Scully resigns post

Father Timothy Scully resigned as Executive Vice President on May 2. His resignation came amidst a potential leadership crisis in the University's hierarchy. The Board of Trustees were scheduled to hear a report from a committee formed to investigate Scully's behavior, including a January incident where he confronted local television reporters. However, Scully submitted his resignation before the Trustees heard the report, which cleared him of wrongdoing. Scully will remain a member of the Notre Dame political science faculty.

SEE STORY PAGE 12

Sorin rector fired

The University removed Father Sam Peters as rector of Sorin Hall for having an inappropriate sexual relationship with an adult female. A representative from the woman's family informed the Office of Student Affairs of the relationship. The Indiana Province of the Congregation of the Holy Cross issued a statement expressing sorrow for Peters' actions. Though Peters has not been removed from the priesthood, he is undergoing counseling for his infidelity. Peters is officially banned from Notre Dame's campus.

SEE STORY PAGE 13
Nothing lasts forever

Alarm clocks go off, legs get kicked, curtains hang limp, socks roll up, closing hymns are sung, seemingly infallible bars get bust, even kids from a creek-side town eventually surrender their Wild West and this side town eventually surrender their spring break things. We stayed spent most of the weekend, college ways changing majors, political views, life plans or significant others, change we did, and with each change we became a little more ready to whatever it is we will do after this day.

That’s why it’s alright that we’re leaving — even if we’ve not ready for years or never wanted to go. Besides, college ways technically means beginning, not end. And even though we’re supposedly starting over and making it, we’ve picked up things along the way — a few inside jokes, ridiculous SAT outfits, damming photos and best friends. Though 22 years old feels ancient with LaFortune. It’s all part of our denial as we try to forget that we’re about to be forced into a place where a down economy and war can affect us a little more harshly than it could have affected us, we’re under the shadow of the Golden Dome.

Four years passed by too fast, but it could’ve just been passed passively. We participated in our college experiences, we’re learning the way. Whether changing majors, political views, life plans or significant others, change we did, and with each change we became a little more ready to whatever it is we will do after this day.

The views expressed in the Inside Column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer. Please direct all questions to Nagengast at knagenga@nd.edu.

Insider:

Events of the week

Friday, May 16

University of Notre Dame

2-4 p.m.

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS HONORS CONVOCATION Washington Hall

9 a.m.-1 p.m.

GRADUATION DANCE Joyce Center - North Dome

4 p.m.

BACCALAUREATE LITURGY Angele Athletic Facility

7:30-10:30 p.m.

SIXEST RECEPTION Century Center

Saturday, May 17

University of Notre Dame

9 a.m.-Noon

ROTUS COMMISSIONING Joyce Center - South Dome

10 a.m.

SERVICE SEND-OFF CEREMONY Washington Hall

5:30-6:30 p.m.

COMMENCEMENT MASS Joyce Center - South Dome

Noon

Saint Mary’s College

COMMENCEMENT 2003 CEREMONY Court of Legends Hall

Sunday, May 18

University of Notre Dame

2-4 p.m.

DISTRIBUTION OF BACHELOR AND MASTER DIPLOMAS Joyce Center - North Dome 2-4 p.m.

COMMENCEMENT AND CONFERRING OF DEGREES Joyce Center - South Dome

4:30 p.m.

LAW SCHOOL DIPLOMA CEREMONY Harkness Library Reflecting Pool

Saint Mary’s College

9:45 a.m. and 11:15 a.m.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER MASS Church of Our Lady of Loretto

ND awards reporters with Laetare Medal

Observer staff report

Peter and Margaret Steinfields will be the recipients of this year’s Laetare Medal, which is regarded as the most significant annual award given to American Catholics and originated in 1883. The Steinfields are being honored for their lifelong commitment to Catholic life.

"Peter and Peggy Steinfield live out and articulate a compelling response to the Catholic vocation," University President Father Edward Malloy said in a statement. "As married people, as intellectuals, and as children of the Church, their witness to the Kingdom has been splendid and exemplary."

Father Edward Malloy

University President

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Father Edward Malloy

University President
Senator will deliver speech

By TERESA FRALISH
Associate News Editor

Senator Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) will deliver the commencement address to the Notre Dame Class of 2003 this Sunday. Lugar currently serves as the chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and has been an Indiana senator since 1976.

University officials said that in light of recent events they chose Lugar, who will receive an honorary doctor of laws, as the speaker because of his expertise in the area of foreign affairs. Lugar, who previously served as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee from 1984 to 1986, helped create a bipartisan initiative in 1991 with former Senator Sam Nunn to secure and disarm weapons of mass destruction in the former Soviet Union.

More recently, Lugar has argued for the expansion of the Nunn-Lugar Program in other countries with weapons of mass destruction.

As chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Lugar has called on the president to provide more detailed information to Congress and the public about planning for American involvement in post-war Iraq.

The senator also serves as the manager of Indianapolis from 1968-75 and oversaw the expansion of the city to include all of Marion County. After graduating from Denison University at the top of his class, Lugar received a Rhodes Scholarship for graduate study in politics, philosophy and economics at Oxford University.

Lugar follows other commencement speakers who have been involved in politics and foreign affairs, such as President George Bush and U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan who spoke in 2002 and 2001 respectively.

However, some seniors were concerned that this year's commencement speaker was not as prestigious as previous speakers.

"A lot of my friends and I were a little disappointed," said senior Kristin Baranack.

Senior Matthew Teubner said he was not very familiar with Lugar but looked forward to the senator's talk. "I don't really know too much about the senator himself. I was maybe expecting a little higher profile speaker," he said. "I think he'll do a good job." Despite concerns about Lugar's name recognition, some said Lugar's talk would be relevant in light of current events.

"I think he's got a lot of expertise in international affairs," said senior Trip Foley.

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu

Author to address graduates

By ANNELEISE WOOLFORD
Saint Mary's Editor

Traveling from New York to Saint Mary's Saturday afternoon will seem like second nature to Adriana Trigiani. However, instead of returning to the campus for a visit or book signing, the author, screenwriter and director will speak to hundreds of graduating seniors, a position she faced not long ago herself.

Trigiani, a 1981 alumna of the College, was selected as the 2003 commencement speaker in late March based on the request of students.

While many students were unaware of Trigiani's nomination until after her appointment, seniors said they looked forward to the insight she would provide as an alumna.

"Having a Saint Mary's grad send us forth into the world is more touching than having someone who isn't as close to us as she is," senior Emily Stotter said. "Her relationship with the school and her experience can really put a better perspective on commencement than having someone else as a speaker."

The Saint Mary's graduate was a featured author at Notre Dame's 2002 Sophomore Literary Festival, where students from both campuses had the chance to meet Trigiani and become acquainted with her work.

Max Westler, English department chair and Trigiani's former professor, said he and Trigiani maintain the strong friendship they developed over 20 years ago. Westler is extremely optimistic in Trigiani's ability to deliver a powerful message to the graduating class of 2003.

"She'll have something to say to the graduating class that they're going to want to hear," he said. "She's absolutely thrilled to be coming."

Trigiani's charismatic personality and personal background with Saint Mary's and Notre Dame are reflected in her novels "Big Stone Gap," "Big Cherry Holler" and "Milk Glass Moon," making them popular among members of both communities.

She visited the Saint Mary's campus for a book signing in 2000 after the publication of "Big Stone Gap," which will soon become a major motion picture, both written and directed by the author.

In addition to her work as a writer, Trigiani's credentials include work as a television writer and producer, playwright, comedian and documentary filmmaker. She has been involved with such television shows as "A Different World," "The Cosby Show," and "Good Sports."

Additionally, she served as executive producer and head writer for the film show "City Kids" and comedy special "Growing Up Funny," which earned an Emmy nomination for actress L'il Tomlin and Lifetime Television.

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Trigiani wrote, produced and directed "Queens of the Bigtime" in 1996, a documentary film about her family. The film won the Audience Award for Best Documentary Feature at the 1996 Hamptons International Film Festival and at the 1997 Palm Springs International Film Festival.

Contact Anneliese Woolford at wool8338@saintmays.edu

Congratulations to the 2003 Observer Graduating Class

Thank you for years of friendship, hard work and commitment to the pursuit of quality journalism. We're going to miss everything you did for us, and The Observer will never be the same. Good luck in the future.

THE OBSERVER

KIMBERLY BELcher
KURT BOGAARD
LAUREN DASSO
MEGHAN GORAN
VERONICA KELLEHER
BRYAN KRONK
PAT MCELWEE
KATIE MCKENNA
KATIE MCCVOY
KATE NAGENGAST

SHANNON NELLIGAN
SARAH NESTOR
HELENA PAYNE
BRIAN PUCEVICH
CHRISTINA REITANO
REBECCA STUMPF
KIFLIN TURNER
LISA VELTE
NELLIE WILLIAMS
BOB WOODS
Margaret Laracy, a psychology major from New Jersey, is the 2003 Notre Dame valedictorian.

By ANDREW THAGARD
Assistant News Editor

Her commitment to academics may have earned her the honor of valedictorian, but classes are just one aspect of Margaret Laracy's experience at Notre Dame. The psychology major from Jersey City, N.J. has been active in community service and campus life.

Laracy, who earned a 3.97 grade point average, made the Dean's List each semester. She is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa undergraduate honors society and Psi Chi, the national psychology honors society, and was named a National Merit Scholar.

"It's an enormous honor," Laracy said, in reference to being named valedictorian. "I just think of all the amazing people I know at Notre Dame. I'm so excited to be addressing my peers.

Laracy is scheduled to deliver an address to the student body during Commencement Sunday. She said that her speech will focus on having courage in the face of recent national and international events, especially terrorism and war. She also intends to speak on the anxiety that is characteristic of the transition from college to the "real" world and the fear of not living up to others' expectations.

"I hope to encourage my classmates and myself to really live courageously," she said. "The main focus is not to be fearful.

Laracy has worked to make the most out of her four years at Notre Dame, devoting her time to assisting in the Notre Dame Encounter Retreats, teaching English through a program at La Casa de Amistad, working at the Center for Social Concerns and studying abroad in Chile during her junior year. "It was really different than a lot of abroad experiences," she said of her semester in Chile. "I got the opportunity to not only live with a family but to do some service in the community. I love Chile and the Chilean people. I could see myself going back to Latin America."

Next year, Laracy will devote time to service, but it won't be in Chile. She plans to volunteer for at least a year through a L'Arche Community program, living in a house that assists people with special needs in Washington, D.C.

"It's really an incredible community that has a wonderful philosophy and spirituality," she said.

Eventually, Laracy said she hopes to continue her education in psychology and use what she learns to help others.

"I've always had an interest in working with other people," she said. "Academically it's very interesting to learn about them!"

Laracy, the first Domer in her family, was attracted to Notre Dame because of its sense of community and Catholic identity.

"I think that Notre Dame, among Catholic universities with a good academic program, really seems to value its Catholic identity," she said. "It wasn't just Catholic in name. It seemed like a perfect package for me."

Notre Dame begins the selection process for valedictorian in February when the Register's Office determines the two students in each college with the highest grade point averages. Selected candidates then complete an application process that includes a recommendation from the college's dean and a peer and a draft of their commencement speech. A selection committee then nominates a valedictorian and the second place candidate is invited to deliver an invocation at graduation.

This year, Meredith Runke, a science major from Batavia, III. will deliver the commencement invocation.

Contact Andrew Thagard at athagard@nd.edu
Campus responds to terrorist attacks

September 11, 2002

The campus responded in a dramatic fashion to the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and rural Pennsylvania.

Classes were cancelled mid-session as representatives from the registrar's office visited individual classrooms. Seven thousand students and faculty attended a mass on South Quad at 3 p.m. on the day of the attacks, which was concelebrated by all campus priests and Auxiliary Bishop John D'Arcy. Throughout the day, students streamed to the grotto and students took advantage of free cab service to donate blood.

Phone lines and Internet connections at both Notre Dame and Saint Mary's were overwhelmed as students called home to check on their family and friends.

Like all athletic events nationwide, Notre Dame's football game against Purdue on the following Saturday was cancelled as the nation mourned the loss of thousands of citizens. At the September 22 home football game against Michigan State, the entire stadium paused as University President Father Edward Malloy said a prayer and fans raised printed American flags into the sky in an event termed nationwide by NBC Sports.

Four alumni were killed in the attacks: Robert Ferris, class of 1962, who worked on the 102nd floor of the south tower of the World Trade Center; Army Lieutenant Colonel S. Neil Hyland Jr., class of 1977, who worked on the Pentagram; and Peter Batacan, class of 1983, and Dora Marie Menchaca, class of 1977, who were killed on American Airlines Flight 77, which crashed into the Pentagon.

New alcohol policy unveiled

Father Mark Poorman introduced sweeping changes to the alcohol policy including a ban on hard liquor, a cancellation of in-hall dances and a revision of the tailgating policy to allow of-age students to host tailgate parties in specified lots. The decision sparked much controversy amongst students and within student government.

March 18, 2002

Freshman's death stuns University

Chad Sharon, a freshman from Fisher Hall, disappeared Dec. 12, 2002 after attending a party on Corby Street. After an extensive two-month search headed by Notre Dame Security and Police, construction workers found his body floating in the St. Joseph's River under the Angela Bridge.

February 12, 2003

Boat Club busted by Excise Police

Police raided the Boat Club early in the morning of Jan. 24. Over 200 citations were issued to Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students. The bar, known as a popular underage haven for students on both campuses, has been closed and members are now being sued by the owner of the club.

January 24, 2003

NCAA sanctions ND for violations

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

The University lost two scholarships and received a two-year probation.

December 19, 2000

Student alleges gang rape

A 20-year old Notre Dame student alleged that three current and one former football player gang-raped her at an off-campus house. The University expelled the four students and University President Father Edward Malloy denied their appeals. The quartet are still waiting for their criminal trials to begin.

April 10, 2001

Scully resigns as executive VP

Executive Vice President Father Timothy Scully resigned May 4 due to his apparent power struggle in the University's leadership. A report investigating Scully's behavior, including his confrontation with Notre Dame security, is currently being delivered to trustees and would have cleared him of wrongdoing.

May 2, 2003

Eldred announces retirement

Saint Mary's President Marilou Eldred announced her retirement March 5. She will remain as president until the College completes its search for a replacement. Eldred, has been president at the College since 1997. The College plans to form a search committee to choose a replacement by Dec. 2003.

March 5, 2003

Bush speaks at commencement

President George W. Bush spoke at Class of 2001 commencement, becoming the 6th President to speak at a Notre Dame commencement. House representative and Notre Dame alumna helped to court Bush, whose visit was generally welcomed but protested by some who objected to his policies.

May 20, 2001

First female pres. elected

Two years ago, Brooke Norton accepted a position as student body president. She had held the student body president position and was also her vice president. Brian Monahan received 56 percent of the votes.

November is also the first incumbent vice president to win the race for president since 1973.

February 14, 2001
By MEGHANNE DOWNES

Sea of Green

The winning enthusiasm and spirit of the Sea of Green flooded Notre Dame last fall. Students, alumni and fans followed the Notre Dame football team as they returned glory to Notre Dame Stadium under Tyree Willingham's guidance.

At the beginning of the season, several sports analysts dismissed the team and Notre Dame entered many games as the underdog. But Willingham and his players made the Irish a force to be reckoned with and climbed the polls by winning their first eight games before falling to Catholic rival Boston College.

Though the season was a roller coaster of emotions for many fans with carefree fumbles, unexpected victories, losses to Boston College and USC, fluctuations in polls standings and the possibility of a BCS berth, the spirit on football Saturdays and weekends did not disappear. Fans donned this year's green Return to Glory shirt and waved their green signs and football players wore green jerseys against Boston College as Willingham requested that the sea of green take the Stadium by storm. As enthusiasm for the season built up, students and fans took the Sea of Green on the road and followed the team to games against Michigan State and Florida State.

As December approached, fans waited anxiously while praying that winter break would include a trip to Tempe, Ariz., Miami, Pasadena, Calif. or New Orleans. However, hopes of a BCS berth were dashed when the team headed to the Gator Bowl against North Carolina State.

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The abrupt departure of Pasquerella West assistant rector Cynthia Phillips led many lingering questions for Pasquerella West residents and other assistant rectors who wondered about their job security.

Sister Sue Bruno, Pasquerella West rector, asked Phillips to leave in October. Though Bruno declined to comment, Phillips said she was removed after Bruno requested they have a "closer relationship." Phillips maintained she supported Bruno's leadership and never had a conflict with her.

The Office of Residence Life formally removed Phillips as All in November, following a series of meetings, but she retained her employee benefits.

Phillips, a second year law student, was honored with the Distinguished Notre Dame Woman Award in April for her contributions to the Notre Dame and South Bend community.

The College suspended and banned Rathert from campus while transcripts were reportedly not on file.

In November, the suspended officer was honored with the Bernstein Award for next year after reviewing the transcripts.

The Office of Residence Life for new contracts, which are renewed annually, said Bill Kirk, vice president for Student Affairs. The new contracts, which are renewed by semester and provide a more detailed definition of the AR's role, state that contracts may be terminated with or without cause and disputes between an AR and the University will be settled via arbitration. ARs who are terminated without cause will receive benefits for the remainder of the semester.

Saint Mary's Security

Amidst security department changes and improvements, Saint Mary's suspended security officer Belinda Rathert because her college had not turned over her transcripts.

The College suspended and banned Rathert from campus because she misrepresented herself to the College. Rathert questioned the professionalism of the manner in which the situation was handled and maintained that she contacted College officials in order to turn over her transcripts. At the time, College officials stated that Rathert had not turned over her transcripts.

In November, the suspended officer said she filed a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and intended to sue the College for sexual harassment and discrimination over unequal wages and a hostile work environment.

Police flood The Boat Club

On a chilly January morning, the underage drinking haven for students, The Boat Club, faced a similar fate as Finnigan's Irish Pub in 2000, as Excise Police and South Bend Police bust the bar.

Over 200 Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students waited in line for hours as police, assisted by Notre Dame Security Police officers armed with student directories, verified the identification of patrons and issued citations.

Though Saint Mary's students did not receive punishment from the College, Notre Dame students were fined monetarily and ordered to complete service hours in addition to the fines and service hours they had to complete for Saint Joseph County.

While many cited students believed their name was put in The Boat Club bust behind them, Millennium Entertainment Inc., owner of The Boat Club, sued every cited student in small claims courts for damages of $3,000.

The suits alleged that the defendants misrepresented themselves to the nightclub in order to gain entrance.

In an unrelated bar bust, Excise Police raided The Library Irish Pub in April and issued 21 citations, many to Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students. The Library was raided two years ago when it was called Finnigan's and Rathert has changed ownership since the previous bust.

It is unclear whether the owners of The Library will also file suits against cited individuals as Millennium Entertainment did this April.

Freshman dies

Freshman Chad Sharon was found dead Feb. 12 under the Angela Bridge after being reported missing Dec. 12 by Fisher Hall staff.

Friends said they last saw Sharon around 2 a.m. at a bar and that he did not return to his residence hall. Friends said they last saw Sharon around 2 a.m. at a bar.

Freshman drowns. Students participate in protests. Saint Mary’s reading day passed. Saint Mary’s president retires.

in Review

♦ 2003

party on Corby Street.

Sharon did not show up for any of his finals, and state and local police began an extensive search for the freshman.

During their search for Sharon, police discovered a Madison Center employee who may have talked to Sharon outside the hospital around 4 a.m. the night of his disappearance. The employee said that an individual closely matching Sharon’s description asked for directions to the nearest convenience store. The hospital worker directed the student to the nearest 7-Eleven.

The investigation expanded to include searches of the area using dogs and helicopters as well as searches of the river but turned up few additional leads.

University officials offered a $25,000 reward, which was later increased to $50,000 with the help of local businesses, to encourage anyone with information about Sharon to come forward.

Sharon’s parents visited campus in January to meet with investigators and students who might have been unwilling to speak with police.

The search ended when local construction workers found a body floating under the Angela Bridge that was later identified as Sharon’s. Though the river had been searched, police speculated that the body had been dislodged from the river by high winds the day before. An autopsy and blood tests later revealed that Sharon’s blood alcohol content was 0.224, although it could have been lower at the time of death, and that foul play was likely not involved. For Sharon’s family and friends, these unfortunate developments finally brought some closure to months of uncertainty.

Saint Mary’s president retires

Saint Mary’s President Marilou Eldred officially announced her retirement March 5. Eldred became the 10th president and first laywoman president of the College upon her inauguration in 1997.

Since then, she helped to improve Saint Mary’s itself, along with its relationship to the local community. With Eldred’s supervision and initiative, came the development of the College’s Strategic Plan to improve the curriculum, technology and diversity on campus.

Eldred also headed the development of the Master Plan, a renovation and construction effort to update facilities and meet the needs of the college community at large.

Eldred secured a $12 million grant loan from Lilly Endowment, Inc., which provided crucial funding for the Center for Women’s Intercultural Leadership that opened in 2001. The Center is believed to be the only of its kind in college and universities across the country.

Efforts such as these helped Saint Mary’s earn the reputation as the nation’s premier Catholic women’s college. The College has received a number one ranking for Midwest Liberal Arts Colleges by “U.S. News and World Report” five years of Eldred’s six-year term.

“My experience at Saint Mary’s has been fantastic,” Eldred said. “It has been a privilege to lead this College to the next level; to work with our faculty and staff to provide the highest quality education possible for the talented students who come to Saint Mary’s.”

Eldred agreed to hold her position at the College until the Board of Trustees names her successor, which is expected to be at some point well into the 2003-2004 academic year.

Saint Mary’s Reading Day

After a 10-year student government leadership struggle, Saint Mary’s Academic Affairs Committee finally approved the reading day proposal. The approval will now allow Saint Mary’s students the opportunity to work on projects, meet with professors and prepare for exams the Friday before finals week.

War in Iraq

While New York, Chicago and London erupted in anti-war and peace protests, Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students voiced their opinions as well.

Several students traveled to New York and Chicago to participate in protests in addition to organizing forums and demonstrations on campus.

Hundreds of students and faculty members, including Father Theodore Hesburgh, president emeritus of Notre Dame, signed an anti-war petition started at Notre Dame.

Pro-war, anti-war, pro-troops and pro-peace voices could be heard on both campuses.

Though it is unclear whether anyone from the Notre Dame or Saint Mary’s community died in Operation Iraqi Freedom, several Notre Dame professors were sent to fight. A 2000 Notre Dame graduate, Dustin Ferrell, was severely injured in a homemade accident in Iraq and is recovering in the United States. He was awarded a purple heart.

Scully resigns

Following a reported leadership crisis in the University, Father Scully resigned as executive vice president, at the May Board of Trustees meeting. A committee formed to investigate Scully’s behavior was scheduled to deliver a report at the meeting.

His resignation followed a January incident where he accosted a reporter and cameraman from WNDO-TV before a Mass for then missing freshman Chad Sharon at the Fisher Hall parking lot. WNDO-TV is owned by the University and Scully was director of operations for the station. The cameraman said Scully smelled of alcohol when he approached them and told them to move their vehicles. Drucker filed a report with NDSP and later withdrew her complaint after Scully apologized.

Scully will remain as a political science professor at Notre Dame.

Contact Meghanne Downes at mdownes1@nd.edu

♦ 1997

Freshman upon her inauguration in 1997.

Working with our faculty and staff to provide the highest quality education possible for the talented students who come to Saint Mary’s.”

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Scully will remain as a political science professor at Notre Dame.
Saint Mary’s grads continue legacies

Several seniors are following in the footsteps of their mothers and grandmothers

By EMILY BRAMMER

By graduating Saturday, 24 Saint Mary’s students will continue the legacies of their Alumnae mothers and in some instances, their grandmothers as well.

One third-generation gradua­
tate, Shaun Russell, will carry on an impressive lega­cy. Russell’s grandmother graduated from Saint Mary’s in 1936, the same year her husband graduated from Notre Dame. All eight of their children also earned degrees from either Notre Dame or Saint Mary’s.

Russell will become one of 10 grand­
children to have gradu­ated from either of the two schools. Additionally, six of Russell’s cousins are currently enrolled, and one more cousin will be starting next spring.

“My grandparents are especially exciting because they’re the root of the legacy, and they stay so young because of it,” Russell said. “My grandmother knows more about football than most sportscasters.”

Their family get-togethers are quite the Irish extravaga­nza, and they gather near the Lotus Center to tailgate every home football game.

“We’re so lucky because our family’s so big, that we have to plan this kind of things together,” Russell said. “And I don’t think there is any other way. If I hadn’t gone to Saint Mary’s, I’d feel so out of the loop.”

Bridget Horne is also a third-generation graduate. Her grandmother graduated from Saint Mary’s in 1953 and her mother graduated in 1980.

The legacy began by her grandmother and mother, and the life-long friends that they were, greatly influenced Horne’s decision to apply to Saint Mary’s. She especially admires her moth­
er’s lasting relationships with her roommates. They still meet once a year. “I was looking for somewhere where I would go with great girls’ and that’s when I knew that Saint Mary’s was where I would find that,” she said.

Most daughters of alumnae tell similar stories, but the memories of some legacies include a pivotal time in both Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame’s histories — the near merging of the two schools in 1972.

Saint Mary’s senior Meganne Hoffman continues the legacy of her mother who has a degree from Notre Dame but is an alumnus of Saint Mary’s. Her mother came to Saint Mary’s in 1969 and declared her major in modern languages as the first indication of the two schools’ movement toward full anticipation of the merger. So in Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame began to consolidate administra­tions and academic depart­ments and eventually merged majors among the schools.

But after the merger was called off, the students who enrolled in major programs at Notre Dame finished the depart­mental requirements and graduated with degrees from Notre Dame. Consequently, even though Hoffman’s mother applied to Saint Mary’s, she graduated with a degree in modern languages from Notre Dame.

But her mother is consid­ered a Saint Mary’s alumna, and she even served as President of the Saint Mary’s Indianapolis Alumni Club.

Hoffman feels that the experiences that she and her mother have shared have strengthened the bond between them.

“My mother understands a lot about my college experi­ence because she lived it,” said Hoffman. “And she can relate to the philosophy of Saint Mary’s College and the spirit here. That still hasn’t changed in 30 years.”

Contact Emily Brammer at bram3011@stmarys.edu

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ND, SMC students add world view

International students provide new perspectives on campus

By TERESA FRALISH

For all students, college repre­

sents a journey marked by learn­ing and growth, and it seems even greater when they start on the other side of the world. This year’s seniors hail from locales across the world — as far away as China and Argentina.

Though enrollment numbers for international students have been on the rise at both schools over the past four years, foreign students are in a definite minori­ty, as only 38 will graduate from Notre Dame and two from Saint Mary’s.

But these students say they have come to love academic and student life here because of the important lessons about life with them as they travel back to their native countries or choose to remain in the United States.

“I was amazed to see wonder­ful people are here,” said Saint Mary’s senior Kremi Angelova, who is from Sofia, Bulgaria.

Senior Carol Tushabee, who transferred to Saint Mary’s from Holy Cross College as a sopho­more, said she chose to come to the United States because Holy Cross actively recruited her. Tushabee, who is from Uganda, was attracted to Saint Mary’s small size and academic reputa­tion.

“Overall, my experience has been good. The students and teachers have been really friend­ly,” she said.

At Saint Mary’s, Tushabee, a philosophy major and women’s studies minor, was involved in a myriad of activities but focused on service in the South Bend com­munity. Tushabee worked with adult literacy programs, was a member of the Around the World Club and volunteered at the Chapin Street Clinic.

“I would like to find a job with the UN that focuses on women in developing countries,” she said.

Notre Dame senior Maria Richa, who is from Panama, said that the academic excellence of American schools was a major factor in her decision to come to the United States. “There’s a lot of Panamanians that go to college in the U.S.,” she said. “My father graduated from Notre Dame.”

At Notre Dame, Richa, who is a psychology major, said that adjusting to culture differences posed a challenge at first, but she soon began to feel at home at the University. Richa participated in formative years through the Office of International Students Services and Activities and helped plan international student banquets for her freshman, sophomore and junior years.

After leaving Notre Dame, Richa intends to return to Panama and eventually attend graduate school for clinical psy­chology in either Europe or the United States.

“I want to practice [as a psy­chologist] and probably open a kindergarten for children with mental deficiencies,” she said.

Like Richa, Angelova, a computa­tional mathematics major, said she chose to attend school in the United States because of the aca­demie reputation of American col­leges and her influence of another friend who attended school in the United States.

“When Saint Mary’s offered her an academic scholarship, Angelova decided to leave her family and friends behind for a new experience,” she said.

“I was my first time going abroad,” she said. “It was difficult to cross over the barrier of com­munication from another country.”

But once at Saint Mary’s, Angelova found a welcoming community and a variety of activi­ties to participate in. An active member of the Math Club and a founding member of the Around the World Club, Angelova said her presence and that of other inter­national students helped to change the dynamics of student life at the College.

“I’m going to miss this close knit community,” she said.

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu

“…”

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Women's studies and BBA involve a myriad of activities, but focused on service in the South Bend community. Tushabee worked with adult literacy programs, was a member of the Around the World Club and volunteered at the Chapin Street Clinic. She began her interest in the area of literacy programs, was a member of the Around the World Club and volunteered at the Chapin Street Clinic. She began her interest in the area of literacy programs, was a member of the Around the World Club and volunteered at the Chapin Street Clinic.
Diversity in Saint Mary's seniors

By NATALIE BAILEY

Approximately 350 women will make the transition from students to alumnae Saturday, May 17.

'While facing an increasingly tough economy, an estimated 70 percent of the class of 2003 are going into the work force full time,' said Marquette's senior director of communication, John Pauley.

'Our graduates are not only getting jobs, they are getting jobs in the fields that they want to go into,' she said.

Of the 14 graduates receiving a bachelor of science in nursing, most either have jobs or are entering the field. Graduates are entering diverse clinical specialties from midwifery to oncology.

The outlook is not as certain for students graduating with bachelor of arts and bachelor of business administration degrees.

'It looks like it will take three to four months for a lot of seniors to find a job,' John Pauley, professor and department chair of communication studies, said.

Many students are moving to the area of the country where they want to relocate and then starting a job search from there. Also, 30 percent of the class is looking to enter graduate or professional schools.

Kerry O'Reilly, one of the 35 graduates receiving a bachelor of arts in elementary education, plans to enroll in Marquette University's top ranked speech pathology program.

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Contact Natalie Bailey at
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Saint Mary's has plan to replace Eldred

By ANNELEISE WOOLFORD

The Saint Mary's College Board of Trustees outlined its plan April 25 for selecting a replacement for Marliou Eldred, who announced her retirement March 5 but said she would remain as college president until her successor is hired.

The plan, which the Board presented to College faculty, staff and students in a letter in early May, calls for the establishment of a special search committee and sets a December goal or naming a replacement.

'The goal of the Saint Mary's College Board of Trustees and the entire College community is to attract an outstanding individual to serve as President,' Sister Joan Marie Steedman, chair of the Board of Trustees, wrote in the letter. 'This person should embody the core values of Saint Mary's, a commitment to its mission and its continued growth as a nationally recognized and ranked Catholic, women's, residential, liberal arts college.'

At its April 25 meeting, several days prior to the letter's writing, the Board of Trustees approved the search committee's development, along with the process employed to search for a presiden­tal candidate.

Also at the time, Colleen Ryan was selected as chairperson of the committee and John O'Connor as vice chair. Both are members of the Board.

The remainder of the Search Committee will consist of five Trustees, one member of the Congregation of the Sisters of the Holy Cross, two faculty members, two administrative members (one academic and one non-academic), one member of the student body, one alumna, one member of the Parents Council and one member from the South Bend community.

As stated in the letter, those individ­uals chosen to fill the positions

"will operate in an environment of mutual respect and cooperation, focused solely on the best interests of the College as a whole."'

'I believe the Search Committee well represents all Saint Mary's constituents,' Eldred said in response to the Board of Trustees' decision. 'I can only hope the search was not open and I did not have the opportunity to meet many of the candidates so that made it difficult for both me and the College.'

Once formed, the Committee will attempt to attract a broad range of candidates, both traditional and non­traditional along with qualified graduates of Saint Mary's.

'The search will be proactive, reaching out to possible candidates who are not currently seeking a new position, but who would be excited about leading a nationally ranked college,' Steedman said.

Members of the Search Committee are required to sign a confidentiality agreement once appointed. While they will maintain consistent communication with the College community regarding the search process, the Committee's activities, discussions, materials and decisions will be kept confidential.

When at least three candidates are interviewed, they will then be invited to campus for the purpose of meeting with key figures of the College prior to the Board of Trustees' appointing of a new president.

The Board will hold a meeting in December 2003 at which time it expects to name a president­elect. 'I think December 2003 is an appropriate schedule, particularly for someone coming from higher education,' Eldred said. 'If the president is selected from the corporate world or is not in higher education, then perhaps it is a more possible schedule.'

Overall, Eldred is confident in the approach the Board is tak­ing to the presidential search.

'The next President of Saint Mary's College will build on the strong legacy of Dr. Marliou Eldred and her predecessors,' Steedman said.

Contact Anneleise Woolford at woolf8338@saintmarys.edu

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Contact Anneleise Woolford at woolf8338@saintmarys.edu
Two rectors leaving residence halls

♦ Rectors of Zahm Hall and St. Edward's Hall departing

By MELISSA LOU

Contact Melissa Lou at mlo@nd.edu

Parrish is a University of Portland graduate who is completing his masters of divinity at Notre Dame. He will be ordained a priest next April.

Father Tom Eckert will succeed Mojzisek as rector at St. Edward's Hall. The Notre Dame alumnus from Huntington, Ill. was ordained a priest on April 26.

Andrew Thagard contributed to this article.

Rector John Mojzisek talks with a student. Mojzisek will be leaving St. Edwards Hall at the end of this year.

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-CANDACE, KATIE AND "THE FAM"
University cuts force colleges to look at budgets

Admissions increases and construction project cuts among options for colleges

By KATE NAGENCAG
Senior Staff Writer

Since the University Board of Trustees called for budget cuts in March as a result of losses to the endowment and a down economy, each college is now working to finalize its 2003-04 budget and determine the effects of a 5 percent cut to academic and student life expenditures mandated by the Board.

Although the cut represents only a small portion of the University’s estimated $640 million in annual expenses, it’s significant at Notre Dame where the Board has not cut-tailed spending in nearly two decades.

Coupled with a 6.5 percent tuition increase, which will bring 2003-04 tuition and room and board costs to $34,100, University budget cuts could affect student life — though University officials said they aim to avoid changes that would have a direct impact on students, especially student finances.

“There’s been a rigorous attempt to hold down tuition increases with wise decision making in the budget,” said Matt Storin, University spokesman. “We want to arrive at a budget figure that will do the least damage to our University missions.”

“We want to maintain funding for faculty to competing academics or industry. The last thing we want to do is to lose a faculty member,” said Miller.

According to accounting professor Jim McConnell, vice president for business operations, told The Observer in April, “The University should cut back on certain expenses, not on student life necessities.”

“Every now and then it seems the University is tightening the budget,” said Koleman. “We need to arrive at a budget figure that will do the least damage to our University missions.”

First Year Studies was also asked to make a 5 percent budget cut, but Koleman said that could be accomplished through fewer summer mailings and relying more on Internet communication, without adversely affecting students.

According to Arts Preacher, assistant dean in the College of Arts and Letters, Arts and Letters will also allow the number of transfer students it admits and decrease the number of student leaves of absence it grants, a scenario she believes will be problematic.

Arts and Letters typically admits 60 to 70 sophomore and junior transfer students per year, but for 2003-04 it has been asked to admit 90 students.

“It means we’ll have to look at compromising quality,” said Preacher. “With 90 students accepted you may actually be taking students who won’t fare well in the classrooms here.”

Arts and Letters will also allow only 16 leaves of absence in 2003-04, roughly eight per semester, after allowing up to 40 this year. This cut could hinder study abroad opportunities for students who want to take a leave of absence to travel through programs outside of Notre Dame’s International Studies and London Program offerings and want to receive credit for their time away.

Preacher said her office would now prioritize leave request based upon whether applicants had already had an abroad experience and if they were interested in participating in programs where Notre Dame had no existing offering, such as Africa.

Preacher said increasing enrollment through the combination of larger incoming classes, more transfer students and fewer leaves of absence could increase class size, limit course availability, or even risk students’ ability to graduate in the expected four to five years with a semester abroad and mounting scheduling conflicts.

The College of Science and the College of Business typically offer larger classes and encounter fewer scheduling dilemmas, but nonetheless the College of Science, but the College of Business results are enviable for Marvin Miller, chair of the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Miller said his department like-wise prioritized faculty retention and therefore allowed for a 1.5 percent increase in faculty salaries to "keep morale up."

"To cut faculty and staff salaries would be imprudent," said Miller. "The worst thing we could do is lose faculty to competing academics or industry. The last thing we want to do is make it attractive for them to leave."

But, according to Miller, 90 percent of the Chemistry and Biochemistry budget is salaries, thus forcing its supply budget to take a 30 to 35 percent cut to meet next year’s University budget requirements. He said there was double digit inflation in the cost of scientific supplies, but his department budget has not increased in five years.

"Teaching science is relatively expensive," said Miller. "My biggest fear is that come February or March of next year, we’ll walk into the labs and have to tell the students, ‘Sorry, we’re out of supplies.’ Needless to say we’ll be frustrated in our teaching efforts without supplies."

Various campus construction projects have also been delayed or halted as a result of budget restraints, Jim Lybouquet, vice president for business operations, said The Observer in April. Delayed projects include a new science and learning building to be built north of the Joyce Center for $70 million, a new post office and security building near the Stepan Center, and improvements to the LaFortune Center. Projects that were completed or are still on schedule despite cuts include the Marie P. DeBartolo Center for Performing Arts, the Stepan Chemistry Hall, O’Shaughnessy Hall renovations and Hesburgh Library renovations.

Preacher said an additional faculty concern related to building projects is parking as teachers will for the first time be charged for parking beginning in the fall of 2004.

"The University is tightening the budget and in many ways they’ve needed to do it," said Preacher. "Every now and then it seems the University should cut back on certain luxuries. You look at the grounds and wonder where they lay down and tear up sidewalks repeatedly. Money seems to flow to some places more than others."

Contact Kate Nagencag at knagenga@nd.edu

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Friday, May 16, 2003
The Observer - CAMPUS NEWS
By ANDREW SOUKUP  

Scully resigns as executive VP 

The University's third-ranking official announced his resignation Aug. 20 to take a position as executive vice president but remain a member of the faculty.

Father Timothy Scully informed the University's Board of Trustees that his resignation would take effect June 30. The Trustees scheduled to include a report from a four-person search committee formed to investigate Scully's successor, including a Jan. 16 confrontation with two local television reporters and a camera-

However, University spokesman Matt Storin said Scully's resignation was tendered to the Board before the report was discussed. The report, Storin said, cleared Scully of any wrongdoing.

A South Bend Tribune report on May 3 said Scully's resignation was over a possible crisis in the upper echelon of the University's leadership, according to unnamed sources in the University's administration quoted by the Tribune.

A member of the advisory board including University President Father Edward Malloy — wanted Scully out, according to the Tribune, which also cited sources as saying Malloy was prepared to replace Scully someday.

In a prepared statement, Scully did not provide a reason for his resignation. Malloy, in the same University-based statement, said, "His tenure has been marked by his creative thinking, his wise business sense and his passion for the well-being of the University community."

A search committee formed by the Board of Trustees will lead a search to find Scully's successor, but Storin said he did not know when the Board of Trustees would name Scully's successor.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as an officer of the University for the last nine years," Scully said in his statement. "My first love has always been teaching and pastoral ministry. I am excited at the prospect of returning full time to those pursuits."

Despite Scully and Malloy were available for comment, and the only official University response came in the form of a statement that cited many of Scully's achievements. "The statement largely speaks for itself," Storin said.

"The fruits of his dynamic decision-making and his passion for quality performance will continue to influence this University long into the future," said the chairman of the board of governors, Patrick McCarron, in a statement. "We respect the personal importance of the service he has made to step down but look forward to continuing a relationship with him as a member of the Board of Fellows and the Board of Trustees as a valued member of the faculty."

Scully, who was initially scheduled to teach a class entitled "Leadership and Social Concern" in the fall semester, is not teaching, according to Father Timothy Kenney, who served in the Holy Alliance for Catholic Education. Notre Dame graduates have included a Jan. 16 confrontation with two students were affected by the decision to cancel class because the teacher was not on the roster, and Scully had not approved any substitutions before the class was cancelled.

In a voice mail message left with The Observer Tuesday, Scully said he looks forward to the challenge of returning to teaching and research.

A member of the political science department, Scully says his intentions to teach one of three courses: comparative politics, Latin American politics and Leadership and Social Concern.

He will continue to chair the advisory board for the Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, to serve as the director of the Institute for Educational Initiatives and to chair of the board of the Alliance for Catholic Education, which he founded.

"I can't wait to be able to spend more time in my beloved Fisher Hall (where Scully lives) and celebrate Mass," said Scully, who was loaned a rotary phone while he called that. "That, combined with a very heavy teaching agenda and working as a Fellow and Trustee will keep me very busy."

Scully did not talk about what made him decide to resign in the message. He could not be reached for further comment.

N o t e: Father Edward Malloy received an honorary doctor of divinity degree from Saint Leo University in Saint Leo, Fla., during its commencement ceremonies May 10. He was his 14th such honor.

Malloy also delivered the commencement address to a record 495 students who were receiving their bachelor's degrees.

Notre Dame's 16th president, Malloy was elected by the Board of Trustees in 1986, and he has led the University at a time of rapid growth in its reputation, faculty and resources. During his tenure, Notre Dame's faculty has increased by more than 350, the academic quality of the student body has improved dramatically, and the number of minority students has more than doubled.

The University's $2.6 billion endowment is among the top 20 in higher education, and its recently completed "Generations" capital campaign raised $1.1 billion, by far the most successful in the history of Catholic higher education and just the twelfth billion-dollar campaign ever for a private university.

Malloy has been a driving force behind efforts to promote community service and combat substance abuse. A member of the advisory board of AmeriCorps and the National Civilian Community Corps, he also is a founding director of the Points of Light Foundation, a member of the board of governors of the Boys and Girls Clubs of America and a member of the Indiana Community Service and Volunteer Committee and the Indiana Commission on Community Service.

Ceremony to honor graduating volunteers 

Special to The Observer 

Some 185 Notre Dame graduating seniors who are embarking on a year or more of service in this country and abroad will be honored at the University's annual Senior Service Send-Off at 10 a.m. Saturday in Washington, D.C.

University President Father Edward Malloy will address the seniors, speaking about the importance of service in education and throughout life, and reflections on postgraduate service will be offered by Charles Kenney, assistant professor of political science at the University of Oklahoma and a 1980 Notre Dame graduate. Kenney, who served in the Holy Cross Associates program in Haywood, Calif., from 1980-83, received master's and doctoral degrees in international studies from Notre Dame in 1997 and 1998, respectively. In 1998, he married Cardiac Marchand, have four children.

A member of the advisory board of the 12th billion-dollar campaign, Father John U. L. Malloy was elected by the Board of Trustees in 1986, and he has led the University at a time of rapid growth in its reputation, faculty and resources. During his tenure, Notre Dame's faculty has increased by more than 350, the academic quality of the student body has improved dramatically, and the number of minority students has more than doubled.

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Elia Serrano  
Jennifer Stoner  
Caroline Wagner
Father Sam Peters dismissed following allegation

By MEGHANNE DOWNES

News Editor

The rector of Sorin Hall, Father Sam Peters, was fired after university officials said he had an "inappropriate sexual relationship" with an adult female, a school spokesman said May 7.

The University first learned of the relationship between Peters and the woman when a family member of the woman notified school officials, said University spokesman Matt Storin, who declined to comment on whether the female was a student.

"The family has requested that we do everything to guard the privacy of this woman," Storin said.

However, Storin added that the woman was not a minor.

"It is unclear how long the relationship lasted. However," Storin said the relationship occurred during this school year.

The University removed Peters from his position as rector May 1 and officially fired him a few days later, Storin said. Peters, who had served as Sorin's rector since 2001 and was ordained a Holy Cross Priest last Sept., is no longer allowed on Notre Dame's campus. It is unclear if he will be removed from the priesthood for his inappropriate sexual relationship.

A statement from the Indiana Province of the Congregation of Holy Cross expressed concern for the woman's family and regret for Peters' actions.

"We are deeply sorry and apologize for the betrayal of the trust that the People of God place in those whom we ordain for sacred duties," the statement said. According to the statement, Peters is still a priest at this time but is not permitted to exercise public ministry in the immediate future. "It will be important for him to re-examine his life priorities and his fidelity to them," the statement said.

Father Mark Poorman, director of Student Affairs, officially notified Sorin residents of Peters' dismissal May 6. A replacement for Peters has not yet been named.

Before becoming Sorin's rector in 2001, Peters taught at St. Joseph's High School in South Bend and served at Christ the King Catholic Church in South Bend and St. Pius X in Granger.

Father Peters made his perpetual profession of the religious vows of poverty, chastity and obedience on Sept. 1, 2001 and was ordained a priest exactly one year later. His ordination was delayed because Peters, who told Notre Dame Magazine that he was a recovering alcoholic, was found living in a drinking wineseat at the altar—a problem the Vatican corrected by granting him a special dispensation.

Father Sam Peters was fired as rector of Sorin Hall after allegations surfaced that he had engaged in an "inappropriate sexual relationship."

The family has requested that we do everything to guard the privacy of this woman.

Matt Storin
University spokesman

Notre Dame Magazine—the University's alumni magazine—profiled Peters' journey to the priesthood in its Spring 2003 issue, at one point likening him to a Holy Cross recruiting poster. According to the article, Peters frequently welcomed students into his room and wanted to avoid situations of impropriety—given the recent sexual scandals in the Catholic Church—when he made a potentially suicidal student sleep on his couch.

Sorin residents said Peters was known for talking about how happy he was with his wife and his children.

"I'm the happiest guy you've ever met who's poor, celibate and obedient," Peters told the magazine.

Contact Meghanne Downes at mdowell@nd.edu

The Notre Dame chapter of Phi Beta Kappa congratulates and welcomes its new members of the class of 2003.

The Observer • CAMPUS NEWS

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Friday, May 16, 2003

The Notre Dame chapter of Phi Beta Kappa congratulates and welcomes its new members of the class of 2003.

Miss Kathryn Elizabeth Anderson
Ms Kimberly Jane Berg
Mr Richard Tobias Biebel
Ms Jennifer Diane Guintu
Ms Mary Colleen Ganey
Miss Margaret Ann Fitzpatrick
Ms Christine Therese Ferrara
Ms Catherine Mary DiSipio
Ms Ashlee Mary Logan
Ms Beth Ann Lewinski
Ms Kirstin Frances Krueger
Mr Jason Andrew Klocek
Ms Erin Lynn Kennedy
Ms Ann Kellog
Miss Marlayna Ann Soenneker
Mr Brian Thomas Smith
Mr Daniel Benjamin Schmid
Ms Meridith Anne Runke
Ms Stephanie Frances Pall
Mr Jared Christian Jodrey
Ms Amanda K. Horvath
Ms Meghan Christine VanDeventer
Ms Jennifer Josephine Theis
Ms Elizabeth Anne Kahling
Ms Jennifer Suzanne Spanbauer
Mr Jason Jeffrey Halvorson
Ms Jennifer Diane Guintu
Mr Kevin Michael Hansen
Ms Jessica Clare Higgins
Ms Kathleen Anne Higgins
Mr Nicholas Gaston Holovaty
Mr Daniel Scott Hoople
Ms Amanda K. Horvath
Ms Meghan Christine VanDeventer
Ms Jennifer Josephine Theis
Mr Jason Jeffrey Halvorson
Ms Jennifer Diane Guintu
Mr Kevin Michael Hansen
Ms Jessica Clare Higgins

Mr Adam Michael Nicholson
Ms Kelly Rose Ninneman
Ms Christina Rose Noelzel
Mr David Andrew Nordin
Mr Matthew Joseph O'Rourke
Ms Stephanie Frances Pall
Ms Rebecca Marie Reilly
Ms Eilyn Elizabeth Rideout
Ms Meredith Anne Runke
Mr Nicholas Edward Salazar
Mr Joel Robert Schaffer
Miss Amy Beth Schiek
Ms Amy Marie Schill
Mr Daniel Benjamin Schmid
Ms Jessica Marie Schmidt
Mr Patrick Edward Sluka
Mr Brian Thomas Smith
Miss Marilyna Ann Soenneker
Ms Kathryn Louise Solic
Ms Jennifer Suzanne Spanbauer
Mr Robert Peter Stachecki
Mr Brian Albert Staub
Ms Maggie Marie Stoecker
Mr Glenn Loyd Strycper
Ms Carolyn Alicia Tampre
Ms Jennifer Josephine Thiel
Ms Alexandra Vanessa Torres
Ms Alison Christine Troy
Ms Meghan Christine VanDeventer
Ms Erica LaMonaca Walker
Miss Allison Louise Werner
Mr Matthew Gerard Wysocki
Ms Stephanie Ann Zabela
Dear Graduates,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my prayers and best wishes to the members of the Class of 2003. I also want to express my gratitude for the rich contributions you have made to the University during your time here.

For those of you who are graduating seniors, I hope that we have achieved our goal of providing you with an education that your commitment to your faith in God and to the service of God’s people match your dedication to your chosen vocation and profession. We have high expectations of our graduates. The tremendous contribution that our alumni make to society and to the Church is a testament to the importance of these high expectations.

For those of you leaving with graduate and professional degrees, I hope that you will carry with you the best of our traditions as they relate to your discipline. If you bring to your chosen field a strong set of ethical convictions and a commitment to justice, you will represent the very best of Notre Dame.

May Our Lady, Notre Dame, continue to watch over you in the years ahead. We are blessed to have you as members of the Notre Dame family.

Sincerely yours,

Mark Poorman, C.S.C.
Vice President for Student Affairs
Another academic year is ending at Notre Dame. Most students have packed up and gone home. Seniors are enjoying their last days on campus before Commencement.

There is no way to quantify what Notre Dame has meant to them, but they will leave some statistical footprints.

For example, the Registrar’s office reports that 6,837 classes were taught during the past fall and spring semesters, including graduate, undergraduate and independent study courses.

About 180,000 textbooks were purchased at the Hammes Bookstore on campus.

Research grants totaled $43,902,214.

Students and visitors eating on campus consumed 1.5 tons of chicken strips, 60,000 gallons of milk, 88 tons of bananas.

There were 2 million meals served in the various dining halls, snack bars and restaurants, including 70,000 in the Morris Inn.

As anyone who visits the campus in autumn knows, it is hard to miss the Notre Dame Marching Band, either in performance or practice, but there are many other orchestras, bands, choirs and choral groups. They combined for 301 concerts and 115 band performances.

Some of those band performances were at the University’s 183 athletic contests, not counting tournaments that are under the supervision of the National Collegiate Athletic Association. Fans attending those events totaled 865,591.

That makes for a few dirty uniforms. But they were just part of the story at the St. Michael’s Laundry, which many students patronize. It processed 1.5 million tons of soiled fabric.

The spiritual side of Notre Dame is immeasurable, but Campus Ministry pegs the number of Masses, including those at the Basilica of the Sacred Heart, the crypt and residence hall chapels, at about 2,000.

It’s an incomplete list. There were kilowatt hours of electric power generated, gallons of water supplied, medications applied, acres of grass mowed, and so on.

After Sunday’s Commencement, the campus will be quiet for a few weeks before the summer session and various visiting groups will bring it back to life.

But, finally closing the school year, there are still about 2,700 undergraduate and graduate degrees to confer.

Now it’s time to put on your thinking cap.
GALA-ND/SMC Congratulates all the lesbian, gay, bi and transgender graduates of 2003, and their graduating friends and supporters...

& Welcomes you, your family and friends into our strong and growing alumni organization.

GALA-ND/SMC (Gay and Lesbian Alumni/ae of the University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s College) is an educational non-profit membership organization with over 850 members representing alumni, faculty, staff and families of the University and College.

Our user-friendly organization has no official affiliation with—and receives no financial support from—the University of Notre Dame or Saint Mary’s College. Our strength and support comes from our membership and our growing numbers.

To receive your welcoming first-year membership packet and for more information about our organization visit our web site at: http://galandsmc.org/
e-mail us at: galandsmc@aol.com
or write us at: GALA-ND/SMC
P.O.Box 257703
Chicago, IL 60625
It was Freshmen Orientation 1999 and I was stroking God Quad with my roommate. We stumbled upon an upperclassman that had inspired someone I knew in high school. After I told the student about my influence on my old acquaintance, the upperclassman asked, “Is she hot?” And so my true college experience began.

Notre Dame has a mystique that draws people to the campus like students to South Dining Hall when it serves chicken strips. Though Notre Dame is arguably the No. 1 Catholic institution in the country and the dining halls were supposedly No. 2 when we entered the University as freshmen, the rankings, the prominence and the “ohhs” and “ahhs” can be deceiving. This is how I felt when the awe-inspiring student flippantly replied to me and my roommate.

Even so, the world is full of people, places and situations that seem inconsistent. As inspirational as the upperclassman was to a high school teenager, he was also a typical 20-year-old guy. Yet, his off-the-cuff remark did not destroy Notre Dame’s reputation in my eyes. I’ve learned in these past four years that inconsistencies and obstacles will inevitably appear to complicate life, but there is always a chance to find a positive outcome. It takes more than one silly remark or a more serious incident to shatter the notion of tradition can be transformed. It takes more than one silly remark or a more serious incident to shatter the idea of tradition can be transformed.

Many people are drawn to Notre Dame for the tradition, the communal atmosphere and the Christian values the University espouses. As a student, I have learned that not everyone cares about the Notre Dame tradition, sometimes this community is exclusive and not everyone is a Christian. But I’ve also learned that the notion of tradition can be transformed. Mike Brown, Molly Kinder, Brooke Norton, Tumul Pauteur and Tyrone Williams are examples of this.

Also, students can find their niche in a sometimes exclusive Notre Dame through student clubs and other groups. As for religion, there are many outlets that allow students to strengthen their faith, but encounters with non-Christians are also fruitful and allow one to see the world from a new perspective. I thank Notre Dame for exposing me to the real world in small doses. During the last four years, Notre Dame was the place that welcomed me with its golden reflection, where I found opportunities to travel to Italy, Chile and Cuba, where I met my best friends, where I confronted unpleasantries and where I found opportunities to travel.

The University is skilled at easing students to strengthen their faith, but encounters with non-Christians are also fruitful and allow one to see the world from a new perspective.
Ah, graduation. How long have I been waiting for it to be my turn? Well, only four years, and yet sometimes it felt like it was never going to be my turn. So, I could write about how I’m going to miss my friends. I’ve changed over the years of how I’m going to miss classes, professors, and classes but instead I’m not. No sentimental-ism believe I’m graduating it’s gone-so fast that we’ve all heard before. No, instead, I’m going to tackle the issue of feminism.

Growing up, feminism was not a term I ever really heard. I mean I know about women’s liberation and the suffragette movement but I had no idea that there were feminists still around. It wasn’t until I came to Saint Mary’s that I began to hear the term on a regular basis.

It wasn’t until I came to college that I heard about modern feminists, such as Gloria Steinem and Alice Walker. It has been interesting to read about these women, some of which I agree with and some of which I do not.

Today, I think that feminism is much more than going off on a rant about a right or a wrong. It has to do with understanding the complexities, the different ways in which we live our lives, and the many different facets of feminism.

What I find interesting is that feminism is not just about women’s issues, but it’s about everyone’s issues. It’s about understanding the role of women in society and how they are viewed.

I think that feminism is much more than just being a part of a political movement. It’s about understanding the world we live in and how we can make it a better place for everyone.

Sarah Nestor
Senior Staff Writer

Well, we made it.

I didn’t want this column to be just one more in a long list of columns about saying goodbye. I mean I’ve been in on a lot of wonderful memories here in South Bend, I didn’t know how many of you would share similar stories. And, if you do understand there has been plenty of your own. You don’t want to read about mine.

So, instead, I’ve decided to offer a suggestion for how to hold on to those memories. I’m not offering ideas for scrap books or photo albums. Instead, I’m offering suggestion on how to hold on to your old memories and make a few new ones.

So, here goes.

U.T.P.

It’s about holding on to memories.

U.T.P.

It’s about sappy recollections of first days on campus or last moments under the Dome.

U.T.P.

It’s about all those things we love about Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame.

U.T.P.

It’s about leaving behind all those things we don’t love.

U.T.P.

It’s about remembering the smell of alcohol on Sunday morning when you wish you were reminded of the amount of alcohol you’ve consumed. It’s about pretending you were sober before.

So, U.T.P.

It is about holding on to memories.

Katie McVey
Senior Staff Writer

Holding on to memories

You talk about the smell of ethanol on Sunday morning when you wish you were sober. You talk about the smell of ethanol on Sunday morning when you wish you were sober. It’s about pretending you were sober before.

But as far as Molly was concerned, it wouldn’t be quite ultimate enough until she and her friends and I hit the big graduation mark in the Dome. And when you run into them, you can stop and say hi to them, still do all the cheers and chants on campus that holds some memory for you, still do all the cheers and chants on campus that holds some memory for you.

It’s about understanding your family who impressed and then tried to hide from for so long. It’s about finally understanding how they feel.

It’s about understanding that that you can stop them. It’s about understanding that that you can stop them.

It’s about finally understanding how they feel.

It’s about finally understanding how they feel.

It’s about understanding that you can stop them.

It’s about 8 a.m. finals.


Two years ago when your sister graduated, she and her friends started thinking about what would be a good idea to make for her and her friends. Trips to tailgates or even shopping malls didn’t appeal to her and her friends.

They decided to cook five-cent hotdogs on a grill you wouldn’t want to read about. They decided to cook five-cent hotdogs on a grill you wouldn’t want to read about. They decided to cook five-cent hotdogs on a grill you wouldn’t want to read about.

Sarah Nestor is a senior English writing major at Saint Mary’s who is writing a book about her and her friends. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
What our education can—and should be

A Notre Dame education, as with any reasonably complete education, encourages students to grow curious, to inquire, to test old dogmas and to confront the pressing moral problems of our day. I can say that Notre Dame continues to do this, despite the growth of a trade-school mentality in some circles, because every student who sought out a real education here could have found it.

During the past four years, this perpetually manicured campus has given us a semi-retreat from the harsh realities of the world—an environment where moral, scientific and philosophical discussions could take place free from the weighty concerns of political correctness and career advancement.

I am worried. I am worried about how many American folk find time to learn, challenge and explore. I am worried about the death of the foreign language requirement in four out of the University’s five colleges. I am worried about racial overtones in comments about Arabs, political statements torn from my bedroom door and a general unwillfulness to question the status quo and even a disinclination in its immoral consequences.

This is no time for complacency. The past four years have brought political turbulence on a global scale. Rather than binding together in mutual understanding, the world is shoring itself apart with hate and violence. Terrorists turned peaceful airplances into weapons, targeting thousands of American, French, Muslim, Mexican and other victims in two of the tallest buildings in the world. The American government has responded with two full-scale invasions that killed and maimed as least as many innocent people—whether or not those wars were justified, the dead must be remembered.

Indeed, this semester, the American government, unprompted, invaded a potentially oil-rich Third World country, weakened by 12 years of civilian sanctions and almost daily bombing. The justifications given by our government were flimsy and certainly inappropriate targets of informed moral inquiry. Yet, although the Pope, the U.S. bishops, other churches and global public opinion (outside the United States, Britain and Israel) denounced the war, the infamous weapons of mass destruction have not been found and the “liberation” of Iraq is occurring even as the United States prop up equally undemocratic regimes throughout the world. Many students have opted that it would be inappropriate to question the American presidency as a name like this. This certainly reflects the mood of the country and of Fox News, but I worry that it has come to characterize the otherwise morally inquisitive campus of Notre Dame.

Now is exactly the time when those who benefit from an education such as ours should push up their ears, pay attention to U.S. foreign policy and demand that such grave actions be taken within a rational, moral framework. Unfortunately, I worry that the dominant mood at Notre Dame has been dismissive of dissent. But, I may be wrong.

There are some indications that I am. For one thing, many students have experienced the force of Catholic Social Teaching through classes, late-night rap sessions or service-learning activities with the Center for Social Concerns—perhaps the most laudable institution on campus. The Catechism leads us to challenge every eco­ nomic system that fails to provide dignified work, the right to collective bargaining and a just wage. In fact, it has inspired some students and campus workers to question publicly why workers at this University are denied a just wage. Others have joined with the Coalition of Immokalee [Farm] Workers in Florida in asking Taco Bell to pay for a wage increase for tomato pickers—an increase they have not received in over 20 years.

Students take part in the community, often in ways that challenge the status quo with an eye toward improving American and global society. They teach that non-violence through “Take Ten,” complete internships or volunteer work with public interest organizations like Comerica for the Homeless or get to know their neigh­ bors or the “townies.” Plus, unlike the part of those students either against or for the recent war against Iraq, there has been a public discussion.

In any case, people who have received a top-notch education at Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s or Holy Cross cannot morally lay down and allow the established line to pre­ vail unquestioned and untested.

We are men and women of privilege, and one of the unfortunate things about privi­ lege is that it can blind us to the injustices endured by others. Our education should be the antidote to that. If we are really to follow the example of Our Lady, we must look in the downstrabad, to those who hear a heavy cross, to those who must give birth in a stable. We must strive not to join their oppressors, but to recognize our human solidarity with them. This knowledge is what a Notre Dame education can impart, and it is what many of us will take away.

Pat McElwee is a graduating senior and former Associate Viewpoint Editor. The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.

EXCERPTS FROM PAST ISSUES

Four years in review: Students react to campus issues

Campus responds to Sept. 11

With today’s tragedy comes much frustration and anger. Americans feel vulnerable; reality macks us hard and we recognize that we are not as safe as we might believe. The unimaginable happened, blatant acts of evil occurred and inno­ cent people died. Fathers, wives, nieces and friends were unjustly taken from us. As I watched today’s tragedy unfold, I questioned world peace...

...In the midst of such evil, thousands of people died. Fathers, wives, nieces and nephews were taken. We were jolted awake and we recognize that we are not as safe as we thought we were. Yet our government has responded with two full-scale invasions that killed and maimed as least as many innocent people—whether or not those wars were justified, the dead must be remembered.

Megan Horvath
sophomore
McGlinn Hall
Sept. 11, 2001

A new line has been drawn in the sand since Tuesday’s tragedy and it is not between the United States and foreign terrorists. It is between the people who believe in action and those who believe in doing nothing.

I believe that our country’s military needs to take action. My opinion has been called a knee­ jerk reaction and an ignorant response to what has happened. I believe different.

Our current government will have to make diffi­ cult decisions in the coming weeks. They will get their hands dirty, and there is a good chance of added bloodshed. Do I am more civilians killed? No I do not. But let’s face it, the cures have not been a deterrent. The old saying “actions speak louder than words” rings true in how I feel about America should respond.

So continue to talk, as I hope you all will do. Speak loudly in support of our government or protest the actions they take in the future.

Ryan Lockwood
junior
off-campus
Sept. 13, 2001

...Inside one of the largest “drinking schools” in the United States, will the lack of hard liquor affect our fabric at all? Only time will tell, but my personal belief is that it will have a nega­tive effect on our community? Or will it be to make it just a little more safe and a more respectful place for those who live within it? Students are protesting the administration infringing on our rights while many of these same students are given more rights by the University than are legally theirs as minors. With rights come respon­ sibilities...

Jose Hernandez
junior
Singled Hall
March 20, 2002

...What Father Mark Pournam’s policies tell us is that the University does not see students as adults, but as unconscious young adults that must be monitored and controlled in every way, shape and form. Instead of approaching us as adults, seeking our input (and I’m not talking focus groups, people groups possibly may have input on the university) the administration acted like bad parents. They waited until housing con­ tracts were in for next year and until RA’s were hired (I’m sorry, guys) to unveil their tradition-killling plans.

Katie Fuhrmann
junior
Notre Dame program in Puebla, Mexico
March 27, 2002

Father Mark Pournam claims 30 focus groups were consulted before this decision was made, but declines to specify who they were and what was said. His letter makes references to percentages, numbers and comparisons to other schools, yet does not include these statistics and assumes we will simply take his words at face value.

Perhaps if students had better access to the results of this study, we could better understand how this decision was made. If the situation is really that bad, then the evidence will be right there for us all to see.

Ryan Pohlsdon
junior
Morgan Hall
Sorin Hall
March 20, 2002

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By ANDREW THAGARD and MARIA SMITH
Scene Writer and Scene Editor

Notre Dame and Saint Mary's seniors are graduating this weekend, but what are they doing next?

While a few may hit up Walt Disney World in the coming week, their long-term plans are more varied.

Former Notre Dame football center Jeff Faine, for example, will suit up in a Cleveland Browns uniform this fall while Andrew Serazin, a senior biology major, will travel to Oxford University as a Rhodes scholar.

Students from both schools with a variety of majors will begin the climb up the corporate ladder as their peers head back to the classroom, enrolling in medical and law schools and a variety of other graduate programs. Other Notre Dame and Saint Mary's graduates will volunteer for a year or two through service programs in domestic and international locales and seniors in Army, Air Force and Navy ROTC will fulfill their commitments to serve the country. Students from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's are engaged and a few plan to tie the knot in the coming months.

Indeed, the post-graduate plans of this year's two classes are as diverse and varied as the students who compose them.

Called to serve
Students from both schools are continuing a long-standing tradition of giving back after graduation.

Anne Traynor, for example, will pack her bags and head to Micronesia this fall through a Jesuit Volunteer Corps program. The science education major will dedicate two years to teaching biology and chemistry.

"Since high school I've known I wanted to do some service after [college] graduation," she said. "I've done a lot of service in high school and college. I feel I learned a lot from it. I've had an opportunity to grow in my faith here and I'd love to expand on that."

Traynor is not alone. Andrea Smith Shappell, director of senior transition programs at the Center for Social Concerns, said approximately 10 percent of this year's graduating class are committed to service programs. Between eight and 10 percent of Saint Mary's graduates also plan to volunteer for the next year or two, said Sister Linda Kors, director of the SURF Center.

Popular programs for Notre Dame seniors include Holy Cross Associates and the Alliance for Catholic Education, both of which are based on campus. Many Saint Mary's students are volunteering through the Peace Corps and Jesuit Volunteer Corps, though graduates from both schools are committed to a variety of different programs.

According to Kors and Shappell, students pursue post-graduate service for a variety of reasons. Many volunteer extensively during their time at Notre Dame and Saint Mary's and want to continue assisting others. Some cite a desire to grow in their religious faith as a motivating factor.

"It felt like I was getting stuff constantly throughout my years of education," said Rory Dippold, a history major who will teach middle school children in Mobile, Ala. through ACE. "I wanted to give back. I wanted to do service through teaching."

Despite the economic situation, few students said they elected to pursue service because of problems securing a job. Recent events in the Middle East have also not deterred graduates from pursuing international service programs. In fact, the percentage of students traveling abroad for service at both schools is the highest in recent years.

Back to the books
Even though some students are too tired of books to continue with more education after four years of college, others jump right back into academia, pursuing various graduate programs.

In the past, anywhere from 13 to 17 percent of seniors have gone on to continue their studies after graduation.

Many Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students are headed on to prestigious programs or are the recipients of well-known academic honors.

Senior Maura Kelly will spend 13 months in Brazil on a Fulbright scholarship next year studying democracy, income equality and social policy in the cities of Curitiba and Porto Alegre. The program offers up to 10 awards for lecturing and research each year to students with high academic and extracurricular qualifications.

Kelly applied in September of the past year at the encouragement of many of her professors and heard back from the program on May 5.

"It's a very humbling experience to go through your senior year knowing that what you want to do is in the hands of other people," said Kelly. "The encouragement I've received is an affirmation of the presence and community that exists at Notre Dame and that I think a lot of the students feel.

"Law school is another popular destination for graduating seniors, attracting as much as eight percent of the class in past years. Although law school is most popular among students in the College of Arts and Letters, students from every school except architecture go on to study law every year.

Senior Veronica Berger plans to attend either Notre Dame Law School or the law school at Cornell University.

"I'm excited to get on my own two feet for once, and do something that I'm really interested in," said Berger.

While approximately 14 percent of Arts and Letters graduates go on to law school, almost 40 percent of science graduates go on to medical or dental...
school. Many medical students enter Notre Dame with the full knowledge that they have eight years of school and up to six years of residency ahead of them and take advantage of the undergraduate years to pursue other interests as well.

"I knew what I wanted to do when I started and I came in as an anthropology and ALPP major," said Brita McCullough, who will attend medical school at Loyola University of Chicago. "It's a good background and gives me a good perspective on medical school."

For engineering students, graduate school also is a popular option, though not a necessity. Two years earning a master's degree or five years earning a Ph.D. open doors to a wide variety of jobs and teaching positions in the field.

Engineering student Jim Dalton plans to enter the University of Wisconsin's electrical engineering program in the fall and hopes to earn a Ph.D. and work in the field before teaching. "A lot of people still don't have jobs, so graduate school is a good option," said Dalton. "Given the economy, it's a good choice."

Bringing in the bucks After four years spending money on an education at Notre Dame or Saint Mary's, many graduates have decided it's time to start making some. Laura Ramirez, an accounting major, will move to Sacramento, Calif., after graduation to begin her new job with Ernst and Young. She will work as an auditor, visiting clients' workplaces with a team to review their financial statements. While many seniors are struggling to find employment, Ramirez knew her post-graduation plans last summer when the company recruited her after an internship.

"It's extremely exciting," she said of her new job. "There's a lot of uncertainty with what I'll be doing next year. There will be a lot of travel.

Other students' plans are more tentative. Maria Conticelli, a Saint Mary's theater major, plans to move to Chicago with some friends after the summer and launch an acting career. The Atlanta native will visit a lot of companies once she arrives and hopes to land a part with a traveling theatre group, she said.

"It's something that's hard to plan for," Conticelli said. "When you're starting out you recommend you start out in Chicago, New York and Los Angeles can be extremely overwhelming. It's almost better to get started in a smaller market."

Lee Svet, director of the Career Center, said that on average 53 to 60 percent of students are employed after graduation, in addition to those pursuing service and graduate education. This year, the number of employed students may be slightly lower, Svet said, as the slow economy steers more students into medical and law schools.

"This has probably been one of the most compressed markets in a number of years," said Jeff Roberts, interim assistant director of counseling and coordinator of placement services at Saint Mary's Counseling and Career Development Center. "The upside is that the economy is still moving along. People are getting hired. There are opportunities.

Tyding the knot Everyone's headed into a mysterious future after graduation, but some seniors aren't going alone. It has been estimated that up to 60 percent of Notre Dame graduates and 1 in 10 Saint Mary's students will eventually marry a Notre Dame alumnus.

For many students, the dream is to be married in the Basilica of the Sacred Heart on campus. This summer alone, the Basilica will host 37 weddings of Notre Dame and Saint Mary's graduates. However, only those who plan far in advance actually get the opportunity. Reservations open the first day of March the year prior to the event, and 90 percent of spots are filled on the first day.

Most graduating engaged couples choose to wait a year or so before tying the knot. Senior Katie Ball and junior Andrew Thagard at athagard@nd.edu

Senior Saint Mary's student Jill Clark and her fiance Ryan Hunt started dating only six months before getting engaged.

Contact Maria Smith at msmith4@nd.edu or Andrew Thagard at athagard@nd.edu

Danielle Ledesma sews dolls during an international service convention in August 2002. Ledesma is awaiting placement in an Americorp program.

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**ND WOMEN'S TENNIS**

**Season comes to an end in second round of the NCAAs**

**No. 21 Irish drop match 4-0 to No. 16 Vanderbilt**

By JOE LINDSLEY

Sports Writer

A successful season came to a tough end for the No. 21 Irish as they fell 4-0 to No. 15 Vanderbilt in the second round of the NCAA Tournament May 10 in Nashville, Tenn.

Notre Dame, who finished the season 16-9, began the match by losing the doubles point and then the bottom three singles matches.

Playing without the services of senior captain Katie Cunha, Notre Dame enjoyed only one victory against Vanderbilt. The doubles duo of freshman Lauren Connelly and junior Alicia Salas topped their second-ranked opponent in two days as they defeated Sarah Riske and Aleke Tsonbana.

For Connelly and Salas, it was their 13th win in 16 matches.

Unfortunately, the team as a whole was not able to achieve back-to-back victories in the NCAA tournament. The Irish began the route to the national championship by defeating No. 38 Wake Forest 4-1 in the first round May 9.

Connelly and Salas got the Irish off to a promising start with their upset of the No. 15 doubles duo of Urska Juric and Katka Sesvokova. Their win at No. 1 doubles clinched the point for the Irish and it marked the 12th time in the last 15 matches the Irish have done so.

Lauren Connely's younger sister, sophomore Sarah Jane Connelly, also had success in doubles. Paired with freshman Kristina Stastny, the Irish pair succeeded at No. 2.

Junior Caylan Leslie and freshman Jennifer Smith fell at No. 3 doubles, and the challenge continued for Leslie who fell to No. 36 Juric in singles.

The Irish singles victory was the only point Missouri would earn enough for all-Big East honors. Though they will be losing the team's top doubles pair and the Irish No. 1 of Cunha's mother last year.

Notre Dame's record may not entirely reflect the team's successful season given that the Irish faced much of the nation's most powerful teams. Stastny fought a scrappy match in the No. 1 doubles match against the Hurricanes' home courts. That win was especially pleasing for the Irish who had finished their regular season down in Miami, but with a 6-1 loss to the Hurricanes.

The title match of the Big East conference tournament between the Irish and Hurricanes included a doubles match that had truly come down to the last point. Stastny and Connell had reached a 7-1 lead, but Miami's Tigna deVilliers and Abby Smith put up a strong rally to surge with in reach of the Irish pair. In the end the Irish won, and the Notre Dame claimed the Big East title.

An important moment of the season for both the team and especially for Cunha was the win over the No. 15 ranked opponent in two days as they defeated Sarah Riske and Aleke Tsonbana. That win was especially pleasing for the Irish who had finished their regular season down in Miami, but with a 6-1 loss to the Hurricanes.

The No. 2 doubles team of Sarah Jane Connelly and Stastny fought a scrappy match that had truly come down to the last point. Stastny and Connell had reached a 7-1 lead, but Miami's Tigna deVilliers and Abby Smith put up a strong rally to surge within reach of the Irish pair. In the end the Irish won, and the Notre Dame claimed the Big East title.

WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

Irish fall just short at Big East Championships, finish 2nd in the same race, Jennifer Handley took fourth.

Meanwhile, in the field, Emily Loomis won the individual high jump title, clearing 1.75 meters. Loomis finally got an individual championship after finishing in the top three at the last three conferences.

For the women's track and field team, Notre Dame won the 100 meters, 100 meter hurdles, 200 and 400 meters.

Pittsburgh (94), Syracuse (70), Villanova (62) and Georgetown (62) rounded out the rest of the top six.

In the distance events, freshman Molly Flood was the Irish highlight, as she won the 3,000 meters easily (9:28.51), finishing seven seconds ahead of second-place finisher Mary Callen of Providence.

In the same race, Jennifer Handley took fourth.

Also in the jumps, Tameisha King won the long jump. She proceeded to take third in the triple jump.

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**ND SOFTBALL**

**Big East Champs looking to qualify for first World Series**

**FOURTH-SEED IRISH TRAVEL TO ANN ARBOR,Mich., FOR REGIONAL TOURNEY**

By MATT LOZAR

The Observer

In an eight-team regional fea­ turing the fourth-ranked team in the country, the defending national champion and a host team seeded third, one would think Notre Dame coach Deanna Gumpf and the fourth-seeded Irish (36-15) would be most concerned about one of these top 15 teams. But Notre Dame’s first round opponent that is worrying Gumpf is “I am not too worried about Missouri,” Gumpf said. “That is all I care about. They beat a lot of top teams and are going to be very tough.”

While a case could be made for Gumpf attempting to keep her team focused on its current opponent—or that Notre Dame has never beaten Missouri in five previous meetings—Missouri does bring an impressive resume to this weekend’s Region VII Tournament at the University of Michigan. The fifth-seeded Tigers (31-18) dropped both of their games in the Big 12 Tournament but collected some major wins in the regular season in Missouri, making its first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1999, split doubleheaders with Oklahoma, currently ranked fifth nationally, and Nebraska, currently ranked No. 11.

With the Tigers backing into this weekend’s regional tournament after a disappointing performance at the Big 12 Tournament, Irish head to Ann Arbor, Mich., riding a full head of steam.

At last weekend’s Big East Tournament, the Irish won all four of their games to claim their second straight title. Third baseman Steffany Stenglein hit a walk-off home run in the bottom of the ninth to propel Notre Dame to a 3-2 victory over Villanova in the championship game.

Loman earned the tournament’s Most Outstanding Player for the second consecutive year after hitting .506 in Notre Dame’s four games. Loman also won the Big East Player of the Year award prior to the tournament. Pitcher Heather Booth was voted the Rookie of the Year at the same postseason awards brunch.

Booth, Loman, Megan Ciulli, Lisa Mattison and Meagan Rutherford were named to the Big East’s Most Outstanding Player, Defensive Player and Rookie of the Year. Booth was also named to the All-American second team. Senior Rickie Martin was named to the third team. Junior Mary Lou Coughlin was named to the All-Big East Freshman Team.

Tournament has Gumpf feeling good, but not too good, about her team heading into this weekend.

“I think we are not playing perfectly, but very well. We can’t make mistakes in these types of games.”

Deanna Gumpf Irish coach

Notre Dame catcher Mallorie Lenn gets a St. John’s runner out at the plate in a game at Ivy Field April 11. The Irish are playing in the NCAA Regionals this weekend in Ann Arbor, Mich.

If we could get even more hitters to become hot … we are going to be a tough team to beat.”

Andrea Loman Irish senior

Contact Matt Lozar at mmlozar@nd.edu

**ROWING**

**Seniors have one last chance at qualifying for NCAAs**

By CHRISTINE ARMSTRONG

The Observer

A team qualification for the NCAA Championships would be the perfect graduation gift for seniors Ashline Warren, Casey Buckstaff, Andrea Ammon, Rebecca Campbell, Erica Drennen, Cassie Markstahler, Katie McCalden and Kerri Murphy.

Last year the Irish varsity eight received its first invitation to the NCAA Rowing Championships, where it placed 16th. But this year the senior rowers have focused on team eligibility.

From the start of the 2002-03 season, it was clear that these seniors would be excellent role models for underclassmen both on the water and in the classroom. In 2002, Warren became the first Irish rower to be named a Collegiate Rowing Coaches Association All-American and was also a second-team all-region hon­ oree.

Last year, rising seniors Natalie Ladine and Cassie Markstahler were named to the CRCA National Scholar-Athlete Squad. The seniors have consistently led the team to impressive performances this season, and Saturday’s races in the invitation-only NCAA Championships on Lake Washington in Seattle were no different.

The No. 24 Irish raced well against several high-caliber competitors on Lake Harveys, Washington, Washington State and Oregon State crews, who joined over 100,000 fans to commemorate Washington’s centennial year of rowing and to mark the opening of Washington’s yacht season. The Irish varsity eight placed third in its race, the second and third in the third race. Notre Dame hopes these strong finishes will help them as they look to advance to the NCAA Championships later this season.

In the Windermere Cup, the Belarus boat won in 6:46.45. At last year’s 2002 World Championships in Seville, Spain, three of Belarus’ rowers finished fifth. The two-time defending national champions Washington crew finished second in 6:47.61, while coxswain in Cassie Markstahler, Natalie Ladine, Warren, Casey Buckstaff, Rachel Polinski, Alice Bartek, Megan Boyle, Katie Chenoweth, Danielle Protasiewicz led Notre Dame’s boat to a third-place finish in 7:00.62.

On May 17 and 18, the Irish will race at the 2003 Central Regions in Oak Ridge, Tenn., where they placed fourth in the team competition last year. A strong finish will help the Irish travel to another berth in the NCAA Championships.

Contact Christine Armstrong
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Watson continued from page 40

upper echelon of runners. It's a fairly elite club.

With his time, Watson became the second Irish runner to break the four-minute mile, following in the footsteps of Chuck Aragon, who did it in 1981 with a time of 3:59.9.

That second placed Watson in the national spotlight of the running world as he recorded the fastest time for the mile in 2003 at that point in the year. It was a harbinger of a spectacular track season to come and he continued to build upon that as he pursued his goal of a career for Watson at Notre Dame.

"On the track, I'd say the four-minute mile would have to be right up there [as one of my greatest accomplishments]," Watson said. "It's just good to establish myself on that level. It's kind of the sign that you've arrived onto the elite running scene here in the U.S."

Not the full story

As the Notre Dame distances in the indoor and outdoor track meet, the victories marked the first time the Irish won both indoor and outdoor track wins were marked the highlight of a stellar career track season to come and into the early indoor track season, and I think they'll be even better the next year.

Watson helped young, talented runners such as freshmen Tim Moore and Vincent Ambrico and sophomore Eric Morrison develop from high school standouts into serious collegiate threats.

"I think a coach can only tell athletes so much, and the rest they have to pick up from their peers, so hopefully the younger guys have been able to learn from some of the things that I've been doing," Watson said. "Freshman year is really tough for those guys, because they come in and they're used to high school training, which is half of what we do here. So it's a big jump to make, and the older guys on the team always play a crucial role in bringing them up."

As the Notre Dame track program looks to the future, so does Watson. After the completion of this season, Watson begins training for the 2004 Olympics, his ultimate goal.

The first thing that everyone asks about is the Olympics," Watson said. "Those come up in 2004 in Athens, and that's the main goal of mine."

But even with all that work and preparation ahead, Watson can still look back on a great career at Notre Dame. With seven All-Americans titles or so far, numerous school records, and a sub-four-minute mile to his name, Watson has already carved his name in an already-rich tradition of Irish running.

"I think we were at a high point in 2001 in cross country," Watson said. "This year, we came down form that a little bit with a young squad, and even the older guys on the squad didn't have a lot of experience in cross country. But I think they've been able to learn from some of the things that I've been doing," Watson said. "Freshman year is really tough for those guys, because they come in and they're used to high school training, which is half of what we do here. So it's a big jump to make, and the older guys on the team always play a crucial role in bringing them up."

Watson senior Luke Watson has earned seven All-American honors in his career with the Irish.

Notre Dame senior Luke Watson has earned seven All-American honors in his career with the Irish.
Ryan
continued from page 40
made more of a difference than just playing high school tennis.”

Three years of success
Ryan entered her freshman year as a two-sport athlete, making both the basketball and tennis team. However, after practicing both sports three times a week for four hours a night, and at least one of the two

sports three other days during the week, Ryan became exhausted and decided to quit basketball after the season ended. "I couldn't just quit during the season, so I waited until it was over," Ryan said. Ryan returned to tennis the next season focused and refreshed.

“She always set a good example of how to work hard on the court for her teammates.”

Dee Stevenson
Belles coach

Ryan finished her senior year by winning at No. 2 doubles and second at No. 5 singles at the MIAA tournament. She compiled a 12-1 singles record and a 10-4 doubles record during the regular season.

Rewarded for her work
At the conclusion of the season, Ryan received the IHDA Year's Improvement Award for her dedication and play over the last few years. The honor was given to a player that demonstrates the most pride, hustle, desire and attitude. It was Ryan's first time receiving the accolade after getting the Most Dedicated award during her first three years on the team. But the IHDA honor was small in comparison to the MIAA award Ryan received soon after.

The Sue Little Memorial Award is given to an MIAA senior tennis athlete that showed the best sportsmanship during her four years in college. Ryan was surprised she received the award, but said she always strived to uphold the etiquette of tennis. "Personally, I'm shocked I got it," Ryan said. "There's a whole part of etiquette that goes along with tennis that I feel is a crucial part of the sport.

Ryan was only the second Saint Mary's player to receive such an honor.

RYAN'S ATTITUDE IS ALWAYS WELCOME HOME.

"We're definitely going to miss her next year."

Dee Stevenson
Belles coach

Ryan, whose Belles career ended with the team's third straight MIAA championship a few weeks ago, was dedicated to lead Ryan, especially one that has been so consistent over the last four years. "We're definitely going to miss her next year," Stevenson said.

Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu

Elisa Ryan glances to the side during a match earlier this season. The Minnesota product helped the Belles win the MIAA Championship in tennis this past season.

Elisa looks towards the ground during a recent match. Elisa Ryan overcame a wrist injury to win 12 of 13 matches at No. 5 singles for Saint Mary's this season.

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The Alliance for Catholic Education is proud to welcome its tenth class of Catholic school teachers. We give thanks for their gift of service to America’s Catholic schools. Please join us in congratulating the following 2003 graduates of Saint Mary’s College and the University of Notre Dame.

Welcome
ACE 10

Yogeld Andre
Cliff Arnold
Laura Aull
Brian Bircher
Kathleen Brogan
Gretchen Bryant
Katie Cawley
Catherine Corke
Rory Dippold
David Esch
Cynthia Fidanza
Tom Flanagan
Jesse Flores
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Michael Gracie
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Jill Houghton
Beth Jeub
Shatomi Kerbawy
Anne Klinkhammer
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Baton Rouge, Louisiana
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San Antonio, Texas
Los Angeles, California
Atlanta, Georgia
Fort Worth, Texas
San Antonio, Texas
Plaquemine, Louisiana
Brownsville, Texas
Birmingham, Alabama
Plaquemine, Louisiana

Luke Klopp
Charles Lamphier
Daniel Linton
Angela Lyzinski
Crystal Martinez
Madeleine McKenna
Kristine Monahan
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Norma Nelson
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Meredith Panzica
Brooke Piller
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Michael Ronan
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Emmeline Schoen
Peter Schnupp
Monica Stone
Laura Tushaus
Seth Whetzel
Andrew Zengel
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Brownsville, Texas
Nashville, Tennessee
Memphis, Tennessee
Mission, Texas
Pensacola, Florida
Atlanta, Georgia
Los Angeles, California
Dallas, Texas
Fort Worth, Texas
Brownsville, Texas
Charlotte, North Carolina
Kansas City, Kansas
Nashville, Tennessee
Mission, Texas
Dallas, Texas
St. Petersburg, Florida
Tucson, Arizona
Biloxi, Mississippi
Jackson, Mississippi
Mobile, Alabama
Memphis, Tennessee
Jacksonville, Florida
Senior guard Alicia Ratay dribbles against Arizona in the first round of the NCAA Tournament. Ratay averaged 12.1 points.

Women surprise country with tournament upsets

Friday, May 16, 2003

The Observer

WOMENS BASKETBALL

Irish reach fifth Sweet Sixteen in last seven years

By JOE HETTLER

All the trials and tribulations the Irish faced during the 2002-03 season finally paid off when the games counted the most.

Left for dead after an up-and-down regular season, Notre Dame upset No. 6 Arizona then shocked No. 3 Kansas State at home in the first and second rounds of the NCAA Tournament to advance to its fifth Sweet Sixteen in the last seven years.

The loss snapped Kansas State’s 22-game home winning streak and sent Notre Dame to Dayton, Ohio where they lost to No. 2 Purdue, 56-47.

But reaching the Sweet Sixteen seemed nearly impossible after the kind of season Notre Dame endured.

Irish coach Muffet McGraw played five sophomores and two freshmen with regularity throughout the season and had a player quit the team midseason. That lack of experience and a difficult schedule made this season a trying one for McGraw and her team.

The Irish opened the year winning seven of their first eight games, before being blown out by Tennessee in Knoxville, 77-61, Dec. 28. The late-December loss sent the Irish into a rough month of January where the Irish lost all four of their home games, including a 72-53 defeat to eventual national champion Connecticut. In all, Notre Dame went just 3-5 in January and hit rock bottom on Jan. 4 when the team fell to Purdue on national television, 71-54.

"The Purdue game was the lowest point of our season," McGraw said weeks later.

The loss snapped Kansas State’s 22-game home winning streak and sent Notre Dame to Dayton, Ohio where they lost to No. 2 Purdue, 56-47.

But Notre Dame bounced back in February to collect a pair of victories over Big East foes, West Virginia and Georgetown, before falling to a tough Virginia Tech team on the road. The Irish continued their solid play by winning five of their last six Big East games to finish the regular season at 19-10. The NCAA selection committee rewarded the team with an 11-seed for the tournament and a trip to Kansas State to face Arizona and either host Kansas State or Harvard.

The Irish raced past unsuspecting Arizona thanks to the shooting of senior guard Alicia Ratay, Ratay, who had one of the most illustrious careers in Irish womens basketball history, scored 20 points and grabbed nine rebounds, on a night when neither team could make a shot, to lift Notre Dame to a 59-47 victory. Notre Dame held Arizona to a mere 22.3 field goal percentage for the game.

Things didn’t get any easier for the Irish in their second round matchup against the purple-clad Wildcats. Kansas State had lost just four games all season, none at home and had the potential to advance to deep into the tournament. Notre Dame made sure that didn’t happen with, arguably, the biggest upset of the 2003 tournament.

Behind another stellar defensive performance that held Kansas State without a field goal for more than 12 minutes in the second half, 17 points from junior guard La’Tania Sovere and clutch free-throw shooting down the stretch from freshmen Megan Duffy and Courtney LaVere, Notre Dame ended the Wildcats season, 59-53.

"Coming into the game, I thought we got off to a great start," McGraw said after the win. "We tried to take the crowd out of the game. We’ve got great free-throw shooters on and tried to limit their 3s. I thought we did a really good job of that in the first half. I was so pleased with our defense. I thought that’s how we won the game, a great defensive effort."

After the season, forward Jacqueline Batteast was named to the second-team All-Big East, averaging 13.9 points and 8.3 rebounds per contest. LaVere made the freshman All-American team and Ratay was selected as a finalist for the National Scholar-Athlete of the Year as well.

Ratay ended the year hitting 46.3 percent of her 3-point attempts (50-for-108) and scored 12.1 points and grabbed nearly five rebounds per game. She ended her Notre Dame career with the highest 3-point shooting percentage in womens college basketball history, connecting on 47.6 percent of her 3-pointers. She also holds the mark for most 3-pointers in Notre Dame history.

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We’ve enjoyed our time with you!

We’ll see you back at ND as employers, panelists, and job experts!!

Contact Joe Hettler at jhettler@nd.edu
Irish eye Big East tournament, return to CWS

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Sports Writer

Last season, the Irish began their memorable run to the College World Series by winning the Big East Tournament for the first time in the program's history. In its first six years in the league, Notre Dame had often been the regular season leader, but struggled to find its groove in the post-season tournament.

But that all changed last season as the Irish pulled off a 3-2, 10-inning victory over Rutgers to capture the Big East crown and catapult into the NCAA post-season.

"That tournament has always been a tough tournament," Irish coach Paul Mainieri said. "Last year was the first time we've won it in seven years. It's always a tough tournament. You've got some underrated teams that are playing pretty close to home."

This year, capturing that elusive Big East Tournament title could be even more important if the Irish are to make a run at the NCAA. Mainieri said, "I'm hoping that if we can get over 40 wins and with the history of what we did last year, that that might carry some weight with the selection committee. If in fact we do get an at-large bid,"

Mainieri said. "But I'm certain that if we don't win that tournament, we will still have to have a good showing out there and probably win at least a couple of games in the tournament."

But right now, the Irish have another fierce opponent on their hands in the last weekend of conference play, as they must travel to Blacksburg, Va. to take on fourth-place Virginia Tech (32-19, 14-9 in the Big East).

Coming off a tough 19-inning loss to Rutgers last Sunday, Mainieri hopes his team will bounce back against the Hokies and ride into the Big East Tournament on a winning streak.

The Irish coach knows the importance of getting hot at the end of the season, and he hopes that will catch that fire as the regular season yields way to the NCAA Tournament.

"When I look around the country, there's an awful lot of teams out there right now that are 35-, 36-18," Mainieri said. "I just think there are a lot of teams that are going to be in the running for these at-large bids. So the more games that we can win this last week plus the Big East Tournament can help."

Contact Chris Federico at cfederic@nd.edu

Irish pitcher Tom Thornton fires a pitch during a recent game. Notre Dame is preparing for the Big East tournament May 22-24 in New Jersey. If Notre Dame wins the tourney, they will receive an automatic bid to the NCAA Tournament.

Blessings to you, as you go forth from Notre Dame & St. Mary's College, to create, in your own way, "A more just and humane world."

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Mens Track and Field

Irish squeak by Huskies for Big East Crown

By Heather Van Hoegarden

The men won the Big East Outdoor Championship by a slim margin over Connecticut, 139 to 136.5 to become the first Notre Dame men's track and field team to win both the indoor and outdoor Big East Championships.

"The Big East is a different meet from all the other meets," Notre Dame distance runner Eric Morrison said. "When you go there, you go there to do well individually, but the one thing that is always clear in your mind is to win the title as a team. In other meets, you might try to get a good time, or a team. In other meets, you go there, you go there to do well individually, but the one thing that is always clear in your mind is to win the title as a team. In other meets, you might try to get a good time, or win a race, but it is never really team-oriented." Contributing to Notre Dame's team victory was the stellar performance of three individuals. Highly-acclaimed senior Luke Watson won both the 3,000-meter steeplechase and the 5,000 meters on consecutive days. Selim Nurudeen won the 110-meter hurdles for the second year in a row (13.95 seconds). Finally, in an upset, Godwin Mbogwu won the triple jump with a 15.82 meter effort.

However, the Irish athletes were not the only ones being recognized. The Irish coaching staff was named the 2003 Big East Outdoor Coaching Staff of the Year. The staff consists of Joe Piane, Tim Connelly, John Millar, Scott Winters and B.J. Linnenbrink.

This staff led a talented squad that used a team effort to attain the conference championship. Ryan Hurd earned three points, finishing sixth in the 100 meters (21.59), while Ryan Postel added three of his own, taking sixth in the 400 meters (48.02).

Meanwhile, in the distance realm, Morrison earned his second all-Big East honor of the year (indoor mile run), as he finished third in the 1,500 meters (3:50.65). Kevin Somok took sixth in the same race to give the Irish a combined nine points from the two.

Despite the fact that Watson brought in 10 points for the Irish in the 5,000 meters, four other runners combined for 21 points in the event. John Keane took fourth (14:29.75), Tim Moore, fifth (14:35.09) and David Alber, seventh (14:38.83), respectively.

Also scoring for the Irish was Mark Barber, who finished sixth in the 110-meter hurdles. The 400-meter hurdle group scored big for the Irish, as Napoleso Suarez finished third to earn his first outdoor all-Big East honor, Barber took fourth and Roberto Garcia took sixth.

Finally, in the relays, the 4x100 team (Nurudeen, Postel, Hurd and Barber) finished third to earn all Big East honors, the first Notre Dame relay to do so since 2000.

Also earning all-Big East honors was the 4x800 meter relay, who finished third. Thomas Chamney, Morrison, Somok and Vinnie Ambrico ran for the Irish.

"The Big East meet is neat because everyone rallies together and puts together all the work they have put in the whole year," Morrison said. "That is basically what the Big East is all about."

The Irish travel to the Georgia Tech Invitational next weekend for a tune-up before the NCAA Regional in Columbus, Ohio on May 30 and 31. Following the Regional, the NCAA Championship begins June 11 in Sacramento, Calif.

"After winning the Big East, we feel good, we feel confident going into the Regional," Morrison said.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvh@nd.edu

Congratulations Howard Hall Seniors!

Vanessa Allen
*Meg Anderson, RA
Annamarie Bindenagel
Andria Bledsoe
Christine Bryant
Kelly Bush
Cristina Ceballos
Lindsey Davison
Maureen Doyle
Veronica Grana
Jillian Harris
Katherine Karrat
Veronica Kelleher
Nicole Kohrt
Cathy Kolf
Erin LaRuffa
Colleen Lawler
Anne Liddy
Robin Mattessich
Connie Quinlan
Kimberly Rollings
*Emily Showman, RA
Meg Smolinski
*Jenna Spanbauer, RA
Mary Tarsha
*Lauren Willoughby, RA

"May your past be a pleasant memory, Your future filled with delight and mystery, Your now a glorious moment, That fills your life with deep contentment."

-An Irish Blessing

Best wishes and lots of love, from your fellow Ducks
FENCING

Team attitude leads fencers to first title since 1994

Irish score 182 points to edge archrival Penn State by three

By MATT LOZAR

American Sports Editor

First-year head coach Janusz Bednarski did something former coach Yves Auriol couldn't do in his seven years in leading the Notre Dame fencing team — win a national title.

The goal of winning the program's first national title since 1994 started from the beginning of the season. It became a truly evident when the second-ranked Notre Dame squad hosted No. 1 — and defending national champion Penn State — at the Notre Dame Duals.

Before that dual match showdown, Bednarski gathered his team in a big huddle for a pep talk. What was important wasn't the result of that dual meet, but setting the foundation for a team to win the national title seven weeks later.

"We are trying to build a team during the season. They responded very well. They started to work as a team," Bednarski said. "There is no position they are in where they only care about fencing for themselves. They care about the team."

The men's team defeated Penn State 15-12 and moved up to the top spot in the country for the third straight year while the women's team lost 16-11.

At the Midwest Regional Championship, the Irish automatically qualified 11 fencers and had to wait for Maggie Jordan to earn an at-large bid in women's sabre to let the Irish qualify the maximum 12 fencers. A major blizzard in Colorado forced the NCAA Championships to be condensed into a two-day event at the Air Force Academy. As Saturday's action concluded and the day went on Sunday, one thing became apparent — it was going to be a very close finish.

In the last round of the women's sabre competition, the Irish were ahead by less than five points and were facing Penn State's Austin O'Neill in the final round. Backed by the largest and loudest cheering section, Jordan and Destanie Milo came through with two critical wins to put the Irish on the brink of completing their mission.

"That was incredible because Notre Dame was cheering so much for me and I didn't even hear Penn State cheering for the other girl. I just blocked them out," Milo said after her 5-0 defeat of O'Neill. "Their cheering helped me, kept me going and kept my adrenaline going. I don't know if I could have done it if I didn't have the team helping me out."

Then, the Irish went to their strength and called on the "A-Team" of Andrea Ament and Alicja Kryczalo to finish the job. Kryczalo, who won her second individual national title in as many years, defeated Stanford's Iris Zimmerman to clinch the title for the Notre Dame and start the long-awaited celebration.

Besides Kryczalo's national title, the Irish had a school-record 11 All-Americans. Michał Sobieraj finished second in men's epee, Ozren Debic was fourth in men's foil and Ament took third to earn first-team All-American honors. Debic and epeeist Jan Viviani became four-time All-Americans.

After the disappointments from finishing second or third every year since 1994, this year's team set itself out on a mission from the beginning not to join those other Irish fencing teams who unachieved and failed to win a national title.

This year, they got the job done.

"Coming into this year, I knew that like any other year we were going to end up in the top three," Debic said. "If we put our heads together, we could get it done."

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu
Solomon accepts Bonnies' job

MENS BASKETBALL

Irish assistant coach heads to St. Bonaventure

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

When St. Bonaventure started looking for someone to clean up the mess of an ugly basketball scandal, it turned to a Notre Dame assistant coach.

Anthony Solomon, formerly a three-year member of Mike Brey's staff and a 15-year assistant coach, was named head coach of the Bonnies' basketball program May 6.

"St. Bonaventure is a tradition-rich program that really excites me," Anthony Solomon, former Irish assistant coach and current St. Bonaventure coach, said.

"St. Bonaventure is a tradition-rich program that really excites me."- Anthony Solomon, former Irish assistant coach and current St. Bonaventure coach

Solomon replaces Jan van Brenda Kolf, who was fired in April after the Atlantic 10 Conference learned Bonnies center Jamil Terrell was ineligible because he violated junior college transfer rules.

The A-10 Conference then ruled St. Bonaventure had to forfeit six league victories and banned them from postseason play. In response, the players voted to not play their final two games of the season.

Both St. Bonaventure president Robert Wickenheiser and athletic director Gothan Lane resigned in addition to van Brenda Kolf's firing.

But St. Bonaventure's new athletic director, Paul Grys, had high praise for Solomon, who takes over a team that finished 13-14 last year.

"Anthony Solomon has the leadership experience and character that are critical to St. Bonaventure," Grys said.

The appointment is Solomon's first college head coaching job. He is also the first black head coach of any sport at St. Bonaventure.

Formers:

1. Former Arizona forward Jan van Brenda Kolf, who was fired in April after the Atlantic 10 Conference learned Bonnies center Jamil Terrell was ineligible because he violated junior college transfer rules.

2. St. Bonaventure high school junior visited Notre Dame's campus a little over a week ago and decided to verbally commit to the school.

3. Anthony Solomon has the leadership experience and character that are critical to St. Bonaventure.

Brey leads team to Sweet Sixteen bid

Irish reach third round of tourney for first time since '87

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

Mike Brey will have a hard time forgetting what transpired on his 44th birthday.

In the bowl of Indianapolis' RCA Dome, in front of a throng of screaming Irish fans, in the national television spotlight, Notre Dame advanced to the Sweet Sixteen for the first time since 1987 — the latest step taken by a basketball program slowly emerging as one of the nation's best.

"Tonight, I was probably going to have a beer anyway," a giggly Brey said in the post-game interviews. "Now I might have two.

Sure, Arizona trounced the Irish in the round of 16. But the goal from the early days of summer practice was to make it to the second weekend — a phrase that took on a life of its own over the course of the basketball season.

Behind the leadership of sharpshooting guard Matt Carroll and Maryland transfer Dan Miller, Notre Dame surged to a 5-1 start, yet flew below the national radar unranked and unsuspected.

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu

Notre Dame's season a success

Still, the Irish, seeded fifth in the West Region, survived a major scare in No. 12 Wisconsin-Milwaukee, who missed a layup with two seconds on the clock. Instead of getting upset, the Irish squeaked into the second-round with a 70-69 win.

The second-round game against fourth-seeded Illinois, however, went much easier. The Irish relied on a commitment to defense and a sensational 3-point shooting performance to survive the Sweet Sixteen.

"Everybody said we couldn't win because everything was so new, we should hold our own," Chris Thomas said. "But since we got away from the Big East, we have a new mindset. It's a new season.

A 38-71 to a red-hot Arizona team showed how far the Irish still have to go before they can claim the Big East crown. Few doubt that Notre Dame's long-term future is bright. Its short-term future, however, is still in question, especially after Carroll and Miller's graduation and Thomas' declaration that he'll depart early for the NBA Draft.

But then again, that's what everybody thought a year ago, too.

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu

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2.1 MILES FROM NOTRE DAME!

Notre Dame had lost the nucleus of last year's team (Ryan Humphrey, David Graves and Harold Swanagan) to graduation, and most would have considered Notre Dame's experience as the Irish simply made the NCAA Tournament, much less a Sweet Sixteen bid.

And for good reason — Notre Dame had lost the nucleus of last year's team (Ryan Humphrey, David Graves and Harold Swanagan) to graduation.

But then again, that's what everybody thought a year ago, too.

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu

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Loman

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Loman is one of four seniors starting on the infield and doesn't necessarily need to be a vocal leader.

"I mostly lead by example, but if there is something that needs to be said, I'll definitely address the issue so there is no problems and to keep everything in order," Loman said.

A true captain

The list of awards Loman has captured is seemingly endless. Four-time All-Big East first team recognition. A two-time Big East Championship Most Outstanding Player. The Big East Rookie of the Year. A third-team All-America.

And just eight days ago, Loman became the third consecutive Notre Dame player to be named the Big East Player of the Year.

At last weekend's Big East Championships, Loman hit .500 with five RBI and hit a walk-off home run in the bottom of the ninth to give the Irish their second straight conference tournament crown.

"I am losing someone who is irreplaceable. You can't replace someone like Urea."  Deanna Gumpf Irish coach

But of all those personal accolades, nothing that other people say really matters to Loman. It's the voice of her teammates that means the most.

"Being named captain this year just shows the respect your teammates have for you," Loman said. "It's a mutual thing that you have for them as well and it's just a great honor.

When the Riverside, California native does acknowledge her numerous awards, she passes the recognition to anyone but herself.

"They pay tribute to all those who have helped me get to where I am today, my parents, my family, coaches throughout the years since I've been playing since I was 10," Loman said.

The career numbers show why Loman is one of the most decorated athletes in the history of the Notre Dame softball program. Entering this weekend's NCAA Regionals, Loman leads the 2003 Irish in batting average (.408), which would be good for the second best season in Notre Dame history, runs scored (41), hits (64), doubles (12), RBI (40), slugging (.662), on-base percentage (.466) and stolen bases (17). Loman is also tied with outfielder Liz Hartmann for the team lead in home runs with eight.

"I am losing someone who is irreplaceable," Gumpf said. "You can't replace someone like Urea."

Rock solid

In her first two seasons at Notre Dame, Loman played first base. She switched over to third last year and made the transition without a hitch due to her experience at third in high school and in travel leagues. As a junior, Loman made eight errors, but six of those came after she broke a finger on her throwing hand in early April.

This season, Loman has made only five errors and leads a Notre Dame defense that currently is tied for third in the country with a .976 fielding percentage.

With the bases 60 feet away, the hot corner lives up to its nickname in softball as balls come quickly off the bat. Loman never looks surprised and is ready to always make a jaw-dropping play.

"I might be a little biased, but I think she is the best third baseman in the country," Gumpf said. "She brings intangibles that most people don't have. Andrea is a natural.

"She makes plays that most people can't make."

When the inevitable offensive struggles come at the plate, Loman wants to be able to rely on something and always be a major contributor for her team. That attitude, of being a solid defensive player, started from the beginning.

"Throughout the years, I've been really consistent defensively while offensively from my freshman to my senior year, I have been getting better, but haven't been that consistent and my defense has always been there," Loman said. "That's something my dad has always told me, if something isn't working and your offense isn't there, make sure your defense always is."

So I think I really pride myself in that."

One difference she wants

During each of Loman's three previous seasons, the Irish have qualified for the NCAA Regionals and failed to move on to the Women's College World Series. In 2001, Iowa upset the top-seeded Irish and last year, the Irish were also eliminated on the last day of the regionals, this time by Nebraska.

Loman's won the awards and accomplished just about everything a player could want. The only thing she hasn't done is play in the Women's College World Series.

This weekend is her last chance.

"You have been working hard your past four years and coming up a game short almost every year. We are looking to have a good regional tournament this year," Loman said. "It is definitely going to be tough and a challenge for us.

"I think we have some people fearing us, which is good."

That's the one place where Loman wants to separate herself from Myers and the rest of the great players in Notre Dame softball history.

Contact Matt Lazor at mLazor@nd.edu.
MENS BASKETBALL

Thomas declares himself eligible for draft

+ Guard does not hire agent, could return next year

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

With a broad grin on his face and his parents proudly looking on, Chris Thomas declared May 5 he would forgo his final two years of college eligibility and enter the NBA Draft.

But the 6-foot-1 guard left the door ajar for a possible return to the Irish for his junior season.

"This has long been a dream of mine," Thomas said. "I'm excited at the prospects and am glad the opportunity has come so fast."

Thomas, who said he has not hired an agent and therefore still has college eligibility, has until June 19 to withdraw his name from the draft. The six weeks between his declaration and the deadline will be spent evaluating where Thomas could be drafted on June 26.

If, after participating in individual workouts for a handful of teams, Thomas is projected as a top-20 pick, the point guard said his name would remain in the draft. If it is lower, he said he would most likely return to Notre Dame.

"Do I want to coach this guy next year? Heck yeah," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "But I've done my share of work to get to this point," Thomas is the second Irish player in three years to declare early for the NBA Draft. Troy Murphy left early after his junior year — Brey's first year with the Irish — and was drafted 14th by the Golden State Warriors.

If Thomas stays in the draft Notre Dame would be one of only a handful of schools with a chance to have three first-round picks in as many years. Last year, Ryan Humphrey was drafted 19th overall by the Utah Jazz and now plays for the Memphis Grizzlies.

Thomas has until May 11 to enter his name for the draft. In addition to working out for individual teams, Thomas could also participate in a pre-draft camp the first week of June in Chicago, where a new NCAA rule change stipulates that players can play in pre-draft workouts without having to sit out any games if they return to college.

However, Brey said Thomas is leaning away from playing in Chicago and is instead hoping to gauge his stock via individual workouts with teams. And Thomas is looking at the example set by Humphrey, who ended his college career projected as a second-round pick but boosted his stock tremendously via individual workouts.

For now, Brey will remain one of Thomas' primary advisers and added that he expects to start hearing from NBA teams now that Thomas has made a public decision. And instead of trying to convince his star guard to stay, Brey said his role as a coach is to make sure Thomas makes the best possible decision.

"My feeling is if you're going to run a program in this era, then you have to help your players," Brey said. "If the right thing is to go in a month, I will be the first in line to shake his hand."

Irish guard Chris Thomas dribbles the ball during a game earlier this season. Thomas declared for the NBA Draft in June, but did not hire an agent. He said he would return if he is not going to be a top-20 pick in the first round.

Guard does not hire agent, could return next year

By ANDREW SOUKUP
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"Do I want to coach this guy next year? Heck yeah," Irish coach Mike Brey said. "But I've done my share of work to get to this point," Thomas is the second Irish player in three years to declare early for the NBA Draft. Troy Murphy left early after his junior year — Brey's first year with the Irish — and was drafted 14th by the Golden State Warriors.

If Thomas stays in the draft Notre Dame would be one of only a handful of schools with a chance to have three first-round picks in as many years. Last year, Ryan Humphrey was drafted 19th overall by the Utah Jazz and now plays for the Memphis Grizzlies.

Thomas has until May 11 to enter his name for the draft. In addition to working out for individual teams, Thomas could also participate in a pre-draft camp the first week of June in Chicago, where a new NCAA rule change stipulates that players can play in pre-draft workouts without having to sit out any games if they return to college.

However, Brey said Thomas is leaning away from playing in Chicago and is instead hoping to gauge his stock via individual workouts with teams. And Thomas is looking at the example set by Humphrey, who ended his college career projected as a second-round pick but boosted his stock tremendously via individual workouts.

For now, Brey will remain one of Thomas' primary advisers and added that he expects to start hearing from NBA teams now that Thomas has made a public decision. And instead of trying to convince his star guard to stay, Brey said his role as a coach is to make sure Thomas makes the best possible decision.

"My feeling is if you're going to run a program in this era, then you have to help your players," Brey said. "If the right thing is to go in a month, I will be the first in line to shake his hand."

Irish guard Chris Thomas dribbles the ball during a game earlier this season. Thomas declared for the NBA Draft in June, but did not hire an agent. He said he would return if he is not going to be a top-20 pick in the first round.

Guard does not hire agent, could return next year

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

With a broad grin on his face and his parents proudly looking on, Chris Thomas declared May 5 he would forgo his final two years of college eligibility and enter the NBA Draft.

But the 6-foot-1 guard left the door ajar for a possible return to the Irish for his junior season.

"This has long been a dream of mine," Thomas said. "I'm excited at the prospects and am glad the opportunity has come so fast."

Thomas, who said he has not hired an agent and therefore still has college eligibility, has until June 19 to withdraw his name from the draft. The six weeks between his declaration and the deadline will be spent evaluating where Thomas could be drafted on June 26.

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Irish guard Chris Thomas dribbles the ball during a game earlier this season. Thomas declared for the NBA Draft in June, but did not hire an agent. He said he would return if he is not going to be a top-20 pick in the first round.
Joe Piane did not think the Irish
Observer Staff Report
would finish at the NCAA
Notre Dame Nov. 25 to a 22nd
tenth place, but, coupled with
spaces in the field of 31.
was able to move up some
of not even qualifying for the title
race. After barely qualifying with an
Notre Dame with only one senior running,
was able to move up
spaces in the field of 31.
At the Big East Championships, the Irish had
doing with All-American Mobley,
Mobley stepped up finish first
for his team as well as first
among all freshmen at the meet.
His time of 24:08 landed him in
His time of 24:08 landed him in
history, finishing third at the
MIAA Championships, hosted by
Belles top finisher, freshman
Belles top finisher, freshman
Bauters paced the Belles with a
and junior Jessica Kosco
and junior Jessica Kosco
in 35th.
The Irish soccer team continued its marked
improvement during the tenure of coach
Danny Clark, entering the NCAA
Tournament for the second
time in 2002.
The season was highlighted
with an early surge, getting out
of 1-0 to a 2-0-2 start, including
upsets over then-No. 3
Boston, then-No. 1
and then-No. 7
in double overtime.
The Irish eked out their best
No. 5 — the week following
the win over the Pirates.
A tough road schedule
brought Notre Dame, with losses
on the road to Bradley and St.
John's and a tie at Rutgers.
The Irish were led by fresh-
man Lauren King's turn to lead the Irish. She
led the Belles to an up-and-down
season, but broke the school record for
capturing one for the womens soccer
season, as they struggled to a 1-0-3 record for
being plagued by injuries all season long.
Notre Dame finished the year
with a 7-2-1 record and a 1-13-3 mark in the
MIAA.
Saint Mary's got off to a rough
start, but found a bit of a groove
during the month of October. For
the first four weeks of the season,
the Belles went 4-3 with victories
over then-No. 11
Dowling College, Tri-State University,
MIAA foe Olivet and Rochester College.
But even with the wins, the Belles did not
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The Notre Dame mens lacrosse team had loped expecta-
tions coming into the season. With an underclass-
men group that included a high人群 by ear-
ning a winning record by beating No. 15 Vanderbilt 22-15, tying a school record for most goals in a single game.

The Irish finished the season ranked No. 6 in the final
NCAA rankings.

Mens Golf

The Notre Dame mens golf team was a frustrating 4-7, with all of seven of their losses coming to ranked teams. Four wins later, the Irish ended their season with a high note by earn-
ing their way to the NCAA tournament. The Irish were unable to post a win in the NCAA tournament, but they continued to build and will look to build on the top of the Big East in 2004.

Mens Tennis

The Irish finished first in the Big East, behind top-
ten teams Georgetown and St. Johns. The Irish were a
Stephanie Keppler, Pauline Martin, and Brittany Mulvaney.

Mens Swimming

The Notre Dame mens swimming and diving team
swam to a third-place finish in the Big East, behind
Virginia Tech and Virginia. The Irish were unable to post a win in the NCAA tournament, but they continued to build and will look to build on the top of the Big East in 2004.

Mens Volleyball

The Irish finished fourth in the Big East, behind
Virginia Tech, Boston College, and Louisville. The Irish were unable to post a win in the NCAA tournament, but they continued to build and will look to build on the top of the Big East in 2004.

Mens Tennis

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Humiliating coaching search follows Davie firing

December 2001

On Dec. 2, 2001, after a 5-6 season, athletic director Kevin White fired football coach Bob Davie and the search began for a new coach to lead the Irish back to prominence.

At a public press conference on Dec. 9, over 1,500 fans welcomed new football coach George O'Leary, a man who found his dream job at Notre Dame. However, O'Leary's tenure with the Irish lasted just five days before he was forced to resign for lying on his resume.

After over two weeks of national embarrassment, another 16-day coaching search finally led White to Stanford and Tyronn Willingham, who White announced as head coach on New Year's Day.

Womens hoops wins national title

With 5.8 seconds remaining and the NCAA Championship game tied at 66, Ruth Riley calmly hit two free throws that left Notre Dame the 2001 women's basketball national champions.

Thousands of fans showed up to welcome the team back and President George W. Bush honored the team at the White House.

Willingham leads Return to Glory

In his first year as head coach, Tyrone Willingham leads the Irish to an 8-0 start. His 10 wins were the most by a first-year Notre Dame football coach.

The season's top wins included a defeat of No. 6 Michigan at Notre Dame Stadium and a win at No. 11 Florida State.

Irish go to CWS, first trip since '57

It took an improbable victory over No. 1 Florida State at Tallahassee, but the Irish found a way to reach their first College World Series since 1957.

The team played well in Omaha, beating Rice on a walk-off home run and losing twice to a tough Stanford team. They also won 50 games, a new team record.

Berticelli dies of heart attack

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

Berticelli, 48, coached the Irish for 10 of his 23 years as head coach and compiled a 104-80-19 overall record.

Wadsworth resigns as AD

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

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

Fencing finally wins national title

Having finished second or third in the country every year since its last national title in 1994, the Irish were able to finish the job and win the 2003 national title.

Janusz Bednarski took over for Yves Auriol and led the Irish to its sixth national title in his first season as head coach of the Irish.

Saint Mary's cuts track program

Under the recommendation of athletic director Lynn Kachmarik, Saint Mary's President Mary Ely decided to discontinued the track and field program following the 2001 season.

Kachmarik made the decision, in part, to keep its full-time coaches.
Aug. 31: Notre Dame football coach Tyrone Willingham leads the Irish to a 22-0 victory over Maryland at the Kickoff Classic in his first game as head coach.

Sept. 6-8: At the Notre Dame Classic, the No. 6 Irish womens soccer team fails to score a goal in two matches against nationally ranked opponents losing to No. 13 Santa Clara 4-0 and No. 19 Portland 1-0. Sept. 9: After defeating No. 6 Seton Hall two days earlier, the Notre Dame mens soccer team moves up to fifth in the country and ties its highest ranking in school history.

Sept. 14: Coming into the game without an offensive touchdown, No. 24 Notre Dame scores three offensive touchdowns to upset No. 6 Michigan 25-23 at Notre Dame Stadium and jump to No. 12 in the country.

Oct. 20: The Irish mens soccer team wins their fourth straight match, this time upsetting No. 5 Connecticut 3-1 behind two Greg Martin goals. The victory was Notre Dame’s first over the Huskies since 1996.

Oct. 26: Looking to prove the doubters wrong, No. 6 Notre Dame defeats No. 11 Florida State 34-24 at Doak Campbell Stadium. The Irish improve to 8-0 with the win and move to third in the BCS standings.

Nov. 1: The Irish womens swimming team drops the final relay race and loses to Indiana 154-146. The loss broke Notre Dame’s 17-match unbeaten streak.

Nov. 15: Scoring a goal with 42 seconds remaining in the third period, the Notre Dame hockey team rallies to tie No. 4 Boston College 3-3 at the Joyce Center.

Nov. 17: Led by the one-two finish of Lauren King and Molly Huddle, the Irish womens cross country team wins its first Big East Championship. The mens team finished fourth.

Nov. 21: Willingham suffers his first loss as Notre Dame head coach when Boston College hangs on to defeat the Irish 14-7 at Notre Dame Stadium.

Nov. 23: In the third round of the NCAA Tournament, the No. 19 Notre Dame womens soccer team falls just short of its upset bid at No. 1 Stanford 1-0.

Nov. 24: Avenging a loss to the Hurricanes nine days earlier that snapped Notre Dame’s 36-match Big East winning streak in volleyball, the Irish defeat Miami 3-1 to win its third straight and seventh overall Big East Tournament Championship.

Nov. 25: Huddle and King lead the Irish again, this time at the NCAA Championships, turning in All-American performances lifting the womens cross country team to a school-best third place finish.

Dec. 2-8: In one of the best weeks in Notre Dame mens basketball history, the Irish knock off No. 10 Marquette, No. 9 Maryland and No. 2 Texas to jump from unranked to No. 10 in the AP poll.

Dec. 8: After an embarrassing 44-7 loss at USC eight days earlier, Willingham and the Irish accept a bid to play in the Gator Bowl after being shutout of a BCS berth.

Dec. 8: Despite having the home-court advantage, the Notre Dame volleyball team loses 3-0 to Michigan State in the second round of the NCAA Tournament to end its home winning streak at 36 matches.
Willingham guides Irish back to winning ways in ’02

By ANDREW SOUKUP
Sports Writer

Somewhere in between the New Year’s Day 2002 press conference where he boldly proclaimed the Irish would win and the celebration at Florida State where the Irish showed they could win, Tyrone Willingham found his groove at Notre Dame.

Few could have blamed Willingham had the Irish continued their mediocre performance from the Bob Davie regime. Few could have blamed Willingham, who became the coach the Irish came crawling to after they initially passed over for George O’Leary, had he just waited a year for “Resumegate” to blow over.

But, as Irish fans would rapidly discover, that’s not Willingham’s way.

The signs were there, of course. After all, Willingham concluded his first meeting with a single PowerPoint slide that had “WIN” printed in huge letters.

Not until Willingham’s Irish crushed defending ACC Champion Maryland 22-0 in the season opener, however, would Irish fans believe.

The success didn’t stay in New Jersey. Shane Walton knocked away a 2-point conversion late in the fourth quarter to preserve a 25-23 win against Michigan. Against Michigan State, backup quarterback Pat Dillingham threw a short pass to Arnaz Battle, who magically turned a 6-yard slant into a 60-yard touchdown with just over a minute left to snatch victory — the team’s first against the foe in six years — from the Spartans.

“I just want to win,” Willingham said after the Irish embarrassed Florida State in the Sunshine State 34-24 to earn a No. 4 ranking, fans started to mention the words “national championship” and “Notre Dame” in the same sentence. Prematurely, as it turned out.

The bleeding didn’t end there. Another lopsided loss, this time a 28-6 beating at the hands of North Carolina State on New Year’s Day, made an 8-0 start appear a thing of the past.

Yet Willingham and the Irish, who finished the season 10-3 and ranked 17th, weren’t deterred. And NFL teams took note of the Irish prospects, as seven Irish prospects — the most since 1999 — were selected in the NFL Draft.

And so Willingham, who maintained as steady a perspective in the latter stages of the season as he did in Notre Dame’s hot start, remained confident the Irish could prove the 2002 success wasn’t a one-year fluke.

“I’m sorry it’s so simple,” Willingham said after the Irish beat the Wolverines, one of five ranked teams the Irish played in 2002. “I’m sorry it’s so simple.”

During the stretch, the media’s magnifying glass settled over South Bend, yet Willingham didn’t wilt. The Irish appeared on the cover of Sports Illustrated. “Return to Glory” wasn’t just a T-shirt slogan, as national scribes applied the saying to Notre Dame’s seemingly miraculous turnaround.

After all, this was a team that had two losing seasons in the last three years. But, almost inexplicably, the Irish still found a way to win. Behind an opportunistic defense — a phrase the unit loathed — that forced turnover after turnover to set up a struggling offense, the Irish simply refused to lose.

So by the time the Irish embarrassed Florida State in the Sunshine State 34-24 to earn a No. 4 ranking, fans started to mention the words “national championship” and “Notre Dame” in the same sentence. Prematurely, as it turned out.

The next week, the Irish inexplicably fumbled seven times in a 14-7 loss to Boston College, their first of the season. A week later, Notre Dame had to mount a fourth-quarter rally to beat lowly Navy.

Then, with the national spotlight fixed brightly on Southern California and a BCS berth hanging in the balance, USC absolutely embarrassed Notre Dame by tallying 610 yards of offense en route to a 44-13 drubbing. Trojan quarterback Carson Palmer won the Heisman Trophy, USC secured a berth in the lucrative Orange Bowl and the Irish were left with a lot of questions and a Gator Bowl berth.

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“Someone told me once, ‘You’re never as high as they say you are, and you’re never as low as they say you are,’” the coach said at one point during the season. “If we keep our focus on what we have to do, we’ll be OK.”

Contact Andrew Soukup at asoukup@nd.edu

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**Happy Town**

**Crossword**

ACROSS
1. Doesn't take
2. Rhone tributary
3. Certain
4. Free of errors
5. Capital of
6. Unbar, to Byron
7. 0

DOWN
3. All letters?
4. Home for
5. Doesn't take
6. Observer in your home.
7. Two campuses. Please complete the accompanying form and mail it today to receive The Observer in your home.

**Horoscope**

**The Observer**

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City State Zip

Happy Birthday: Stop putting your own needs on the back burner and start doing what's best for you. It's time to stop being a martyr and start being a winner. This is your year to do what you want to do. You will end up gaining respect from the very people who were holding you back. Your numbers are 3, 5, 18, 25, 31, 37

ARES (March 21-April 19) You'll end up in an awkward position if you've been bribing love and outdoors. Since you're all opposition is likely if you have been too busy securing or hands.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Act quickly and finish as much as possible early in the day. You will have the strength and the desire to inanimate any competition you choose.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You need to save rather than spend money today. You've been too generous with others and too extravagant with yourself. It's time to budget.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You will need to hard to read today. One moment you'll be happy and the next you'll be upset. You are likely to take things the wrong way today. Suddenly, changes in your home will be sudden.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) There is a good chance that someone is just playing well with your emotions. If someone isn't treating you, please prepare to cut him or her out of your life.

LIBRA (Sept 23-Oct. 22): Be careful what you wish for today. You may be striving to obtain something and you may get something completely different. Focus on money, work and getting ahead.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Expand your knowledge and learn about different cultures and traditions. The more you discover, the better you will understand your own cultural heritage will expand.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Attention to your home will pay off if it may be necessary to help someone you care about fix his or her financial or legal problems.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You may have to do a little flattering if you haven't been paying enough attention to loved ones. It's time to put everyone else aside and start being the best friend that you can be.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): This day will be particularly good for socializing. Socialization with new friends or lovers, but if you want to maintain an existing relationship, exist in the people you want to impress.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Use your imagination and you will accomplish the most. Bring energy will inspire you to follow a direction that you have only dreamed of in the past.

Birthday Girl: You will always look out for the underdog and you will always be there when no one else is willing to go the distance. You will prove your strength of character and will gain the respect of those you encounter.

Check out Eugenia's Web sites at astroadvice.com, eugenialast.com, wnetwork.com.
Ryan's aggressive play results in tennis success

**Best of the Class**

- Watson steps out of the shadows to be Notre Dame's top runner

By CHRIS FEDERICO
Sports Writer

Ask people what they consider the greatest accomplishment in sports, and running a four-minute mile is likely to be high on that list.

For years, people thought the feat was impossible. But on May 6, 1954, a now famous British physician named Roger Bannister shattered that belief by completing the mile race in 3 minutes, 59.4 seconds.

The four-minute mile has been a career-long goal of senior Luke Watson. In 2002-03, Notre Dame's male athlete of the year, Watson completed the mile race in 3:57.83 against an extremely competitive field — four other runners broke the four-minute mile mark in the race.

"The four-minute mile has been a career-long goal of mine," said Watson, The Observer's 2002-03 Notre Dame Senior Male Athlete of the Year. "To accomplish that feat was impossible. But on May 6, 1954, a now famous British physician named Roger Bannister shattered that belief by completing the mile race in 3 minutes, 59.4 seconds.

"The way I play is different than the way many I'm more interested in tennis. When she could grab a racket and hit balls. As she grew older, Ryan and a male friend would practice and play against each other. This helped mold Ryan's aggressiveness and athleticism, which she would use to move down her opponents in college."

"If you look around the conference, all the big name players have played on the USTA summer tour," Ryan said. "I play dirty, scrappy, pickup tennis. I play the way I would use to mow down my opponents in college."

"The best basketball players are the rugged ones, the ones that play pickup ball," Ryan said. "I play dirty, scrappy, pickup tennis. I play the way I would use to mow down my opponents in college."

"Jarrah was very intense and was the heart and soul of the team," Dea said. "Ara is very quiet and a leader on the field, especially her senior year, calling her own pitches and catching a no-hitter."

"She's the one that goes out and gets people pumped up and enthused every day," said Ryan.

"She's the one that goes out and gets people pumped up and enthused every day," said Watson.

"Luke Watson and Andrea Loman have been named The Observer's 2002-03 Outstanding Notre Dame Senior Male and Female Athletes of the Year."

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