod Quad, but it is worth the walk. It has a by-weight salad bar, coffee, wraps, stir-fry and a wide selection of drinks. Open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Irish Café
The Irish Café is located in the Notre Dame Law School, but it isn’t just for law students. Baked goods, salads, sandwiches, soups and drinks are just some of the food offered. Open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Waddicks
Waddicks, located on the first floor of O’Shaughnessy Hall, is a great place to study and grab something to eat. A wide selection of baked goods, food and drinks are offered, but the coffee and espresso drinks are definitely worth the stop. Open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Decio Faculty Hall
Students don’t usually spend too much time in Decio (it houses faculty offices), but if you are visiting a professor, it’s a great place to get drinks, baked goods and coffee or to try the daily special. Open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Café Poche
Few students who aren’t architecture majors venture into Bond Hall, but Café Poche, located on the first floor, might just lure some in. It offers deli sandwiches, soups, baked goods, drinks and coffee. Open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Café Commons
If you’re in the College of Business, Café Commons is a great place to get food like soup, salad, sandwiches, fruit, coffee and a wide array of drinks. Open Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Greenfields
Greenfields is probably one of the best culinary discoveries that you can make on campus. Located in the Hesburgh Center for International Studies, it offers global cuisine for between five and eight dollars a dish. Look for entrees like Portobello Mushroom Sofrito, Shanghai Salad, Plantation Salmon and Shrimp Satay. And also check out the breakfast menu. Open Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Beckers
Beckers is the ultimate college eatery. It’s open 24 hours a day, seven days a week and serves classic college food favorites. Try the wood-fired pizzas, smoothies, ice cream, fries, sandwiches and coffee.

Legends
Legends is an on-campus multi-tasker. It hosts concerts, has a pub with an extensive beer and wine list for those over 21 and also features a full-service restaurant. Start with an appetizer like Doner wings and then select from a menu that includes salads, steak, chicken, burgers, sandwiches and desserts. Open Monday through Thursday, 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., 4 to 9 p.m.; Friday 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., 4 p.m. to 12 a.m.; Saturday 11:30 a.m. to 12 a.m. Closed Sundays.

Entertainment Around Campus:
Legends
Legends periodically hosts concerts, which range from campus bands to big name acts like past performers Gavin DeGraw, the Walkmen and Virgin 9. Performance Halls
The PAC offers a wide range of concerts, plays, films and other performances. Upcoming events include screenings of “Gaslands,” a stage performance by the group Toxic Audio and a free outdoor screening of “The Lord of the Rings: Return of the King.” Current information about upcoming events can be found at the PAC Web site: http://performingarts.nd.edu/

WVFI
WVFI is a student-run radio station that also features student DJs. Current schedules can be found on its Web site: http://www.nd.edu/~wvfi/
Irish halfback Darus Walker participates in a practice drill this week. Walker, Notre Dame's leading rusher last year, returns to run behind a veteran offensive line.

Weis continued from page 36

many passes that are gonna be completed. The Irish are working on numerous blitz packages, experimenting with a version of defensive coordinator Rick Minter's 3-4 at South Carolina to protect the pass first.

If a three-man front can contain draws and run plays, Notre Dame can use a larger linebacker core to contain pass coverage, alter blitz schemes and create more of the natural double teams that Zbikowski observed.

"You look at some of the film of South Carolina...it looks like the blizz and pressures are working really well," defensive tackle Trevor Laws said.

Last season, regardless of offensive production, Notre Dame's run defense stayed consistent and gave up only 85 yards rushing per game. But the secondary — and moreover, the pass defense — lacked not only the ability to stop an air attack. It lacked the ability to deter teams who could — Southern Cal, Purdue, Pitt — throw almost every down.

Linebacker Brandon Hoyte, defensive tackle Derek Landri and Zbikowski are the only returning starters from that group.

In addition, the Irish have lost a few prospective contributors to transfers, departure or position change.

Defensive back Freddie Parish transferred to Stephen F. Austin University, a Division I-AA program, and was added to their roster Wednesday afternoon.

Defensive lineman Brandon Nicas left the team Thursday.

Jr. Jabbie moved from defensive back to running back. And the defensive ends are experiencing what defensive line coach Jappy Oliver called "growing pains" after Wednesday's practice.

"I just want the end spot to be more consistent. Sometimes I see flashes and then other times they take a step back."

Jappy Oliver
Irish defensive line coach

"That's what we need— an coach like that, who's real thorough."

Tom Zbikowski
Irish free safety, speaking on Bill Lewis

irish wide receiver Rhma McKnight catches a pass in practice this week. McKnight has led Notre Dame in receiving each of the past two seasons.

Football
Six players leave team before season starts
The "Gug" opens; Cutcliffe resigns due to poor health
By HEATHER VAN HOOGARDEN
Sports Writer

Two weeks away from the Sept. 3 opener at Pittsburgh, the Irish have lost six players who have transferred or are not coming back next season.

Another, senior Travis Leitko, told the South Bend Tribune for an Aug. 17 article that he expects to be back at Notre Dame in the summer of 2006 due to "academic reasons."

Offensive lineman John Kadous announced in June that he plans to transfer to the University of Arizona, Kadous, who hails from Tucson, Ariz., didn't see any playing time last season as a freshman.

Wide receiver Chris Vaughn transferred to Louisville after being suspended for the fall semester at Notre Dame.

Vaughn, who played on special teams last season as a true freshman, will have three seasons of eligibility left after he sits out the 2005 season due to NCAA transfer rules.

Sophomore offensive lineman Chancey Larcangelo left the team earlier this month, leaving the Irish with a thin depth on the offensive line. Larcangelo did not see action last season as a true freshman.

Also leaving earlier this month was junior defensive back Freddie Ed, who transferred to Steven F. Austin, a Division I-AA school.

Most recently, sophomore offensive lineman Brandon Nicolas left the team Thursday morning, Weis announced through a press release.

Last spring, Weis announced Wednesday that sophomore cornerback Fredrick Duro was no longer with the team for "personal reasons."

Duro, who did not report for practice, is not back with the Irish this fall.

Notes:
• The Guglielmino Family Athletics Center, which houses new football offices, locker rooms and a weight room, opened earlier this month.

"It's a big plus for the whole athletic department," Weis said at the Aug. 8 media day. "I think it will be a big plus for the school. I think going from facilities that I believe were antiquated to now right at the top with everybody with the way Notre Dame should be and what they stand for, I think our players are very, very happy."

Irish quarterbacks and assistant head coach for offense David Cutcliffe resigned June 1, citing health reasons.

Cutcliffe, who had bypass surgery in March said he wanted to take some time off to get his health back in shape.

And then other times they take a step back."

Jappy Oliver
Irish defensive line coach

"That's what we need— an coach like that, who's real thorough."

Tom Zbikowski
Irish free safety, speaking on Bill Lewis

Irish wide receiver Rhma McKnight catches a pass in practice this week. McKnight has led Notre Dame in receiving each of the past two seasons.

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The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 259 South Dining Hall. Deadline for daily classifieds is 3 p.m. Ad is $1.00 per position. The change is 50¢ per character per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit.

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The Observer • CLASSIFIEDS

Saturday, August 20, 2005
Plane Irish planning to rebound

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

Joe Plane has a bitter taste in his mouth.
After his team finished the 2010-11 regular season ranked fifth in the nation and winning the Big East Championship, the Notre Dame men’s cross country coach held great expectations heading into the NCAA Championship in Terre Haute, Ind.
But Notre Dame finished a mediocre 11th place, ending a stellar season on a low note.
“We weren’t pleased with that at all,” Irish head coach Joe Piane said. “That was a disappointing 11th place. We anticipated doing much better.
“That will be a motivator for us this year.”

The team will look to rebound this season behind a deep, experienced and talented group of runners. Notre Dame will be led by its three captains, seniors Tim Moore and Sean O’Donnell and junior Kurt Benninger.
In addition to the tri-captains, the Irish return three of the four other runners who competed in the NCAA Championships in seniors A.J. Andrayos, Kaleb Van Orr and Vincent Ambrosio. Junior Todd Patrecz and sophomores Jake Watson, Michael Popejoy and Dan Carran all figure to push for spots in the top-seven.
“We should be significantly deeper than we were 12 months ago,” Piane said.
The coach realizes the value of experience, especially when it comes time for postseason competition. Notre Dame’s sizeable group of seasoned veterans should provide a huge advantage late in the year.
“Kids that have experience certainly are not going to be intimidated by the fact that they are at the national championship,” Piane said. “The first time you go to the NCAA you learn how to act. The second time, you come to compete.”

Piane also believes that the depth of the team will keep individuals focused and working hard throughout the season.
“There is going to be zero complacency on this team,” the Irish coach said. “Somebody knows if they slip up, there’s going to be two guys that want their spot.”

Notre Dame will also be bolstered by the addition of a strong freshman class. Plane expects two first-year runners in particular to make an immediate impact. Borrow Mills of Wakama, Wash., finished eighth at the Footlocker High School National Championship. Fellow freshman Patrick Brian won the 2004 Irish state championship. Both runners have had excellent seasons of making significant contributions early in their careers for the Irish.

Dan Donohue will open the season Sept. 9 at the Valparaiso Invitational. The Irish have two tournaments in a row on their home course. The National Catholic Championship will be Sept. 16, with the Notre Dame Invitational two weeks later.

Notre Dame has captured the last 10 team titles at the National Catholic Championship, and Tim Moore was last year’s individual champion. The team has also finished first at the Big East Championships in four of the last five years.
The team ends its regular season Oct. 15 in Terre Haute for the Pre-National Championship meet. The Irish will begin post-season play by attempting to defend their title at the Big East Championship in New York on Oct. 25.
Notre Dame then travels to Bloomington, Ind., for the NCAA Great Lakes Regional Championship, where the team finished second in 2004. The Irish hope to conclude their season at the NCAA Championship in Terre Haute on Nov. 22.
To qualify for the national championship, Notre Dame must either place in the top two at regionals or perform well enough during the year to receive an at-large bid. Plane plans to hold his top veteran runners out of the early races. Benninger, Moore and O’Donnell all probably will not compete until the Notre Dame Invitational.
The coach does not want his top runners to be burned out by the end of the season, and he likes to give freshmen and inexperienced upperclassmen a chance to prove themselves in the early tournaments.

Mackenzie herself is another reason for optimism headed into this season. After last year’s senior class saw coaches leave after each of their first three seasons, Mackenzie is back for her second campaign.

“The continuity of me being there for a second year will help,” Mackenzie said. “Last year I was the fourth coach in four years. It’s my second year. They’re used to me, and I’m used to them.”

Belles return five goals against average keyed a 2004 Belles defense that allowed a league-low 25 goals in 2004. She was also chosen all MIAA honorable mention. Mackenzie expects more of the same in 2005.
“Now we’re looking forward to a great year,” Mackenzie said. “She’s steady, she’s leader in the back and she takes some charge. The team feels very confident with her in net.”
To do that, however, they will have to overcome the loss of several starters including five-time all conference MIAA selections midfielder Jen Concannon and defender Kaitlyn Taylor. Concannon’s 11 goals last season were second only to

Hilton’s 12, and Taylor was considered one of the top defenders in the conference last year.

Nevertheless, Mackenzie is confident the younger players will fill in to the advantage of the team.
“We have a great nucleus coming back and a lot of players ready to step up and take the place of the seniors,” she said.
Returning defensive starters Carrie Orr and Shannon Callister will try to pick up the slack in Taylor’s absence. Orr is a specialist at moving forward and netted four goals last season. Senior Maureen Schoen and sophomores Amy Schindler, Sarah Duffee and Justine Higgins will compete for the other defensive spots. While the four have significant game experience over the course of their careers, only Schindler has ever started a game.
Midfield will be a strength for the Belles, with returnees Hilton and Carolyn Logan anchoring the unit. Logan played third in the team with seven goals last season and may also play forward, where she scored in significant time in 2004. Schoen and Higgins also have midfield experience and may get playing time there.
Carolyn Courtney returns up front for the Belles, after scoring 15 in 17 games last season and recording a goal and two assists. Junior Cat McMullin, who scored four goals in 14 appearances off the bench last season, should also see time as a forward.
The low number of goals from the Belles, especially in relation to Mackenzie, but she expects production up front to increase this season as players look to pick up the scoring slack created by the departures of Hilton and Taylor.
“We did seem to have trouble finding the back of the net with our new runners last year, but I expect that will change this year,” Mackenzie said. “ Losing Jen Concannon in the middle is unfortunate, but it may create more opportunities for the goalies to give more responsibility to the forwards.”

Contact Chris Khorey at
ckhorey@nd.edu

Belles return five starters to squad

BY CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writer

The 2004 Saint Mary’s soccer season was a run to the Sweet 16 road. The Belles posted a remarkable 7-1 home record, including a 2-0 upset of MIAC champion Hope.

They finished a disappointing 3-5-1 in road contests, including a late season five-game losing streak.
Still, a 10-6-1 record and five returning starters has second year coach Caron Mackenzie optimistic for the coming campaign. The Belles return, among others, 2004 leading goal scorer Ashley Hilton and goalkeeper Laura Helene.
“A few bounces the other way and we could have been maybe 14-2,” Mackenzie said of last season’s result, in which the Belles posted an incredible +29 goal differential and lost the six games by a combined nine goals.

Mackenzie herself is another reason for optimism headed into this season. After last year’s senior class saw coaches leave after each of their first three seasons, Mackenzie is back for her second campaign.

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Your Chance To Sing! AUDITIONS FOR NOTRE DAME’S LARGE CHORAL ENSEMBLES UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME CHORALE
(Notre Dame’s mixed-voice concert choir)
NOTRE DAME GLEE CLUB
(Notre Dame’s all-male choir)

NOTRE DAME LITURGICAL CHORO
(Mixed-voice choir for 10:00 am Sunday Mass and Sunday Vespers in Basilica of the Sacred Heart)

NOTRE DAME WOMEN’S LITURGICAL CHORO
(All-female choir for 5:00 pm Saturday vigil liturgy in Basilica of the Sacred Heart)

DAME FOLK CHORO
(Mixed-voice Choir for 11:45 am Sunday liturgy in Basilica of the Sacred Heart)

SIGN UP FOR AUDITIONS CROWLEY HALL OF MUSIC CROWLEY HALL OF MUSIC CROWLEY HALL OF MUSIC UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME CHORALE, LITURGICAL CHORO, WOMEN’S LITURGICAL CHORO: SUNDAY, AUG. 21, 3:6 PM, 7-7 PM MONDAY, AUG. 22, 9 AM-12 NOON, 1-2:30 PM, 4-6 PM, 7-7 PM FOOK CHORO: MONDAY, AUG. 22, 2:30-4:00 PM CROWLEY HALL OF MUSIC CROWLEY HALL OF MUSIC CROWLEY HALL OF MUSIC UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME CROWLEY HALL OF MUSIC CROWLEY HALL OF MUSIC CROWLEY HALL OF MUSIC UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME CROWLEY HALL OF MUSIC NOW HIRING Experienced Server Apply in Person 211 N. Main St. Downtown South Bend 232-4445 www.SiamThaiSouthBend.com
MLB

Selig doesn't want the help

Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. — Describing himself as restless and disappointed, commissioner Bud Selig said Thursday he believes baseball can solve its steroids problem without help from Congress.

"I’ve often said I won’t rest until I rid the sport of steroids," Selig said following the owners’ quarterly meeting held at a Pasadena hotel about 10 miles from Dodger Stadium. "If we can’t solve our problems, then I submit to you the government should do what it has to do."

Several baseball stars, past and present, appeared before Congress on March 17, with current standout Rafael Furcal of the St. Louis Cardinals saying he had used steroids. Formerly of the Colorado Rockies, Furcal said he had used them at the end of his minor league career from 1992-97.

"We're very pleased with that — a wonderful day," Selig said. "As we have learned first-hand, the use of anabolic steroids can be deadly. Taylor Hooton's father, Donald M. Hooton, is chairman and president of the foundation. He also testified before Congress in March.

"Most experts believe five or six percent of high school students are playing with this stuff," Hooton said. "Not all of these abusers are athletes. As we have learned first-hand, the use of anabolic steroids can be deadly."

Selig later reiterated his desire for even more stringent testing and harsher penalties until he rid the sport of steroids, including a 10-day suspension for first-time offenders. If a player tests positive is gone. The only action taken at the meeting was an announcement that baseball has become a founding sponsor of the Taylor Hooton Foundation, a nonprofit corporation formed in memory of a 17-year-old high school student-athlete who committed suicide two years ago in Plano, Texas, after using steroids.

"I'm happy to say it was just a calm, peaceful day," Selig said. "We really have no surprises.

Selig repeated what chief operating officer Bob DuPuy said a day earlier — that the baseball (the public). We are deeply grateful to commissioner Selig and Major League Baseball for believing in our cause. I'm hoping today is another huge milestone."

Back on track.

That's the main idea for the St. Mary's volleyball team. After doubling their win total each season from 2001 through 2003, the Belles slipped to 6-19 last year.

"I feel we have to get back on track because the previous three years we had been making such progress," Belles head coach Julie Schroeder-Biek said.

Schroeder-Biek played for St. Mary's and served as the head coach from 1991-96, and then rejoined her alma mater in 2000 as the head coach. The veteran coach had back surgery in the middle of last season and was forced to miss the second half. To add to the team complications, several of the Belles' top players were on sabbatical for a year to study abroad, and several were lost to injury.

"With the head coach back on the bench for St. Mary's, the Belles also hope to bring back their winning ways."

"I feel 100 percent better going into this season than last season because last season I was going in sick and then ruptured a disc in my back, so having surgery in the middle of the season, it wasn't a good one," Schroeder-Biek said. "It really pulled us off focus. My mantra this year is 'back on track.'"

After a trying 2004 season, the Belles return four of their top players in junior outside attacker MichelleTurley, senior middle hitter Shelly Bender, junior Anne Carnc and sophomore outside attacker Kristen Playko. With most of that group together dur­ing the 2003 season, the Belles finished a respectable 16-13.

"I'm really excited about the core that we have coming back," Schroeder-Biek said. "It's a very strong core."

Other players returning include Tallia Matry-Vacaro — who played her first year with the Belles before traveling abroad last year — and Amanda David.

While they have yet to win a Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association championship in their program's history, the Belles' talent this year could carry them toward the top of the conference.

They [the team] played a lot better this year. We are not deep in setting, but they are a good team," Schroeder-Biek said. "They all get along very well."

When asked about any aspirations for this season, Schroeder-Biek answered quickly.

"To get back on the winning track and climb our way back up the ladder."

Contact Tom Dorwart at tordewart@nd.edu

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Belles looking to right the ship after 6-19 year

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

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"For he today that sheds his blood with me shall be my brother."

HENRY

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Brown, Brewster, Irish hoping to make deep NCAA run

Five returning seniors lead young squad into 2005 season

By TOM DORWART
Sports Writer

When asked if this year's Irish volleyball team has a season motto, veteran head coach Debbie Brown didn't give anything away, but sounded confident her team would come up with something big.

"We haven't come up with anything yet," she said. "I think they're kind of working on it and trying to get to know each other. I'm sure they'll think of something." Last year's Big East regular season and tournament champions are still shaping their 2005 identity.

"We wanted it to be something that we could use, and it would be a good reminder for all of us," senior co-captain and libero Meg Henican said.

While the motto is a work in progress, one thing is definite. The Irish want to win — again.

Nine of the top 10 players in nearly every statistical category — defense, sets, serves, blocks and kills — are back. The team returns pre-season Big East player of the year Adrianna Stasiuk, senior outside hitter/middle blocker Lauren Kelbley, also a selection to the pre-season all-Big East team, and the leader Henican. Senior setter Kelly Barrell, senior middle blocker/opposite Carolyn Cooper and junior Danielle Herrandon will play important roles this season along with versatile sophomores Adrianna Stasiuk, Ashley Tarutis and Ellen Heintzman.

Despite all the accolades the seniors have received throughout their careers, despite all the wins they've accumulated, they are hungry for more.

"We always set our goals pretty high, but I think with so many seniors and so many returners coming back, we, of course, expect great things this year," Henican said.

With a strong nucleus of returning players, including five seniors, the Irish veterans recognize the need to gel with the freshmen.

"We have four freshmen, and they're a big part of our team, and we wanted them to be involved in that," Henican said.

Sophomore setter Ashley Tarutis bumps the ball during practice Wednesday at Rolfs.

According to Henican, the goal is to finish quite a bit stronger.

"My goal every year is to win a national championship. We have some smaller ones along the way. We want to win our conference, but I'll win the national championship is our ultimate goal." Though the Irish have dominated the Big East for much of the 90s and for the beginning part of this decade, they have yet to advance past the second round of the NCAA tournament since 1997.

If Notre Dame is to repeat its Big East title, improve on last year's record and better its 2004 NCAA tournament run, it must accomplish those feats against some of the nation's top squads.

The Irish play five matches against pre-season American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) top 20 teams. A perennial in the Top 25, Louisville is a newcomer in the Big East Conference. The Cardinals ranked 14th in the pre-season poll, are on Notre Dame's schedule at least once this regular season but the two could also meet in the Big East Conference tournament. Last time the Irish played the former Conference USA team, the Irish fell 3-0 in the opening round of the 2003 NCAA tournament.

Other top teams Notre Dame faces include Texas, Southern Cal, Florida and Tennessee. Eight of the 14 non-conference foes the Irish were 2004 NCAA tournament participants. Notre Dame, ranked 27th in the AVCA, opens the season against rival Michigan Saturday, Aug. 27 at the Joyce Center.

"We can't wait," Henican said. "We're excited." Contact Tom Dorwart at tdorwart@nd.edu

Sophomore setter Ashley Tarutis bumps the ball during practice Wednesday at Rolfs.

What's on the agenda?

This will be a question asked often on campus, beginning next month when Notre Dame inaugurates a new, unified, Web-based calendar system that will list events for all segments of the University community.

It will be the one place where students, faculty, staff and the general public can read about all the major events scheduled on campus.

Agenda will organize events by category, such as Arts & Entertainment, Academic Dates, Student Life, Health & Recreation, and Service as well as by day, week, month and even year.

Come visit our multipurpose calendar for your one-stop calendar experience--watch for details on a start date.

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Student Tickets: $5

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This outrageous cappella quintet uses no instruments other than their voices to create rich, complex sonic textures, including rhythmic drumbeats, thumping bass lines, and soaring guitar-like solos in their renditions of contemporary pop songs, classics, and original compositions. Critics frequently compare TOXIC AUDIO to the productions of STOMP and BLUE MAN GROUP, and the group's vocal pyrotechnics, delightfully goofy humor, and improvisational prowess have made them a huge hit with audiences.
New Faces
continued from page 26

action. The Irish also bring in Andrew Quinn and Luke Seibolt, two freshman keepers. Clark insists competition in net is wide open.

"That decision hasn't been made yet," Clark said. "We'll give a couple of the goalkeepers a look on Monday.

Notre Dame opens the season on Monday, hosting eighth-ranked New Mexico in an exhibition game at Alumni Field. The good news for Clark is the Irish return a great deal of offensive firepower. Six of the top seven scorers from last season are back. Forwards Greg Dalby and Nate Norman further augmenting the Irish offensive charge.

In 2004, these players helped the Irish to one of the best regular seasons in program history. The Irish captured the regular season Big East title, a feat Clark was quite proud of. "To win the Big East was definitely the best thing any of the teams have done to date because it is such a difficult league," Clark said.

After battling Seton Hall to a standstill in the Big East Tournament championship game, the Irish lost on penalty kicks. The team received the fifth seed in the NCAA tournament, the highest seed in program history. After a first round bye, though, Ohio State upset Notre Dame 2-1, ending the Irish season earlier than expected.

"To win the Big East was definitely the best thing any of the teams have done to date because it is such a difficult league."

Bobby Clark
Irish head coach

"That was a really tough loss to swallow," Dalby said. "We had a great year and finished off strong in the regular season. We had high expectations going into the tournament."

The Irish will look to make up for last year's disappointing finish in 2005. The team enters the season ranked No. 16 in the NCAA preseason poll.

Things do not get easier for Notre Dame after Monday's match with New Mexico. The Irish face three of their first four opponents ranked in the preseason top 25.

"This is the toughest schedule we've had on paper," Clark said. "We feel the tougher schedule you get, it doesn't ensure wins. But it ensures preparation if you are fortunate enough to get to the NCAA's, we'll have played top quality teams."

That is the bottom line for the Irish. Regular season games are important, but the team is concentrating on equaling those successes in the 2005 postseason.

"It's pretty simple," Rellas said. "We want to win the Big East league and then we get the Big East tournament. "Then we get into the NCAA tournament and that's when we've gotta go. We've gotta get to the NCAA championship site in North Carolina and win a national championship."

Contact Kevin Brennan at kbrennan@nd.edu

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Want to write Sports?
Call Mike at 1-4543.

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Freshmen continued from page 36

Carrie Dew moves upfield one of three highly regarded newcomers on the team trying to defend.

Carrie Dew, creator of Atria Salon, Atria Salon, and our new Spa Atria in Granger is offering 100 complimentary Haircut & Highlights to the students of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's. This is our way to show you our creative talents as well as welcoming you to our salon. All we ask, "just tell a friend."

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Recover The Observer.

Irish players celebrate after winning the 2004 national championship in December. With nine starters returning, the team is poised to make another run this year.

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NCAA BASKETBALL

Viewers to see a lot of IU in 2005

Indiana coach Mike Davis is held back by referee Ed Hightower following a 62-60 loss to Wisconsin on March 1. Davis’ Hoosiers will play on national television 13 times this season.

Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. — At least 13 Indiana basketball games will be nationally televised in 2005-06, including home games against Duke, Connecticut, Michigan State and Illinois and a game against Kentucky in the RCA Dome in Indianapolis.

The Hoosiers also will play four other teams from Indiana, including Big Ten rival Purdue twice on Jan. 21 in Bloomington and either Feb. 28, March 1 or March 2 in West Lafayette.

“We have a great schedule and it will certainly test us early and often throughout the season,” Indiana coach Mike Davis said. “The thing that I like about this schedule is that it will provide an objective gauge of our team’s progress.”

The Nov. 30 game against Duke is part of the Big Ten-ACC Challenge. Purdue, which has the Big Ten’s top returning scorer, Carl Landry, will visit Florida State on Nov. 29 as part of the annual showdown between the two conferences.

The Boilermakers also will play Xavier and Notre Dame in the annual Wooden Tradition doubleheader Nov. 26 at Conseco Fieldhouse in Indianapolis.

“There are no real surprises on the schedule,” said new Purdue coach Matt Painter, whose regular-season debut will be at home against Wisconsin on Nov. 19. “Every year the Big Ten is one of the most competitive conferences in the country, and this season should be no different. I feel like the Big Ten is going to be very good from top to bottom.”

The Boilermakers will begin conference play on the road, at Northwestern on Jan. 4 and at Michigan on Jan. 7.

The Big Ten schedule, released this week, also shows Purdue playing twice against each conference team except Illinois, Iowa, Michigan State and Wisconsin. The lone game against defending Big Ten champion Illinois will be in Champaign on Jan. 28.

“I like having a couple of road games to begin conference play,” said Painter, who was the Boilermakers’ associate coach last season and moved up when Gene Keady retired. “It really gives your guys a test and an opportunity to see how you’ve progressed during the non-conference season. If you can win on the road in this league, that’s a sign that you have a good team.”

Purdue also visits Evansville on Dec. 3 and has a home game against IPFW on Dec. 20.

Indiana’s schedule also includes games at Penn State on Dec. 6, against Butler at Conseco Fieldhouse on Dec. 23 and at Ball State on Dec. 31.

Also, two Division II schools from Indiana will visit the Hoosiers in preseason exhibition games, with St. Joseph’s coming in on Nov. 4 and Indianapolis on Nov. 11. The Nov. 18 regular-season opener against Nicholls State will be Indiana’s earliest start since 2001.

The Hoosiers’ non-conference schedule also includes games against Kentucky on Dec. 10, at Charlotte on Dec. 19 and at home against Connecticut on Feb. 4 during a break from Big Ten play. It will be the Huskies’ first game in Bloomington since 1938.

Saturday, August 20, 2005

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NFL FOOTBALL

Big games getting fewer and fewer

Twelfth game means more pitfalls on tap

Associated Press

GAINESVILLE, Fla. — This time next year, college football fans everywhere will be planning an extra trip to campus. For Florida-Miami? Maybe Pitt-Penn State? How about Texas-Arkansas? They wish.

Even though the NCAA made the 12th game an annual event beginning in 2006, marquee matchups will be rare because schools are unwilling to trade a lucrative home game for a home-and-away series. They also don't want to fill what would have been an open week with a tough opponent.

"Everybody thinks automatically that now Florida is playing USC, and Oklahoma is playing Michigan and that kind of stuff," Florida athletic director Jeremy Foley said. "I don't see that happening. The 12th game is a significant source of revenue for every program in America. I think that's going to be a driving force in the way a lot of these schedules come down."

Before the NCAA passed the rule in April, Division 1-A programs were allowed to schedule a 12th regular-season game in 2002 and 2003, when the calendar provided 14 Saturdays between the first weekend in September and the last weekend in November. The next time that's going to happen is 2008, then again in 2013.

With that in mind, Florida and Miami already agreed to play in '08 and '13. In other years, Florida has Florida Atlantic, Florida International and Hawaii on tap. That's about the same everywhere else, with the 12th game providing only a few enticing matchups so far. LSU and Tulane signed a 10-year contract, Georgia and Colorado have a series set, Marshall and West Virginia have a seven-game agreement, starting next year.

South Carolina coach Steve Spurrier wants to play North Carolina, but the Tar Heels have been cool on the idea. A blockbuster deal hasn't happened — and might not.

The additional game will undoubtedly bring a financial windfall to athletic departments from coast to coast, but it also has sparked controversy. Some view it as abusive to student-athletes and merely another step toward mirroring the NFL.
CHECKING OUT THE TEAMS

FOOTBALL

The Observer + SPORTS
Saturday, August 20, 2005

NEW PEOPLE on Notre Dame's football team this fall will include incoming sophomores Jordan Carey and Troy Zuzul, and a host of upperclassmen.

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame selected two of the nation's top 10 3-point shooters to fill the shoes of Scott Mootz and Allen Langdon.

FENCING

The Irish are challenged right from the start with a season-opening road game against 2005 Frozen Four participant Oklahoma State on Oct. 21.

HOCKEY

Notre Dame also put together a solid recruiting class, adding several players in the nation.
SMC CROSS COUNTRY

In 2004, Saint Mary's labored through a year of inconsistency. The Belles turned in some impressive individual performances, but injuries and illnesses led to disappointing finishes. Saint Mary's finished sixth in a field of nine teams in both major conference events - The Jamboree and the MIAA championships.

Second-year coach Jackie Bauters will look to steer the Belles to the top of the MIAA standings this season with an experienced group of returning runners. Jessica Eastaing and Becky Feantou, the team's co-captains, should bring consistent performance and leadership to the team. Megan Gray, Meghan Murphy, Sara Otto and Katie White will round out the Saint Mary's lineup after posting solid individual seasons in 2004.

MEN'S GOLF

The defending back-to-back Big East champions will have their work cut out for them this season, as they will face a daunting schedule that gives them little time for a rest — taking on top competition including Minnesota, Duke, and UCLA.

Notre Dame is scheduled to compete in five tournaments this fall beginning September 12-13 at the Gopher Invitational. First up is The Prestige at PGA West in La Quinta, Calif. beginning October 17-18 and finally the CooreC idle Invitational in San Martin, Calif., from Oct. 31-Nov. 2.

SMC VOLLEYBALL

After a disappointing 2004 season because of an injury of Gills and several players. It's safe to say Saint Mary's is back together. The Belles finished 16-8 in 2003, but fell to 6-19 last year.

Coach Julie Schroeder-Rick is back after missing the latter part of last season because of back surgery. She had the Belles on a winning trend since her return to St. Mary's in 2004, but last year's "uncontrollable," as she said, took their toll.

Top players returning include junior outside attacker Meridie Turley, senior middle hitter Shelly Bender, junior Anne Cusack and sophomore outside attacks Kristen Myers. A few others returning include Tara Matry-Vavare - who is returning from abroad - and Amanda David.

SMC SOCCER

After a solid fourth place NCAA finish in 2004, the Belles look to move up on the 10-4-2 record to make a run for the conference title in 2005. Leading the charge for Saint Mary's is senior captain and All-MIAA midfielder Katy Binton, who led the team in goals last year, and was named a sophomore. Goalkeeper Laura Helini also returns for a second year, along with Kelly McKeever. Helini made 16 saves and posted a 2-2-4 goals against average in her sophomore season in 2004. We'll get help from incoming defensive starters Carrie Orr and Shannon Calhoun, who were major contributors in allowing just 1.16 goals per game last season.

The Belles of 2005 will need to replace second-leading scorer Jeff Concannon.

ND VOLLEYBALL

This might be the year the Irish, finally give the monkey of their back. Notre Dame, the class of the Big East for the past decade, has yet to advance past the second round of the NCAA tournament.

The Irish have an experienced group of hitters and defenders returning with 10 of 16 players returning overall. Pre-season all-Big East picks Lauren Brewer and Lauren Kelley are back for their senior season. The two accumulated plenty of awards in 2004. Brewer was a third team All-American and in this year's preseason Big East player of the year. Kelley was an honorable mention All-American and has been tabbed to the all-Big East team three consecutive years.

ND WOMEN'S GOLF

Last year was the second time the Irish participated in an NCAA regional post-season tournament. They placed 18th in the national regional in their second consecutive qualifying year. Returning the top two scorers from the 2004-05 squad, the Irish look to improve on the past two solid seasons.

A highlight for Notre Dame is the return of rising senior and All-American Noriko Nakazaki. Brophy led the Irish last year with a 76.46 stroke average.

The season opens with the Notre Dame Women's Invitational on Sept. 11 at the Warren Golf Course, an event that saw the Irish post a third-place finish last year. Other key fall events include Indiana University's Lady Northern Invitational and the Las Vegas Collegiate Showdown, hosted by UNLV.

SMC CROSS COUNTRY

Notre Dame must replace three of the nation's top players who combined to give the Irish the top defense in the country last season. All-American goalkeeper Chris Sawyer and standout defenders Kevin Goldsworthy and Jack Stewart have moved on to the MLS, leaving Notre Dame with serious holes in its defense.

Coach Bobby Clark will count on captain Dale Beltas and junior Ryan Miller to hold down the defensive back. The replacement for Sawyer has yet to be determined, with senior Justin McMichael, junior Chris Cahill and freshmen Andrew Quinn and Luke Seibolt vying for playing time.

Captains John Johnston and Greg Daily and sophomore Kurt Martin form a reliable and talented midfield.

ND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

The Irish will look to rebound this year, from a disappointing conclusion to the 2004 campaign. After finishing the regular season ranked fifth nationally, the team finished 11th at the NCAA Championships.

The Irish hope to shake of that showing this year with a very deep and talented group of runners.

Women's team returns all of its top seven from last season including co-captains and All-Americans senior Jillian Pellicci, junior Tim Moore and senior O'Donnell.

The team opens the season September 9 at the Valparaiso Invitational. Coach Joe Lapka hopes Notre Dame's depth and experience will lead to a more satisfying result at the 2004 NCAA Championships on November 22 in Terre Haute, Ind.
Students part of a unique experience

Brent Musburger said after the 1988 Notre Dame-Miami football game that "there is no greater love affair than between the student body of Notre Dame and the football team." While I usually disagree with about everything that comes out of the ABC college football announcer's mouth, for once I believe Brent got it right.

You might be thinking, as you move into your dorm this weekend, that Notre Dame students like Notre Dame football because it's a winning program. But a quick look at the results from the past ten years doesn't show much overwhelming success. Students don't buy up all the football tickets in just hours. The team hasn't been winning.

The reason students at this school go wild over all their sports teams, not just football, is because the athletes are also students.

Too often in college athletics these days, young athletes are taken advantage of by the institutions they play for. They play for four years, earn millions of dollars for corporate sponsors and college presidents and graduate with no degree.

Notre Dame is different. Notre Dame goes out of its way to make sure athletes are not separated from the other students. They eat in the same dining halls. They live in the same dorms. They attend class just like everyone else.

They share the same proud feelings as the regular student when looking at the Golden Dome. They join everyone else in graduating from this University and taking a priceless degree out into the world. And they have a respect for the student body that studies, eats, prays and lives with them for nine months a year.

The Notre Dame administration treats athletes as students, which is exactly what they are.

This is one of the reasons you should feel special to attend this University and take part in its unique athletic culture. When you stand in the student section for the football game against Michigan State in a few weeks, remember you are cheering for your fellow students.

The Notre Dame administration fights for programs that earn millions for the school. The football program's contract with NBC is a perfect example. But monetary values alone don't tell the full story about Irish athletes.

Their graduation rates are consistently among the highest in the nation, and there is no Basket Weaving major.

As the newest member of the Notre Dame family, you are privileged to participate in this special athletic environment. You have four years to take part in the 'love affair' Musburger talked about.

So go to the football games on Saturday afternoons. Attend the pep rallies on Friday nights, even if you find it a little hokey.

But don't forget about the other sports when you get caught up in football fever this fall. Walk over to the soccer fields and watch the defending national champions hustle all over the field.

Enjoy the basketball games in the Joyce Center every winter.

Appreciate the effort of the tennis players and the volleyball squad when you get caught up in their matches.

Every time you see an Irish squad win, you win, too. Because that guy catching that touchdown pass is your roommate. That girl who scored the winning goal is your chem lab partner. And that player getting carried off the field is a member of the Notre Dame student body, just like you.

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

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

GET INVOLVED IN IRISH ATHLETICS!

The Sports Information Office is looking for student assistants for the 2004-05 school year. Any student interested in becoming active in Irish athletics should come to an informational meeting:

Tuesday, Aug. 23, 7:30 p.m.
In the Sports Information Office
( Joyce Center, second floor inside Gate 2).

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By PAT LEONARD

When Kyle McAlarney caught the ball during one particular July practice, something didn’t look right.

Cutting sharply from the right low block to a screen at the foul line, McAlarney curled, received the pass, pump faked and then blew by a flat-footed Colin Falls.

Here was a freshman, a right-handed freshman, taking two hard dribbles to the left and finger-rolling a left-handed layup over Big East forwards and centers.

On the court, a glimpse of the team’s future had unfolded. That future may come quicker than expected.

The 6-foot-1, 190-pound point guard from Staten Island, N.Y., is one of four true freshmen who spent six weeks this summer on campus practicing with the team.

Though coach Mike Brey is not allowed to observe or coach summer ball, upperclassmen like seniors Chris Quinn and Torin Francis have told the coach they are impressed with their four newest teammates.

McAlarney, Ryan Ayers (Blue Bell, Pa.), Zach Hillesland (Toledo, Ohio) and Luke Zeller (Washington, Ind.).

“Our older guys learned to respect them this summer because they took care of their academic business and they worked ... in the weight room,” Brey said. “They’re workers.

“And I think when older guys see incoming freshmen have that work ethic, that’s a little more mature than your typical freshman, they respect that.”

Brey said all four freshmen will have both of them on the floor, although he doesn’t expect Zeller to come in at point.

While the team’s future had not fully unfolded in the spring, Brey said any situation, Brey said.

“Any situation, Brey said. ‘And they will get every chance to have an impact. We push them to compete for playing time right away and not wait their turn.”

The Irish will look different from last year, when seniors Chris Thomas and Jordan Cornette led an older, more-established group that also included senior transfer Dennis Lalimere.

Quinn will start at point guard, with Falls returning as a definite starter and Francis anchoring the low post after pulling his name out of the 2005 NBA Draft in June.

Other than those names, however, the lineup and the game plan will be determined by which players — including all four of the freshmen — step up.

Hillesland, the first player of the four freshmen to commit to Notre Dame (Feb. 2004), stands at 6-foot-6, 220 pounds and adjusts well to the style of play in any situation, Brey said.

The St. John’s Jesuit star played with two other Division-I recruits in high school and was recruited early by schools like Ohio State, N.C. State and Stanford. Brey said, but the Irish know early that he would be a good fit.

He averaged 13.0 points and 9.0 rebounds per game in his junior season.

Zeller is the player most familiar to the local Notre Dame fan base. He earned second team Basketball honors in Indiana after hitting a half court buzzer beater to win the Class 3A state title.

And McAlarney looks to be the heir apparent to Quinn once the senior’s final campaign ends in March at the Joyce Center.

He averaged 16.4 points in his senior season at Great Neck South High School, gained 10 pounds of muscle over the summer.

In June, Ayers could fit the mold of former Irish forward Dan Miller, a 6-foot-8 shooter who enslaved mismatched guards and forwards alike.

But this summer, whether it was Ayers doing bench press, Zeller being more physical in the freshman so far.

“Every time I’m out there, the freshmen as a whole need to have an impact (this year),” Brey said. “And they will get every chance to have an impact. We push them to compete for playing time right away and not wait their turn.”

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Championships

Junior Stephanie Madia competes in the Irish women ready to build on top 5 finish

Connelly optimistic despite graduation of All-American pair

By KEVIN BRENNAN
Sports Writer

Losing two All-Americans is never good news. Nevertheless, Notre Dame women’s cross country coach Tim Connelly is optimistic about the upcoming season.

The Irish concluded the 2004 campaign with a fourth place finish at the NCAA Championship on Nov. 24 in Terre Haute, Ind. Entering the meet with a string of unfortunate injuries, Notre Dame was thrilled with its top-five finish.

"On that given day we did everything we could do," Connelly said.

Notre Dame lost two key members of last year’s team in Kerry Meagher and Lauren King, both top-five finishers for the Irish at the NCAA Championship and All-Americans. Connelly realizes the team will miss the duo’s high level of talent and leadership.

"It’s going to take some work to replace those two," Connelly said. Fortunately, the Irish return a strong trio of All-Americans in seniors Stephanie Madia and Molly Huddle and sophomore Sunni Olding. Madia finished in 23rd place at the NCAA Championship, recording a blistering time of 17:47 in the 5K event.

"She is a really talented kid who expects to come in and be a big contributor right away," Connelly said.

The Irish will open their season Sept. 9 at the Valparaiso Invitational. A week later, the team comes home for the National Catholic Championship at Notre Dame’s Burke Memorial Golf Course. The Irish have captured the last three National Catholic team titles, with Madia claiming the individual championship last season.

On Sept. 23, the team will again race on its home course at the Notre Dame Invitational. The Irish have won top honors at this tournament three of the past four years.

The regular season will come to an end at the pre-National Championship Oct. 15 in Terre Haute. The Irish will then head to New York on Oct. 28 for the Big East Championship, where the team finished second in 2004.

On Nov. 12, Notre Dame will compete in the NCAA Great Lakes Regional Championship in Bloomington, Ind. With a solid showing at regionals, the Irish will qualify for the national championship to be held ten days later in Terre Haute.

Connelly has devised a clear plan to prepare his team for the ultimate goal of success at the NCAA championship. The coach will use the early meets to develop depth by mixing and matching several different lineups.

"I like to put some of the younger, less experienced kids in a position where they can be counted on," Connelly said. "The goal is to have a good nine to 12 really solid kids. We want a margin for error."

He believes that this strategy will have his team at its best when it matters most.

"The goal is to get to the national meet and put ourselves in a position where we can be one of the top teams in the country," Connelly said. "I think it’s a pretty realistic expectation. On paper, we are a very good team."
THE OBSERVER

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The Observer - TODAY
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Talented freshmen expected to make major contribution

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Editor

Brittany Bock, Carrie Dew and Kerri Ingles are not your typical freshmen. Though they have the usual first-year worries regarding roommates and classes, they also have a special challenge — live up to the expectations that come with being freshmen on the pre-season No. 1 ranked and defending national champion Irish women’s soccer team.

Along with Rebecca Mendoza, who arrived Wednesday from a summer spent training with the Mexican national team, the girls make up a very strong freshman class.

Though nine starters return for the defending national champion Irish, these four are expected to make major contributions to the team this fall.

Notre Dame head coach Randy Waldrum said, “They came prepared to play.” Waldrum said. “They look like Mexican national team, the girls make up a very strong freshman class. But just like any other group of newcomers so special.

FOOTBALL

‘Cover’ing up on defense

Players adjusting to new schemes, system

By PAT LEONARD
Sports Writer

Charlie Weis’ offense has won championships, and Irish quarterbacks coach Peter Vaas is a former NFL Europe head coach. Though third-year quarterback Brady Quinn must learn an entirely new system, his coaches have solid offensive track records. And that makes it logical for the main topic of conversation surrounding the 2005 Irish squad to be its defense.

But just like the New England Patriots’ defense consistently provided good field position and allowed few points, the Irish on the other side of the ball must complement Weis’ system with efficiency.

Though the defense returns only three starters and will have less experience in terms of minutes logged, free safety Tom Zbikowski believes the defensive schemes being installed will stop opponents’ air attacks that took Notre Dame out of many of its games in 2004.

“Our scheme is a lot more based on coverage,” Zbikowski said. “I think we get a lot more doubles on receivers just the way our coverages pan out. It’s not necessarily based on ‘We’re doubling this guy.’ It’s just always turns out that we’ll be doubling one or two guys and getting linebackers into coverage.”

There’s not going to be too much in the way of new faces in the back. Irish returnees look to repeat last season’s national title in 2005

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Associate Sports Editor

When Irish forward Jill Krivacek’s penalty kick sailed past UCLA goalie Valerie Henderson in last December’s national championship game, Notre Dame reached a level of excellence that had not been attained since their NCAA title in 1995. However, just a year later, and a full offseason of reliving their magical season finished, the Irish are ready to prove that there is no such thing as a grace period after a team wins a title.

And for good reason: The Irish return a mature team that features eight seniors and eight juniors, including senior Erika Bohn who was the winning goalkeeper in last year’s championship game. Bohn also received the distinction of being the Final Four’s most outstanding defensive player. Bohn was responsible for preserving a 1-1 tie with minutes remaining in regulation when she successfully saved a Kendal Billingsly penalty kick.