Students impact business

By TERESA FRALISH
Associate News Editor

As if the van-fuls of stereos, clothes, hangers and televisions arriving on campus this weekend weren't enough, Notre Dame and Saint Mary's students also flocked to area stores to pick up other last-minute college essentials.

"We gear up for this like we gear up for Christmas," said Bob Tharp, assistant manager at the Grape Bond Meijer store.

This weekend, about 10,000 students descend on the Notre Dame campus as well as several thousand more at Saint Mary's, Bethel College and Indiana University-South Bend. Naturally, the economic impact on the local business...

see BUSINESS/page 9

New Domers bring more than just stats

By CLAIRE HEININGER
News Editor

Notre Dame's 1,991 incoming freshmen may boast the most staggering academic statistics of any class in its history, but the University isn't boasting — yet.

"If you brag too much about the class, it's like a hospital bragging about the health of the patients coming in," Dan Saracino, assistant provost for admissions, said. "The mark of the school is what they've done when they leave."

And the mark of an incoming class, he continued, lies not in the test scores and the scores of extracurricular students bring to campus, but in how well this brew of potential and experience will fit into what Saracino likes to call "the story of Notre Dame..."

see FRESHMEN/page 9

Crowding squeezes freshmen

By AMANDA MICHAELS
Associate News Editor

Almost 70 freshmen had a dubious welcome this week, as they found themselves cramming their furniture into spaces smaller than the average shoebox-size room.

Due to rising numbers of both seniors staying on campus and accepted female freshman, most women's dorms faced an overcrowding crisis this year.

Subsequently, the Office of Residence Life was forced to convert every available study lounge into an inhabitable space, and...

see HOUSING/page 9

Students impact business

Students impact business

Class size decreases at SMC

By KELLY MEEHAN
News Writer

At a time when Notre Dame is struggling to find room for all of its admits, its sister school is facing the opposite problem — an enrollment drop of 12.7 percent.

The Saint Mary's class of 2008 is down 51 students from the previous year. But according to Mary Pat Nolan, admissions director, Saint Mary's is not alone in its decreasing numbers.

"Many of the schools that our applicants apply to were also having challenging years and there was a considerable amount of movement among wait-lists," Nolan said. "Choosing a state university, whether regional or flagship, seems to have become an acceptable option for students wanting to stay closer to home or for students wanting to find a lower cost educational option," many of whom would have selected Saint Mary's in the past.

Nolan said Saint Mary's does not usually compete with other small private colleges on women's colleges. Nationally only two percent of students consider attending a women's college.

The admissions office will not know the exact cause of the decrease until it has...

see SMC/page 13

ND, SMC freshmen flood campuses

By MEGHAN MARTIN
News Writer

A small gold helmet sits perched atop a shelf in Tim Gritzman's dorm room, both a remnant from childhood and a symbol of the future.

"I've had this thing since I was five," said the Stanford Hall freshman as he picked up the replica of the helmet he will wear as a tight end for the Irish this year.

Although he arrived on campus nearly two weeks ago to begin fall football practice, Gritzman moved into his dorm room Wednesday, just days before his fellow classmates are scheduled to arrive. And despite the jersey waiting for him in the locker room, Gritzman is eager to experience orientation weekend with the rest of the freshman class.

"I've talked to my roommate about three times, but I'm looking forward to meeting him," Gritzman said. "The...

see MOVE-IN/page 13

OLYMPICS

Red, White, Blue and Gold

Notre Dame freshman Mariel Zagunis waves the American flag after winning the gold medal in the women's individual sabre competition held Tuesday in Athens, Greece. Zagunis is the first American to win a medal in fencing since 1984, and the first to win gold since 1904. For more on Zagunis, SEE SPORTS, page 36.

 Crowding squeezes freshmen

By AMANDA MICHAELS
Associate News Editor

Almost 70 freshmen had a dubious welcome this week, as they found themselves cramming their belongings into spaces smaller than the average shoebox-size room.

Due to rising numbers of both seniors staying on campus and accepted female freshman, most women's dorms faced an overcrowding crisis this year.

Subsequently, the Office of Residence Life was forced to convert every available study lounge into an inhabitable space, and...
This weekend you and the rest of the smartest class ever at Notre Dame — at least until the class of 2009 arrives — leave a world of comfort you've known for 18 years. Walking with open arms is a new home inside the proverbial bubble where you'll spend the next four years.

And that's the problem — four years. It seems like an eternity as you're east of dorms, meet people who only want to know your name, hometown and dorm and play games that seem like you're back in summer camp.

It seems like a welcome change after those crowded high school hallways, filling out a myriad of scholarship and college applications and praying one of those envelopes in the mail is thick and not thin.

It seems like a world of freedom with no parental supervision, the availability of "libations" for 21-year olds and a speedy Internet connection that allows you to procrastinate by amassing a massive mp3 collection, playing addicting mindless games and endlessly checking your buds' away messages.

But one day you'll wake up a senior like me and realize those four precious years are down to a lonely one.

That might look like a big jump — and you probably think I'm crazy for mentioning graduation before you've taken a class here — but it happens faster than freshman engineers can switch to the business school (as I can attest).

Okay, it might not happen that quickly. A lot goes on during those three years.

As all that and countless other things transpire, and you get trapped in a fast-paced, jam-packed daily routine, something horrible happens.

You forget what Notre Dame's all about.

At the conclusion of not only a week-end, but also a summer where everyone is giving a piece of advice to make college those so-called "best four years of your life," here's mine — take a step back every once in awhile. Take in the moment and appreciate what's happening.

Whether it's being thrown into the air by your friends for push-ups at football games, staying up until 4 a.m. for no apparent reason or making a fool of yourself at Rockshire Basketball, the world's largest outdoor 5-on-5 tournament.

Whether it's being thrown into the air by your friends for push-ups at football games, staying up until 4 a.m. for no apparent reason or making a fool of yourself at Rockshire Basketball, the world's largest outdoor 5-on-5 tournament.

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Whether it's being thrown into the air by your friends for push-ups at football games, staying up until 4 a.m. for no apparent reason or making a fool of yourself at Rockshire Basketball, the world's largest outdoor 5-on-5 tournament.
ND freshmen focus on election
Assigned reading explores U.S. voting trends

By AMANADA MICHAELS
Associate News Editor

In keeping with the election buzz charging the nation, the second annual First Year Academic Convocation, "Election 2004: A Watershed?" asks freshmen to examine the trends of voter apathy in Thomas Patterson's book "The Vanishing Voter." Along with "The Vanishing Voter," the University Committee for the First Year of Studies selected an interview with Robert Putnam regarding the theories in his book "Bowling Alone: America's Declining Social Capital," to prepare students for the mandatory convocation on Sept. 2.

Due to concerns voiced by current sophomores, this workload is a decrease from last year's, when students were asked to read four articles and three Web sites in addition to the "Heart of Islam," which is approximately 300 pages.

The idea of the program is to allow students to explore a pertinent topic through a set of readings culminating in a discussion of the issue and was deemed a success after its inaugural trial. At last year's convocation, "The Heart of Islam" sparked debate on the religious and political conflicts between the United States and the Middle East; now "The Vanishing Voter" is intended to bring the focus to the role of citizenship in democracy and the state of voter participation in the country.

"Last year, the Middle East was certainly in everyone's mind, and everything we did was good background for the things happening today," said Eileen Kolman, dean of the First Year of Studies. "This fall, the November elections will be in the news, and we hope to be part of the buzz on campus over them." Rather than the original three-panel discussion that received some criticism for its length, this year's event will center on an interview with Patterson by Matthew Storin, Associate Vice President for News and Information and a past editor of the Boston Globe.

There will be an extended question and answer session after the interview, and Kolman said that she is encouraging the 400 students who have been posting on the convocation's online discussion board to come with strong inquiries for Patterson.

"We're not planting questions this year, but we certainly don't want silence," she said. "But given the amount of chatter on the Web site, I don't foresee that happening."

The convocation is also being held earlier in the semester than last year's, so the subject matter will be fresher in the students' minds, said Kolman.

More class time will also be devoted to working with the book and topic, specifically in First Year Composition courses, and attending at the convocation will most likely be an assignment for those courses. "Voting Irish" T-shirts will also be distributed to encourage attendance.

Kolman said she hopes the changes in format and subject matter will draw more students to the convocation.

"The election seems to be such an active topic this year nationally, and especially among young people, and the literature seems to indicate that there is probably going to be more voter participation than in 2000," she said. "This is a topic that everyone is getting involved in, and that affects everyone."

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichaels@nd.edu.edu

Get Involved in Irish Athletics!
The Sports Information Office is looking for student assistants for the 2003-04 school year. Any students interested in becoming active in Irish athletics should come to an informational meeting on Monday, Aug. 23, at 8:00 p.m. in the Sports Information Office, (Joyce Center second floor inside Gate 2) or call Bernie at 7516 for more information.

Notre Dame targets international student
University credits financial aid, recruiting efforts with increased enrollment over the past five years

By TERESA FRALISH
Associate News Editor

As freshmen from all 50 states pack up their boxes and make the trip to South Bend this weekend, they are joined by a similar group of freshmen following much the same routine. But in addition to being behind friends and family, these freshmen will change countries and cultures as well.

There are 76 international students, who compose 3.6 percent of this year's freshmen class.

As part of its goal to create a more culturally diverse student body, the University has placed special emphasis on recruiting and accepting higher numbers of international students.

"We're doing extensive travel internationally. We've raised the awareness of Notre Dame," said Dan Saracino, director of undergraduate admissions.

While the percentage of these students in freshman classes has doubled overall since 2000, it has hovered around 4 percent for the past three years. Ultimately, the University hopes to see that number rise to 5 percent.

These increases come as a result of financial aid for international students and intensive recruiting efforts in Europe, Asia and Latin America Saracino said. And following the trend of their American peers, these students have shown consistent academic improvement.

At most universities, international students must find their own funding. But in fall 2002, Notre Dame first began offering financial aid to international applicants in hopes that it could draw more students from developing countries to the University.

Specifically, the University targeted Latin American countries because of their socioeconomic standing and predominantly Catholic culture. "Roughly half of the financial assistance goes to that area," Saracino said.

Despite their strides made toward increased international enrollment, Saracino said limits for financial aid and competing pressures on available University money would likely keep the international student percentage around 4 percent.

"We could be at 6 or 7 percent for international students if we had enough financial aid. You can't issue a visa to an international student unless they have enough resources," Saracino said.

Instead, he said the University hopes it can motivate international alumni to contribute resources for incoming freshmen — and provide new generations of students with the same Notre Dame experience they once had.

Contact Teresa Fralish at tfralish@nd.edu.edu
Transfers find housing at SMC
ND welcomes students despite crowding

By ANGELA SAOUĐ
Saint Mary's Editor

As if transferring to Notre Dame wasn’t complicated enough, it just got a little stranger for 17 women, who found off-campus housing not at Turtle Creek or College Park, but at Saint Mary’s.

Though many of the 124 transfer students were able to secure on-campus housing, the crunch forced some to seek lodging elsewhere. To help alleviate the situation, rooms in Regina North Hall were offered as an alternative.

“All the transfer students, most of them being juniors, will be living on the fifth floor of Regina North together,” Michelle Russell, director of Residence Life at Saint Mary’s said. “There will only be Notre Dame students on this floor.”

Students won’t get the chance to get too comfortable, however, because the situation is only temporary. As space becomes available at Notre Dame, they will be able to move to their own campus.

Russell said she does not believe students living at one school while attending another will become a trend between the campuses.

“It’s not something I would anticipate becoming a regular occurrence. This has happened very recently, and we are still working on some of the details.”

Michelle Russell
Regina hall director

Despite the physical separation from their peers and the University, the women will have plenty of opportunities to get comfortable thanks to the orientation program designed by the Admissions Office.

Transfer orientation co-commissioner Kevin Keller is helping to acclimate students to Notre Dame through a variety of activities. But the weekend dubbed “An Irish Beginning” will not be the end of the road for the students and the counselors who greeted them.

“This year, we’re starting a big brothers (and) big sisters program where any transfer student who wants to buddy up with an orientation counselor can,” Keller said. “Often times, transfer students don’t get to live on campus and that can leave them alienated from the experiences here. This program will hopefully help them get them involved and keep them connected with campus so they can go to an SYR or another campus activity if they want.”

Although his job is to help make the students’ transition to Notre Dame as smooth as possible, for Keller, it is something bigger that brings him satisfaction.

“I was in their shoes once before, and I want to be able to provide them with the help that I wish I’d had,” he said. “These students are in a special category all their own, and being able to help them transition from their old school to ours and show them the true Notre Dame experience is a rare opportunity.”

Contact Angela Saoud at saou0303@saintmarys.edu

Above, Notre Dame transfer Connie Slobach moves into Regina Hall. At right, Todd Torres gives transfer students a tour of campus.

PHOTOS BY CLAIRE KELLEY & CHUY BENITEZ

2004 NOTRE DAME SOCCER
IRISH vs. NORTHWESTERN
MONDAY, AUGUST 23  7:00 PM  ALUMNI FIELD

RESIDENCE HALL ATTENDANCE CONTEST
RESIDENCE HALL WITH THE HIGHEST % ATTENDANCE WILL WIN CASH OR FOOD!

NOTRE DAME STUDENT SEASON FOOTBALL TICKET LOTTERY DRAWING AT HALFTIME!
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PRE-GAME TAILGATE FOR ALL FANS!
The FIRST 600 STUDENTS RECEIVE A 30-MINUTE PHONE CARD COURTESY OF SAINT JOSEPH Regional Medical Center
South Bend * Mishawaka * Plymouth

FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL FANS!

ONE STUDENT WILL WIN 2 TICKETS TO THE ND vs. MICHIGAN ST FB GAME!
Senior Midfielder Kevin Goldthwaite

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Frustrating football season prompts fan outcry. Of four players accused of rape, Elam convicted of sexual battery.

**The Year 2003**

By CLAIRE HEININGER

Football frustration

Talk about a sophomore slump.

In his second season as Irish head coach, Tyrone Willingham followed a surprising 10-3 campaign and Gator Bowl appearance in 2002-03 with a disappointing 5-7 record last fall, as a trio of embarrassing losses to Michigan, USC, and Florida State sealed his fate.

Despite battling the toughest schedule in the country — Notre Dame appeared to finish with an 86-33 record in conference and juggling a quarterback controversy that shaped up between junior Carlyle Holiday and freshman Brady Quinn, the Irish players and coaching staff received scarce off-season breathing room from frustration.

In February, more than 400 alumni signed a letter to the Board of Trustees blaming the University's priorities for the football program's sustained woes. Principal letter author Tim Kelley attributed Notre Dame's decade-long disappearance from the national championship hunt to problems in the structure of the athletic department, particularly the influence of athletic director Kevin White, who has over football coaching hires.

The criticism turned uglier in late March and early April, when 1956 Heisman Trophy winner Paul Hornung's racially charged comments about the University's strict admissions standards sparked community input as it finalized the plan — raising academics into student residence halls, in the space the University could be maintaining a relatively small campus size, as the University could be designing at least 25 percent of doctoral residents' opinions, Notre Dame's, received high praise from the University of Florida; Josefina Baltodano, executive vice president for strategic planning at Johns Hopkins University — met with faculty, staff and students to solicit feedback for the committee.

The proposal's ten-year strategic plan — will not include jail time, but will entail at least 25 percent of doctoral students to discuss moral and ethical issues.

By CLAIRE HEININGER

**The Year in Review**

Saturday, August 21, 2004

Frustrating football season prompts fan outcry. Of four players accused of rape, Elam convicted of sexual battery.

...
Juniper’s traffic — which typically includes 1,000 vehicles a day on a new four-lane road that would run between the student union and the worksite near Ivy Road, University Architect Doug Marsh explained further details, including modifications to Edison and Douglas Roads in April.

The St. Joseph County Council heard a presentation from Notre Dame on May 11 and could vote to finalize the plan as early as their June 8 meeting. And unlike previous discussions about the new four-lane road that would run through the student body president Pat Hallahan’s plan as early as their June 8 meeting.

Student Govt, restructuring

The work of the student union this year was primarily occupied with its own reorganization. In recent years, student government’s performance has suffered due to poor communication and inefficient organizational structure. During student body president Pat Hallahan’s report to the Board of Trustees in October, several board members asked that student leaders eliminate inefficiencies in the student union before bringing significant requests to the trustees.

In proposals that began to emerge early in the first semester, student leaders agreed to rework the two major bodies of the student union, policy and programming. Executive Cabinet became the Council of Representatives, reflecting its composition of the top members of all student government bodies. Over the course of the spring semester, the council worked to produce a completely overhauled document that details the responsibilities of those bodies.

The result was a constitution approved March 31, that provides for more autonomy over student union policy body as well as improved communications across student government. The Campus Programming Council will now function with representatives from each residence hall to avoid scheduling conflicts, a problem often reported to the Board of Trustees.

Students also cut thousands of dollars in spending from the policy side, aiming to create a leaner student union that can more effectively communicate students’ concerns to the University’s administrators and trustees.

Gay? Fine By Me.

Despite Notre Dame students’ reputation for apathy, another reputation — the University’s stance that sparked passionate student opposition in 2004. The athletic department’s contract with local Taco Bell restaurants also came under fire, albeit from far fewer student leaders than demonstrators.

Members of the Progressive Student Alliance began to publicize their dislike of the $50,000 sponsorship agreement during the National Student Week of Action early April, delivering letters to University President Father Edward Malloy’s office. Demanding that the administration issue a statement against renewing the contract because of alleged unfair wages and labor standards held by the corporation’s tomato providers, the letters promised that students would continue to fast until Notre Dame spoke publicly.

After approximately 30 students approached Malloy’s office in person April 14, Vice President and General Counsel Carol Karsehler — who had been in contact with both the PSA and Taco Bell’s parent company, Yum! Brands Inc., since the fall — placed several follow-up calls to Taco Bell. When the University did not receive specific and timely answers, Notre Dame issued a public statement April 27 that postponed renewing the contract and expanding it to $75,000 by next fall until Taco Bell delivers a satisfactory response.

Monk to move on, Jenkins elected successor

When Father Theodore Hesburgh decided his term as University President was nearing its close, the search for his replacement unfolded before a public audience that included administrators, faculty and even a student committee as the Board of Trustees narrowed the field to five candidates before its much-anticipated decision in November 1986. Even before he was officially named Hesburgh’s successor, Malloy was already in the public eye — having been announced as the next president in a controversial Chicago Tribune article twelve days earlier.

But when Malloy made his own choice to step down — announcing at the board’s April 30 meeting his intent to retire in July 2005 after he serves his 18th year as president — the change seemed to come out of nowhere. While Malloy informed the Board in October 2003 that he wanted to step down after his current term and said in an April 23 Observer article that he was not seeking to stay on, the process stayed behind closed doors. A committee met in January, February, March and April, Board Chairman Patrick McCartan confirmed, and chose Father John Jenkins from among several candidates.

The 50-year-old Jenkins, a current vice president and associate provost and former religious superior of priests and brothers at Notre Dame, will have 14 months to absorb Malloy’s experiences as he prepares to become the University’s 17th president.

Executive VP saga resolved

The year-long vacancy in the position of executive vice president was finally resolved April 30 when the Board of Trustees elected John Affleck-Graves, whose appointment was immediate.

The hole in the University’s third-highest leadership has been filled since Father Timothy Scully resigned in May 2003. Scully, whose resignation preempted a scheduled Board report clearing him of wrongdoing dating back to a confrontation with a WNDU reporter and cameraman in January of that year, remained a political science professor but left his duties to Malloy.

In a decision delayed to coincide with the appointment of Jenkins — who followed the traditionally close ties between president and executive vice president, offered his formal and informal endorsement for Affleck-Graves — the 53-year-old South Africa native became the first layman in University history to hold the position.

Contact Claire Heininger at heininger@nd.edu
Best Wishes
for the 2004-2005 Academic Year
From the Division of Student Affairs

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

Ms. Ann Firth
Associate VP for Student Affairs
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Sr. Mary Louise Gode, C.S.C.
Assistant VP for Student Affairs
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Mr. William Kirk
Associate VP for Residence Life
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Sr. Jean Lenz, O.S.F.
Assistant VP for Student Affairs
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Dr. G. David Moss
Assistant VP for Student Affairs
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Executive Assistant to the Vice President
316 Main Building
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ALCOHOL & DRUG EDUCATION
Ms. Gina Firth, Director
311 LaFortune Student Center
631-7970

CAREER CENTER
Mr. Lee Svetec, Director
248 Plummer Hall
631-5200

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

Ms. Iris Outlaw, Director
210 LaFortune Student Center
631-6841

SECURITY
Mr. Rex Rakow, Director
101E Security Building
631-5555

RESIDENCE LIFE & HOUSING
Mr. Jeffrey Shoup, Director
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Business continued from page 1

necesses is one of the year's biggest.

The impact for our store is incredibly high," said Scott Giese, assistant manager for the Super Target store on University Park Drive. "Our sales peak this week and early next."

Both Meijer and Target said they began to see students in early August through early September. Tharp said the back-to-college weekend was the store's second biggest impact period after the Christmas season.

Meijer typically begins planning for college move-in weekend weeks several months before the majority of students arrive in South Bend. The store stocks up on common dorm room items such as hangers, pillows, sheets and notebooks as well as food items such as bottled water and ramen noodles.

"We typically build extra displays," Tharp said. "Eighty percent of everything in [the] center aisles is for back-to-school."

Trash also said bakery items had been especially popular this year with parents moving students in.

Super Target coordinates its back-to-school strategy at the corporate level and uses sales from the previous year to plan future marketing strategies. Giese said this year, the store sent about 13,000 back-to-school flyers to the Notre Dame campus.

In addition to offering potential shoppers plenty of dorm essentials, Meijer also plans a variety of special promotions specifically targeted at college students.

On Saturday we're going to have karaoke," said Trish Swartz, back-to-school coordinator for the Super Target and Meijer. "On Sunday we're going to do our ever-popular goldfish eating contest."

Contact Claire Heininger at cheining@nd.edu

Housing continued from page 1

raise many double occupancy rooms to triples. "We've had this problem in the past, and it's about the same this year for the men, but it's more pronounced in the women's dorms this year," director of the Office of Residence Life and Housing Jeff Shoup said. "The men still the women's dorms this year," continued from page 1

The room crunch has hit women's dorms the hardest, where most lounges have been converted.

Housing restrictions have forced this McGlinn Hall study lounge to change into a freshman triple. The room crunch has hit women's dorms the hardest, where most lounges have been converted.

"Often, when people talk about a claim, they just look at test scores, and that is a great disservice to students because they're so much more," Saracino said.

Not that the class of 2008 doesn't have plenty of numbers to brag about. The average freshman earns a third year in the year having ranked in the top 5.5 percent of his or her high school class, and with a mean SAT score of 1367 and ACT score of 32 in low. Seventy-three percent of the class also earned Advanced Placement credit.

Amid such impressive statistics, however, is one number that Notre Dame does not find as satisfying. Only 22 percent of the class of 2008 comes from an ethnic minority background, a one percent increase over the previous class but still nowhere near the University's target.

"If we want to claim we're educating the leaders of tomorrow, or the Catholic leaders of tomorrow, it's not accurate with a 21, 22 percent minority population," Saracino said, dismissing concerns from some that students aren't interested in Notre Dame because it lacks an urban setting or because of its reputation as "a white school with a black football team.

"One of my goals is to blast those stereotypes," he said. "Why don't you let the black students make that decision?" While Saracino identified another one of the University's goals as moving "further and further away from having a photo contest," besides the typical Notre Dame student, a composite picture of the class of 2008 does emerge:

Eighty-two percent of freshmen are Catholic;

Twenty-two percent are children of alumni;

Seventy-five percent participated in varsity athletics;

Thirty-five percent ranked in the top five in their class;

Fifty-two percent participated in some performing art;

Twenty-two percent are Catholic.

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichaels@nd.edu

Freshmen continued from page 1

Dame.

"We effectively tell the story of a faith-filled community, bright students who love community service, who have a certain spirit about them," Shoup said. "This right students will hear the story and want to be part of it," he said, highlighting the 92 percent of incoming freshmen who participated in high school community service — and more importantly, the more than 80 percent who plan to continue volunteering at Notre Dame.

"Too often, when people talk about a claim, they just look at test scores, and that is a great disservice to students because they're so much more," Saracino said.

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Contact Amanda Michaels at amichaels@nd.edu

FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

"Welcome Back, students!"

"We've had this problem in the past, and it's about the same this year for the men, but it's more pronounced in the women's dorms this year," director of the Office of Residence Life and Housing Jeff Shoup said. "The men still the women's dorms this year," continued from page 1

The room crunch has hit women's dorms the hardest, where most lounges have been converted.

Housing restrictions have forced this McGlinn Hall study lounge to change into a freshman triple. The room crunch has hit women's dorms the hardest, where most lounges have been converted.

"Often, when people talk about a claim, they just look at test scores, and that is a great disservice to students because they're so much more," Saracino said.

Not that the class of 2008 doesn't have plenty of numbers to brag about. The average freshman earns a third year in the year having ranked in the top 5.5 percent of his or her high school class, and with a mean SAT score of 1367 and ACT score of 32 in low. Seventy-three percent of the class also earned Advanced Placement credit.

Amid such impressive statistics, however, is one number that Notre Dame does not find as satisfying. Only 22 percent of the class of 2008 comes from an ethnic minority background, a one percent increase over the previous class but still nowhere near the University's target.

"If we want to claim we're educating the leaders of tomorrow, or the Catholic leaders of tomorrow, it's not accurate with a 21, 22 percent minority population," Saracino said, dismissing concerns from some that students aren't interested in Notre Dame because it lacks an urban setting or because of its reputation as "a white school with a black football team.

"One of my goals is to blast those stereotypes," he said. "Why don't you let the black students make that decision?" While Saracino identified another one of the University's goals as moving "further and further away from having a photo contest," besides the typical Notre Dame student, a composite picture of the class of 2008 does emerge:

Eighty-two percent of freshmen are Catholic;

Twenty-two percent are children of alumni;

Seventy-five percent participated in varsity athletics;

Thirty-five percent ranked in the top five in their class;

Fifty-two percent participated in some performing art;

Twenty-two percent are Catholic.

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichaels@nd.edu

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KICKOFF 2004

STEP Pick-up Ticket Application

ND On-Campus Undergrad (except Freshmen)  In your mailbox
ND First Year Students  On August 22 at 6:00 p.m. in the Joyce Center
ND Off-Campus Undergrads  On Enrollment Monday at the Stadium Box Office
ND Law/MBA/Grad  From your college
Saint Mary's students  From SMC

Obtain your lottery number on Enrollment
Monday, August 23, 9am-5pm, Stadium Box Office

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

The starting lottery number will be drawn at 8:30 p.m. on Monday, August 23. E-mail and phone announcements will be made following the lottery of the number. The sequence number can also be found at sas.nd.edu after 9:00 p.m. To reflect the smaller class size, Law/MBA/Grad students will have a separate lottery number.

Purchase your season tickets at the Stadium Box Office

Guidelines for Ticket Distribution Schedule:

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

- Check calendar below for start times by class

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

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

By JEN ROWLING

From waking up at dawn for intense training to bonding over pizza parties in the evening, freshman ROTC cadets test their new skills during training week.

Comprised of students from Notre Dame, Saint Mary’s, Holy Cross, Indiana University-South Bend, Bethel College and Valparaiso, the three ROTC divisions — Air Force, Army and Navy — facilitated individual orientation week schedules.

Thirteen Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s students compose this year’s freshmen Army ROTC class. While their orientation began with the issuance of cadet uniforms, a pizza party and a game of football, the excitement was soon replaced with physical training at 5:30 a.m. the next morning. Endurance activities, including rock climbing and rope climbing across St. Mary’s Lake, challenged the young cadets. A Humvee military vehicle equipped with a missile launcher, machine gun and grenade launcher was also on display for the incoming class.

Throughout the week, freshmen learned important skills with gas masks, hand grenades, camouflage and night vision.

"When the freshmen first got here, they were shy, (but) as the week went by they opened up," said Army Second Lieutenant Mike Bielecki. "They do have trouble getting up early — it is a big change from high school sleeping in."

Commander Mike Zenk of the Air Force division said incoming freshmen are required to take a standardized test similar to the SAT. This assessment includes evaluation on pilot and navigation skills.

"They seem like a good motivated group of students, I have seen progress in just a few days," Zenk said regarding the incoming Air Force class which includes approximately 30 students from SMC and ND.

Cadets appeared anxious and excited about their new positions in ROTC.

"I want to become an officer, I will probably end up making a career out of it," said Lance Lovejoy of the Army division. "I am having a blast," said Hayden Fiscal of the Army division. "The army will teach me important leadership and discipline skills assisting me in whatever I decide to do with my life."

Contact Jen Rowling at jrowling@nd.edu.
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OPEN HOUSE

Presented by the Student Activities Office and the departments, organizations and businesses of the LaFortune Student Center
Saint Mary's Class of 2008

- 351 incoming freshmen
- Average SAT Verbal: 530-610
- Average SAT Math: 510-630
- Average ACT: 22-27
- Average GPA: 3.38-3.9
- 21% are children of alumni
- 75% come from the midwest
- 34 states and countries are represented

SMC continued from page 1

analyzed the data from the College Board Admitted Student Questionnaire, which will help the College learn more about perspective students' choices. But despite weaker numbers, the class of 2008 is academically strong.

"Our new students bring diverse interests, skills and talents. These women are artists, athletes, scholars, musicians, student leader and community volunteers," Nolan said. The middle 50 percent SAT range for the class of 2008 was 530 to 610 on verbal and 510 to 630 on math, and a middle 50 percent score of 22 to 27 on the ACT.

The middle 50 percent had a final grade point average of 3.38 to 3.9, with ranking in the top 21 percent of their classes. Seven women were valedictorians of their high school graduating class and three were salutatorians. About 21 percent of the class of 2008 are children of alumni. Although 75 percent of Saint Mary's students come from the Midwest, the incoming freshman class will represent 34 states and two foreign countries — Afghanistan and Bulgaria.

"The Saint Mary's community looks forward to the contributions that the class of 2008 will make at the College and in the world far beyond our campus," said Nolan.

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmeeha01@saintmarys.edu

NOTRE DAME

Students by region

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SAINT MARY'S

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NOTRE DAME continued from page 1

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SAINT MARY'S continued from page 1

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Move-In

continued from page 1

The Observer • NEWS

only freshmen have I interacted with so far are the ones who have moved in recently that I’ve seen walking around the dorm. It will be nice when everyone gets here.

Breen-Phillips freshman Adrianna Stasiuk, a volleyball player from Park Ridge, Ill., agreed. "Now that people are starting to arrive, it's getting more and more exciting," she said.

Stasiuk, who has been on campus since Aug. 9 for volleyball practice, said a certain amount of trepidation goes hand-in-hand with anticipation for newly arrived freshmen.

"Being away from home for the first time is always intimidating," she said.

As of Thursday, Notre Dame's Office of Undergraduate Admissions expected 1,991 freshmen to arrive on campus for the 2004-05 academic year. While the majority of incoming students hail from the Midwestern United States, 89 will converge under the Dome from locales abroad.

One such student, Gritzman's Stanford classmate Hudson Sullivan, arrived on campus Wednesday after a seven-hour drive from Toronto.

"I'm a bit nervous," he said, echoing the sentiments of many of his freshman colleagues. "I was so excited, but we were in the car on our way here, and all these questions come up ... and then when I saw the room, I thought, 'This is so small' — it's smaller than my room at home!"

Sullivan, an avid hockey player, already has plans to join his dorm's baseball hockey team. A sports fan, it was the school pride he observed in the Notre Dame student body during his two campus visits that sold him on the university.

"Everything was so intense down here. Everyone gets involved," he said, remembering scenes of students across campus attired from head to toe in Irish gear.

"It was that atmosphere that was really attractive to me," Sullivan said. "I knew those were the kinds of people that wanted to be around for the next four years in dorm rooms across campus.

The first in her family to attend Saint Mary's, Sullivan said she is enthusiastic about beginning her year at the College.

"My roommate is a legacy. I'm new and she's old here, and that's a great combination," she said.

McCandless Hall roommates Elizabeth Johnson and Anita Moo, both the first in their families to attend Saint Mary's, were equally enthusiastic about their decision to join the College's 351-strong class of 2008.

"When I checked it out, it was just so pretty," Johnson, a prospective nursing student from Fort Wayne, Ind., said. Her roommate agreed, adding that only hours into her arrival on campus, she was confident in her answer when the question her Saint Mary's and Notre Dame counterpart will inevitably try to answer themselves. Becoming a Belle, she said, was the right decision for her.

"It's hard to know, but when you're here, you just know," Moo said.

Contact Meghan Martin at mmartin@nd.edu

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August 20th - 8am - 7pm
August 21st - 8am - 7pm
August 22nd - Noon - 5pm

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Eight weeks changes everything

Eight weeks. It doesn’t seem like a long time, but eight weeks changed my life. I didn’t realize at the time what was happening. I never even anticipated that it would.

In eight weeks I had cautiously shed my shy demeanor and passed through the doorway into a sweaty 11-x-14 room blaring Bon Jovi’s “Livin’ On A Prayer” — a scene known only as a freshman dorm party — and eaten my first chocolate-chip cookie ever tip-lighting a mini-incession with everything of the chocolate-chip cookie nature.

In eight weeks I had seamlessly perfected the art of polling all-righters for my first round of midterms and haphazardly balanced classes, intramural flag football (I still feel in fact that I am quite possibly the most un-athletic person at Notre Dame) and working at this newspaper.

But in these eight weeks I had not anticipated that if I carefully charted my own course in life, independent from that of my family and home that I left behind, that the world I left behind was changing as well.

Before that Friday morning in mid-August three years ago when my parents and I loaded up the family conversion van with more stuff than could fit in my dorm party — and eaten my first chocolate-chip cookie ever tip-lighting a mini-incession with everything of the chocolate-chip cookie nature.

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What I did not know was how much my parents’ lives had changed as well. I found that my mother had not cooked a single meal in eight weeks — that is, of course, until the night when I came home to my favorite meal of green bean casserole and chicken and rice with mushrooms.

I discovered that after holding on to me tightly, shuffling me back to the car and pleading with me to come home, my parents had driven the 92 miles back to Chicago in silence with tears in their eyes.

I learned that each time they called my room and I was not there, their worry level rose five notches.

For the next nine days of fall break, my parents tried to talk me out of returning to Notre Dame. My dad tried to lay one of his infamous guilt trips on me, saying, “Now you don’t really want to leave, do you? What’s better than being at home?”

My mom even tried to bribe me when, as mother and daughter, we baked chocolate chip cookies together for the first time. As the mother, she reasoned, she could tell me what to do. As the daughter, I would have to listen. As fall break drew to a close, my dad sur­prised me with a trip to Krispy Kreme those ofThe Observer.

What I know now was even possible — that eight weeks would change not just my life, but my parents as well. Sure, my parents still struggle with me leaving for school and they still regard me as their little girl. But last Sunday, my mom and I took a long and very much needed bear hug and shuffle-shuffle-saying, “I won’t be the only one in the car, come home with me, you don’t need to go back. You are growing up too fast.”

Three years later, as I stare with bewil­dered eyes at my sen­ior year and beyond that my future, I have collected countless unforgettable memo­ries but hold dearest my unexpected new­friend. While I will leave behind the flag football field (probably a great idea), the dorm parties and the all-night study sessions, I will never have to say goodbye to the life-changing — mine and theirs — effects of those eight weeks.

Meghanne Downes is a senior political science and peace studies double major with a journalism minor. An only child hailing from Chicago, she never had a cousin until the first week of freshman year. Thanks to the endless encourage­ment and persistence of her roommates, she continues to discover other foods such as tacos, cucumbers, Thai food, polenta, and yellow squash, among many other foods. Meghanne Downes at mdownes@nd.edu.

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

Eight weeks changes everything

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...
Welcome to Notre Dame. You will find that we have a beautiful campus and a talented faculty. I hope you will take advantage of the many opportunities that we have here. I am confident that you will grow in every way as a thoughtful and reflective person preparing to make your way in the world. We are very proud of our residence tradition on campus and the many activities available for you to use your God-given talents in leadership and service.

It is my hope that during your time with us you will make some of the best friends of your life. We welcome students from every State in the Union and from a wide array of foreign countries and cultures. We are enriched by the different experiences and perspectives that bring you to our common life.

I will have the privilege of teaching some of you in my seminar class. Others I will come to know through my residing in Sorin Hall. I hope to have a chance to interact with all of you in some way or another during your time at Notre Dame. Once again, welcome to the Notre Dame family. I hope to have a chance to interact with all of you. All best wishes as you make this important transition and may God bless our life together.

Father Edward A. Malloy
President
University of Notre Dame
August 20, 2004

Welcome to Notre Dame's student body. Ahead of you lies perhaps the most invigorating, exciting, and indeed forming years of your life. Get excited! The experiences and opportunities awaiting you are truly a gift. Your years at Notre Dame have a potential for greatness, make the most of your time here. The first and most important thing to remember is to always have fun. Take classes you enjoy, select a major that makes you happy, find a club or activity that excites you, surround yourself with wonderful friends, and make everything you do here something you can value and remember fondly in the years to come.

It is the support of others that helps you accomplish your goals. Never lose sight of the true value and significant roles of your friends, family and classmates in your life. They are the most valuable resources you have; it is they who will help you through the rough times and celebrate the amazing times. Treasure every moment with them.

The next few years you will challenge, develop and amaze you to extremes you can barely imagine possible. Never in your life will you find a place so filled with spirit, love, family, wonder and tradition. Embrace these years. The University of Notre Dame is truly an amazing and beautiful place — not only because of the breath-taking landscapes, but because of the people. You too have been presented the opportunity to explore and embody the Tradition that is Notre Dame. We believe in you and we are all here to help you on your journey. We wish you the best of luck. God Bless. On behalf of the Notre Dame student body, welcome home.

Adam Ievan
Notre Dame student body president
Karla Bell
Notre Dame student body vice president
August 20, 2004

Welcome to Saint Mary's College! We are all so pleased that you made the choice to attend Saint Mary's and know that you will indeed find your home away from home with us. You are beginning a journey that will last far longer than four years. This next step in your intellectual growth and personal development will provide the foundation for you as you establish learning habits that will last a lifetime.

You will be challenged to be a woman of distinction. That distinction will have a different meaning for each of you. You will find your leadership skills sharpened every day through your interaction with faculty, staff, administrators and your student peers. You will explore new academic subjects that will open doors to worlds you never considered.

As a Catholic college we honor and respect the journey each of us makes as we find God's grace for our lives. We will support you as you explore the hard questions of faith and we will celebrate the answers with you as you form them.

In between all these opportunities you will have fun! There are so many activities, clubs, organizations and athletic events to attend. You will have no problem finding ways to exercise your Belles' spirit on campus. And, you will have the opportunity to join your colleagues at the University of Notre Dame and Holy Cross College for their activities too.

Reflect on the knowledge that thousands of women have walked these same paths and halls before you. They like you, are women of faith who came here to develop the talents God had given them so that they could make a difference in the world. You will benefit from their legacy and experience and you will add to the legacy that is Saint Mary's College.

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On behalf of the Saint Mary's student body, it is our pleasure to welcome you into our community. During your time at Saint Mary's, you will experience challenges and achievements. You will encounter new ideas, receive new opportunities, and experience new dreams. Yet, most importantly you will grow at college surrounded by those who will inspire you to believe in yourselves.

You have arrived at an exciting time in our college's history. With our new president, a new student center and new apartments, your years here will allow each of you to come you home. You will benefit from the legacy of generations of women who came here to develop the talents God had given them so that they could make a difference in the world. You will benefit from their legacy and experience and you will add to the legacy that is Saint Mary's College.

On behalf of the faculty and staff at Saint Mary's College, I extend a warm welcome to our Class of 2008. We are looking forward to learning about you and the rest of the Class of 2008. We are confident you will treasure your first four years as a Saint Mary's woman. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you can do anything to ease your transition.

Congratulations and we wish you the time of your life! Again it is a pleasure to welcome you home.

Linda Timm
President
Saint Mary's College
August 20, 2004

Sarah Catherine White
Saint Mary's student body president
Mary Pauline Morean
Saint Mary's student body vice president
August 20, 2004
All you need to know

Working in the so-called "real world" in my hometown of Canton, Ohio as a reporter for the Repository newspaper taught me a very important lesson this summer — stay in college. Stay in college as long as possible, even if Notre Dame graduate school is $45,000. Anyone who’s ever worked 40 hours a week (i.e. your parents) understands this. Just think about it. Sure, they may like their jobs (I loved my internship), but there’s just something to be said about staying up with friends until 4 a.m., staying up with friends until 4 a.m., and being able to duplicate — that’s why it really is better, even if Notre Dame was my only college here for much more than the textbooks and lectures. Notre Dame has countless opportunities.

As a freshman I worried about grades a lot. But as I got older, I realized that there’s too much at Notre Dame to dwell on whether I get a 3.1 or a 3.3 grade point average. Plus, ask any college graduate with a job, they’ll tell you grades don’t matter that much. Just get a degree and have some job experience. I mean it. Tradition says students should only do that after they’ve completed their degree at Notre Dame. If you have any doubt, maybe God has mercy on you.

Finally, live every day keeping in mind that you are probably the luckiest person in the world to be here. Enjoy your college life.

There are thousands of kids who would give up everything just to have the opportunity you do. Not to get too sappy or corny, but it’s true.

Notre Dame isn’t Harvard or Purdue. It’s different from any other school in the country. Some aspects of the Notre Dame campus can be ridiculous and stupid — parietals, the dining policy or the entirely Frosh-O-week-end — but don’t let that stuff overshadow all the good things about Notre Dame. This is a place people respect because of its academic and athletic reputations. Some of you might have already seen the effect the words “Notre Dame” have with other people. Almost every time I tell someone where I go to school, they seem impressed.

There’s some advice from a senior who wishes he was a freshman again. Take it for what its worth. Just learn as much as you can from Notre Dame experience. And get something out of the classes, too.

Joe Hettler is a senior marketing major and journalism minor. He’s scared to death of graduating in the spring, getting a job and not making off his parents dollar. He claims to know more about sports (mainly football than anyone on campus and he’ll probably glue himself to the benches inside the stadium after the game. The easiest way to do that is to stay in your dorm. It’s easy to call your parents and your friends from home and cling to those connections. It is so much harder to leave the dorm, to get out of your comfort zone, to talk to someone you might not normally talk to. But it will be so worth it.

if you are reading this column, you are owed a congratulations and an explanation. First, congratulations on being accepted to (in my opinion of course) one of the greatest colleges this nation has to offer. But during the middle of my sophomore year, with many of the male friends I had moving away to go to school, the relationship with my boyfriend hit a road block never recovered. Suddenly I found myself struggling to find relationships with my kind of relationships — with the opposite sex. And it was difficult. Since other Saint Mary’s women had taken the time to meet their guy friends early on, they had been able to grow and foster those relationships. I had been left out of the loop, and I had no one to blame but myself.

And that’s when The Observer walked into my life. After spring break my sophomore year, I was sitting in the Observer meetings and making all interested writers to attend an informational meeting to write for the paper. It was a way to find a small and I gave it a try. A year later, I was the Saint Mary’s Editor. Through my involvement with the paper, I am able to spend a lot of hours weekly across the street, and have made some fabulous friends. And although I wish I had done it sooner, I have in fact done it, and it’s better late than never.

You have an amazing four years ahead of you. What you do with it is your choice. But make sure you don’t take a single moment for granted. Before you know it, you’ll be gearing up for your senior year. And it will pass in the blink of an eye.

Angela Saoud is a senior English writing major and secondary education minor who, although she complains about things she has done, wouldn’t change a thing about her college career. She is from South Bend, but resents being called a townie. Angela has no idea what job she will do or where she will live after graduation, but she will figure it out when the time comes. Contact Angela Saoud at saoua0303@stmarys.edu.

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

"W"
Getting out from
A guide to food, shopping and nightlife.

Eating Late

Nick's Patio
One of South Bend's 24 hour hotspots for Domers and locals. Show up around 3 in the morning to catch the post-party crowd. Coffee refill limit is two cups at peak hours, but at less busy hours or if you're nice to the waiter they may be unlimited. This is also a great spot for a greasy Saturday or Sunday morning breakfast.

Denny's
If you find yourself needing a Lumberjack Slam breakfast in the middle of the night, think Denny's. If you're worried that late night—or very early morning—pancakes will wreak havoc on your waistline faster than you can say "Freshman Fifteen," then you'll be glad to hear that Denny's has jumped onto the low-carb bandwagon and now offers "Carb-Watch" and "Fit Fare" selections.

Steak 'n Shake
Like Denny's, this Midwest chain is open 24 hours and serves up steakburgers and hand-dipped milkshakes all night long. Their latest campaign, "Side-by-Side" milkshakes that combine your two favorite flavors, could be worth a try when those lines at Beckers reach Disney World lengths after parities on weekends.

Boracho Burrito
Boracho is such a cult favorite for students' post-midnight cuisine that you should get into the habit now of telling the cabbie to take you to this 3 a.m. hotspot for enormous burritos. The restaurant, which was created by recent Notre Dame graduates, is also popular for tailgates, so tell your family to order ahead for a home game.

Weekends

Blockbuster
There are several Blockbuster locations around South Bend and Mishawaka, so you can take advantage of having movies and video games as entertainment if your dorm doesn't have cable TV. Renting DVDs of The Sopranos and Sex and the City might also be easier than installing that satellite dish outside your third-floor dorm window. DVDs and VHS new releases cost $2.99 for two days. Older videos cost $1.99 for five days.

Family Video
Family video has locations on U.S. 31 and Main Street. The selection is similar to Blockbuster and prices may be better depending on which movies you want to rent. New releases are $2.00 for one night and $2.75 for five nights. Older movies cost $1 for two nights and $2 for seven nights.

Movies 14
If you prefer to catch new flicks instead of renting old ones, Movies 14 on Edison Road shows popular Hollywood hits. Student discount tickets cost $5.75. Go before 6:00 p.m. for $5 tickets.

Strikes and Spares
South Bend's newest entertainment center offers arcade games and regular and cosmic bowling. During the week before 5:00 p.m. bowling costs $15 per lane per hour for up to six people. Evening bowling costs $22 per hour, and Saturday bowling costs $25 per hour. Cosmic bowling on Fridays and Saturdays costs $30 per hour. Bowlers are charged for the exact amount of time played.

Beacon Bowl
Beacon Bowl charges $1.89 per person per hour before 5:00 p.m. on weekdays, and $3.09 for evenings and weekends. The bowling alley is also a popular venue for dorm dances.

Shopping

Meijer
It doesn't get much better than Meijer for groceries, school supplies and almost anything else you need for the dorm. It's open 24 hours and only a short drive away from campus, so stock up here on snack foods, posters, cleaning supplies, notebooks, etc. Walmart and Target supermarkets nearby offer similar selections, but are less of a regional specialty.

Martin's
For "service and savings," Martin's Supermarket is another grocery store option. Martin's is also close to campus, so there's never a need to feel restricted by the limited selection on campus. It's also cheaper than spending all your Flex points on Ben & Jerry's and Goldfish at the Huddle.

University Park Mall
UP Mall offers a variety of stores including Express, Abercrombie, American Eagle, The Limited, Gap, Banana Republic, Victoria's Secret, Lids, The South Bend Chocolate Factory and several department stores like Marshall Field's and I.S. Ayres. Make friends with a dormmate with a car or take the bus from Library Circle. It takes you directly to the mall to get a quicky SYR gift or a Cinnabon.

Chicago
The possibilities are endless when it comes to nightlife. The downtown area is bustling with bars and restaurants, and the French Quarter is a great place to try out some delicious French cuisine. There are also plenty of outdoor activities to enjoy, such as biking or walking along the Chicago River.

Lake Michigan
Lake Michigan is a great place to go for a day trip. You can take a boat ride or go for a swim in the lake. There are also plenty of beaches to choose from, so you can find one that suits your needs. If you're feeling adventurous, you can even go surfing or windsurfing.

Cedar Point
Cedar Point is a great place to go for a day trip. You can ride the roller coasters, go on the water rides, or just relax in the sun. There are also plenty of restaurants to choose from, so you can find one that suits your needs. If you're feeling adventurous, you can even go on the steel roller coasters for an extra thrill.
under the Dome

Under the Dome

Entertainment off Campus

New Flavors

Star of India
When you're in the mood for ethnic dishes outside of the dining hall, the Star of India serves up tasty Indian food that is also easy on the wallet. If you are unsure about what to order, go for the fantastic lunch buffet and try everything, especially the desserts, for only $6.

La Esperanza
If you're tired of Taco Bell chalupas or freezer Mexican food from Hacienda, try heading to La Esperanza. Whether you're looking for a jalapeno omelet or steak fajitas, the restaurant offers more authentic Mexican food at affordable prices.

Toyo Grill
Toyo Grill offers Japanese cuisine, especially sushi, for more adventurous eaters. The restaurant is a little on the expensive side for everyday eating, but it's a tasty option for an occasional break from the dining hall. Martin's Supermarket also offers a selection of sushi.

Hanayori of Japan
Head to the Japanese restaurant for a rare chance to see your food cooked in front of you on a hot sheet of metal. The restaurant is a little pricey, but it's worth it to see the chef make an onion volcano or toss your food through the air. If you feel like trying a spicy tuna roll or another seaweed-wrapped delicacy, Hanayori also offers sushi.

CJ's Pub
CJ's is famous for its burgers and is a favorite spot for students to grab a bite off campus. The pub also offers a one pound burger dubbed the Golden Domer, a challenge to finish no matter how big your appetite is.

Transportation

Michiana Regional Airport
The South Shore rail line provides an easy way to get to Chicago for flights or day trips. Tickets for the South Shore cost $9 each way. If you can't find rides to the airport, ABC Cab Company and Yellow Cab offer the best deal for more than two passengers at $12 for one and $2 for each additional passenger. Express Cab also offers $10 cab fare to the airport for single passengers and $12 for two.

Around the Bend

Road Trips

es in Chicago are endless, including parks, shopping, restaurants, museums, music and live anywhere from two to three hours on I-80. Enter the toll road from U.S. 31 by the sand head west to head straight into the city. But just as full of possibility, if not more, is Windsor. Two years until you're legal? Take a drive, but well worth it for thrill seekers, is Cedar Point. Located in Sandusky, Ohio, Cedar Point is famous for its amusement parks to shame, and the park stays open on weekends. Drive for times before heading out, at www.cedarpoint.com. Head east on I-80 and follow U.S. 250.

Information compiled by Christie Bolzen and Maria Smith

Taxis

Ace Cab Lines
295-6886
A-B-C Cabs
233-4000
American Cab
259-5554
Checker Cab
268-7777
City Cab
233-2020
Express Cab
233-6000
Michiana Taxi
233-4040
Shamrock Cab
243-5500
Yellow Cab
233-9333
MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Runners strive for more

Failure to qualify for NCAA's in 2003 serves as incentive for this year's team

By HEATHER VAN HOOGARDEN

Last year's performance at the Great Lakes Regional Championship may be all the motivation the Irish need to climb back into the elite of collegiate cross country.

In 2003, the 18th-ranked Irish failed to qualify for the NCAA Championship after taking second place at the Big East Championship. They took eighth place at the Great Lakes Regional, and failed to receive an at-large bid.

"Last year, they were up and down," women's cross country coach Tim Connelly said of the team coached by Joe Plane, who was in Athens as of press time. "If they ran the same way as they did at the Big East, they would have qualified.

"Instead, the Irish find themselves looking to avenge what turned out to be a disappointing season. But they will have to do it without four-year contributor Todd Moby.

"He's really the big loss," Connelly said of the 2003 graduate. Moby was named an Academic All-American in June after posting a 3.3 grade point average, but his accolades were not limited to academics. And Todd Moby posted four top 30 finishes in 2003, including two in the top 10. He also earned All-American honors for the second time in his career, finishing 27th overall at the NCAA Championship.

Connelly said seniors Eric Morrison and Sean O'Donnell, juniors Kaleb VanOrt and Tim Moore and sophomore Kurt Benninger will help replace Moby. Moore finished sixth at the Big East Championship in 2003, and has earned All-Big East honors his last two seasons. VanOrt earned All-Big East honors last season for the first time, finishing 12th. O'Donnell and Benninger finished 41st and 21st, respectively. At the Great Lakes Regionals, Moore finished 14th overall and Benninger finished 38th. O'Donnell rounded out the scoring with a 41st place finish. This group will be key for the Irish this season.

"These are the guys that will really help her to carry the load," Connelly said.

"The load will be significant, as the Irish expect to compete with the best teams in the country.

"The big focus is on the Big East, regionals and nationals," Connelly said. "That's the main focus.

"But the most important thing for this year's Irish team to be successful is consistency.

"More than anything, they need to be more consistent in the way they compete," he said. "Consistency of effort is really important.

Also hoping to make an impact is the brother of Luke Watson, one of the most successful runners in Irish history. Jake Watson may contribute early, Connelly said.

"He's a very good cross country runner," Connelly said of Jake. "We have some freshmen that could help."

Connelly said the team has been training as individuals this summer, some running as much as 85 to 90 miles each week. And that is what needs to be done so the Irish don't repeat last year's disappointment.

"We have a pretty strong tradition in cross country here," he said. "Last year was a big disappointment. They expect to rebound.

"This year's team hopes to be one of the 31 teams that go to the NCAA Championship," Connelly acknowledged that they have "by far the toughest region," but he thinks the Irish can do it.

"We've got a group that's capable of being in the top 30," he said.

The Irish kick off the season Sept. 10 with the Valparaiso Invitational. Hurley said he expects the top runners probably will not run until Oct. 3 at the Notre Dame Invitational.

Contact Heather Van Hoogarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu.

ND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Irish return majority of team this season

By BOBBY GRIFFIN

The Notre Dame women performed well last season, taking home a Big East Championship, and finishing 10th in the NCAA championships. The team will look to improve upon last year's success this fall.

The Irish return many of last year's starters, which should be a key factor in their success.

Senior Lauren King and junior Molly Huddle will be the main components. King is coming off a year in which she earned Academic All-American honors, for only the third time in Notre Dame history. King has also been an All-American three times. Huddle captured the Great Lakes Regional Cross Country Runner of the Year, Huddle also finished 7th at the United States Olympic Trials.

Irish coach Tim Connelly also stressed that runners outside of King and Huddle will have an impact on this year's team. Kerry Meagher, Stephanie Media and Loryn King, who is coming off of knee surgery, will all be key runners for this year's squad.

The Irish will open their season Sept. 9th, when they travel the Valparaiso Invitational.

Connelly, who earned Great Lakes Region Coach of the Year last season, expects a lot from his team coming into the season. With the growing strength of the program and the subsequent attention it is garnering, Connelly is looking forward to great things.

Connelly said that while 10th place at the NCAA Championships was good, it was a bit of a disappointment. This year, the coach is setting his sights a bit higher.

"We return most of our team from last year that finished 10th in the NCAA's," Connelly said. "The expectations need to be a minimum top 10 team if not better." Connelly also said he is excited about the talented group of freshmen, especially Connelly O'Donoghue. He said the freshmen can contribute right away.

In high school, O'Donoghue was ranked No. 1 in the nation in the two-mile run with a time of 10:25.82. Connelly said progress and development will be more focused on his team for the younger runners.

"We've got some kids that, given time, can contribute," Connelly said.

Following the Valparaiso Invitational, the Irish will compete in the National Catholic Invitational and the Notre Dame Invitational before the Pre-National Championships, the Big East Championships, the Great Lakes Regionals, and the NCAA Championships.

If all goes well, last year's 10th place finish will only be a stepping-stone for the talented group of 2004.

Kerry Meagher, left, and Maggie Nelson run in the National Catholic Championship at Notre Dame last September.

Notre Dame hopes to improve on last year's 10th-place showing at NCAA's

By CHUY BENITEZ

The Observer

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Contact Bobby Griffin at gregf03@nd.edu.

The Observer accepts classifieds every business day from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Notre Dame office, 824 South Donges Ferry. Deadline for next-day Classifieds is 3 p.m. of the day of publication. The charge is $3 per word per day, including all spaces. The Observer reserves the right to edit all classifieds for content without incurring fees.
ND VOLLEYBALL

Irish ready to avenge last year

Team hopes for better performance after last year’s early exit from the NCAA Tournament

By ANN LOUGHERY
Sports Writer

For the freshmen, the numbers alone can be intimidating.

Last year, the volleyball team finished the season with a 23-7 overall record and a No. 24 ranking. The Irish also earned their 12th consecutive bid to the NCAA tournament.

This past season placed them at No. 25 in this year’s preseason USA Today poll. They were also picked to finish sixth in the Big East.

"They’re all really talented and doing a great job at practice," Lauren Brewster said. "They’re really soaking in everything and applying it." Brewster led the nation in 2003 in blocks. She was named honorable mention All-American and was All-Big East as well.

This year, five new players will step onto the court to compete for the Irish — four freshmen and a sophomore. Coach Debbie Brown praises the team’s veterans — three of which are returning honorable mention All-Americans — for facilitating the newcomers’ transition and for providing a competitive atmosphere at practice.

"The more scrimmaging we do, the better [the newcomers] look," Debbie Brown, Irish coach. "We’re teaching them the systems in practice for the most part.

Helping the freshmen gain experience is of utmost importance. Brown said, especially since the Irish will face Loyola University Chicago Sept. 1. This year’s team features strong blocking, solid ball control and defense. However, backcourt defense is one area that Brown says needs improvement, and the Irish must replace setter Kristen Kinder, named first team All-Big East and honorable mention All-American.

"We’ll get things done before we play Loyola. People ask me ‘Do you think you’re ready for Loyola?’" Brown said. "I tell them that we’re not ready now, but we definitely will be.

Brown added the hours the team puts in now should prepare them for the rigorous schedule they face this season. Following the Loyola match, the Irish face No. 2 Nebraska and seven other ranked teams, three of which are recent national champions. Twelve of their opponents made the NCAA Tournament last year, as did the Irish. There they lost in the first round to No. 19 Louisville, a disappointing finish for a good team.

"We’re hoping to finish strong this year — stronger than we did last year — and I think we’ll have a lot of opportunities to prove ourselves," Brown said.

Contact Ann Loughey at aloughey@nd.edu.

SMC VOLLEYBALL

Replacing Playko biggest test for Belles this season

When the Belles hit the court to start the 2004 season, they will be short one star player. Sophomore Kristen Playko, who led the team with 496 kills and 59 service aces last year, will not be returning to the team this season, choosing to study abroad in Austria.

"When we first signed Kristen, I knew there was a possibility that she might study abroad," Belles coach Julie Schroeder-Biek said. "I fully support her in this decision — these girls are students first and athletes second.

"She still has a great love for the game, and was torn about studying abroad, but this doesn’t mean her intensity is any less.

While the Belles losing a key piece in Playko, they will also gain one in junior Michelle Turley.

Turley, who transferred from Division-I Marist College last year, was injured in the first scrimmage of the 2003 season and missed the entire year.

She is now healthy, and will step into a team that has more depth and experience than last year’s Belles, according to Schroeder-Biek, who likes our team this year. It hurts losing Kristen, but we’re also gaining Michelle.

Saint Mary’s finished 2003 with a 17-13 record (5-10 in the MIAA), which improved tremendously from its record of 7-23 in 2002.

The Belles hope to repeat the success of last season, when they increased their total in conference games from one in 2002 to five in 2003.

"Last year we had a really good group of girls who played together like a team," Schroeder-Biek said. "It’s nice to move up in our conference and to develop and win for our wins from the year before.

After starting the 2003 season 0-3, the Belles with four straight matches and advanced to the final of the Western Invitational before losing in the final to Albion.

A key win for the Belles came in the last regular season match, when Saint Mary’s defeated Albion in four sets. Albion had defeated the Belles in the first game of the season.

The win against Albion was enough to move the Belles into sixth-place in the nighttime MIAA conference.

"I fully support [Playko] in this decision — these girls are students first and athletes second," Julie Schroeder-Biek, Belles coach.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu.

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COMMUNITY OPEN HOUSE Sunday, September 19, 12 noon – 5 p.m.

Come and celebrate the opening of YOUR Performing Arts Center. Enjoy a self-directed tour through the facility. Maps will be available. Notre Dame and regional performers will showcase their considerable talents in all five venues.

The Mario P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts officially swings into action when Wynton Marsalis and the Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra

take the stage of the Leighton Concert Hall ripping through familiar jazz charts with their head-bopping, foot-tapping, serious fun. Critics have run out of ways to say “technically brilliant” trying to describe their audacious rhythms and ingenious arrangements. Their music is as playful as a Picasso painting but as deep and rich as any Van Gogh. Marsalis will turn the Leighton Concert Hall into the coolest place on the planet as pure joy erupts from the stage.

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Discounted tickets are underwritten by the Mario P. DeBartolo Center for the Performing Arts.

There are a limited number of student discounts available. Call 574.631.2800

ND Cinema

ND cinema kicks off its season with several "provocumentaries" screened in the new Browning Cinema. The Browning Cinema has earned THX certification for its quality of technology and is the only THX Cinema in the state. THX is the Hollywood industry standard.

26 Aug | TH | Control Room | Documentary about Al-Jazeera | $6 | $5 | $3
2 Sep | TH | Fahrenheit 9/11 | Documentary by Michael Moore | $6 | $5 | $3
3 Sep | F | Fahrenheit 9/11 | Documentary by Michael Moore | $6 | $5 | $3
9 Sep | TH | Super Size Me | Documentary about fast food | $6 | $5 | $3

Each film will be screened at 7:00 PM and at 10:00 PM.

General Public $6 | ND/SMC/HC Staff $5 | All Students $3

For up-to-date information on events at the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center please visit http://performingarts.nd.edu
By PAT LEONARD
Associate Sports Editor

Mike Brey was not allowed to observe his team in scrimmages this summer, but he knows the team has improved.

Guards Chris Quinn and Chris Thomas told him so.

"I can't watch the summer pick-up games, so those guys are my eyes," Brey said. "But when you think of our current roster, you have to get excited."

His eyes see potential major improvement for the program's 100th anniversary season in the form of three newcomers to complete a possible nine-man deep rotation.

Quinn and Thomas told their coach that the additions of red-shirt freshman Omari Israel, senior transfer Dennis Latimore and true freshman Rob Kurz have made the Irish a better team.

But Brey now compares a healthy Kurz, a 6-foot-9, 215-pound small forward, averaged 18.5 points, 12 rebounds and 4 assists in his senior season at Penn Charter, just outside of Philadelphia last winter.

He attended Germantown Academy for the first two years of high school and then transferred to Penn Charter and played three seasons. An extra year could help the freshman with in-game maturity.

"In Rob Kurz, our lone incoming freshman, you're talking about a guy who has good size but a really good feel for the game at 6-9," Brey said. "He steps out and shoots the ball. He plays older. He plays more experienced and more poised than his classification says he should."

Brey compares Kurz's style of play to that of senior forward Jordan Cornette, a tall and athletic player who can jump for rebounds with big men and play outside the three-point line.

Cornette, Thomas, Quinn and center Torin Francis will form an imposing frontcourt that will be the key part of things," Brey said. "He has good size and really can handle the basketball. He's more of a slasher and a driver, and when he is that third perimeter guy it's tough to guard and block out because of his size.

Brey does not only liken Israel to Brown on the offensive end, either.

"He has the ability to be a lockdown defender," Brey said. "He is able to get the mentalitiy to defend much like a Torin Francis could. (Jones) did it physically but dove into it and embraced another aspect of his game."

While Israel could contribute on both ends, a complete player the Irish also welcome with open arms is Latimore, a 6-foot-8, 235-pound transfer from Arizona.

"We expect [Latimore] to be a key part of things," Brey said. "He is very skilled and talented around the bucket, very smooth. The challenge with him will be playing hard every play. But as far as the physical gifts, he had a great summer."

Latimore averaged 24 points as the Kansas State Player of the Year for Haltishead high school his senior year. He then played less of an offensive role in two seasons at Arizona, primarily because the teams were loaded with talent.

Latimore averaged 3.9 points and 3.1 rebounds for the Wildcats in 2002, playing just 12 minutes per game.

His role this season will be increased.

Latimore and junior center Torin Francis will team up in an imposing frontcourt that Thomas and Quinn will look to often.

"Dennis is in the best shape of his life," Brey said. "And he is very focused. So, too, are Brey's eyes, though they take the form of his two top guards."

Notes

- Chris Thomas underwent knee surgery at the end of last season and did not go full speed in practice until he was cleared by doctors last week. Thomas has not complained about the knee so far.

Contact Pat Leonard at pleonard@nd.edu

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Friday August 20 9:00a—6:00p
Saturday August 21 9:00a—12:00 noon
Sunday August 22 1:00p—5:00p

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Irish hope for bigger and better things

After graduating seven letterwinners, coach Bobby Clark looks to veterans to take the spotlight

By JUSTIN SCHUVER
Assistant Sports Editor

One goal for Michigan meant one goal for Notre Dame. With the Irish poised for a historic season and perhaps even a national championship at the end of 2003, Michigan's Mike White put a dagger in the hearts of the Irish faithful with a penalty kick that eluded goalie Chris Sawyer and gave Michigan a 4-3 victory in the Sweet 16 round of the NCAA Championships at Alumni Field.

"It's never nice when you go out of the NCAAs," coach Bobby Clark said. "But you have to learn to take what you get. You're especially sad for the seniors because it was their last chance at it, but you hope that the other lads can maybe use that loss as inspiration for this year to the best player in college soccer.

The Irish have grown into a dominant program under the tutelage of Clark, who came to Notre Dame in 2000 in hopes of putting the Irish on the college soccer map.

Last year might have been the culmination of that goal, as the Irish had an impressive season despite the loss to Michigan in the Sweet 16.

At one point in the year, Notre Dame was ranked No. 3 in the nation, and the team pulled off three straight shutouts to win the Big East Championship and earn home-field advantage through the NCAs.

The biggest goal for the 2004 Irish squad will be keeping up that momentum from last year's successful campaign. Notre Dame must replace seven letterwinners from last year, including two MLS draft picks in Justin Detter and Kevin Richards.

Five of those seven seniors — Detter, Richards, Greg Martin, Chad Riley and Devon Preved — were also All-Big East selections. Out of the 38 goals the Irish scored in 2003, those five seniors scored 35.

"That is a great honor for those players, you're going to look at the guys who are older to step up and provide that immediate impact." Clark said.

The Irish have a trio of seniors who should provide leadership both on and off the field in goal captain Chris Sawyer and defenders Kevin Goldswaite and Jack Stewart. Sawyer and Stewart were both named to the preseason watch list for the Hermann Trophy, awarded each year to the best player in college soccer.

"That is a great honor for those guys, but all it really says is that they played well last year," Clark said. "The real test is whether they can repeat that performance this year.

"I really feel that Goldswaite could have been on that list as well, and it shows you the real talent we have this season."

With Sawyer, a three-time All-Big East selection and All-American in 2003, between the pipes and a defense led by Goldswaite, Stewart and sophomore Greg Dalby, the Irish could be one of the top defensive teams in the country.

Clark brought in another talented freshman class, with the Irish adding seven players from five states and England.

"It's too early to say that this is going to be a great class," Clark said, "But at the same time there's definitely a lot of potential. This looks to be a very good class."

The Irish open their season with an exhibition game Monday at Alumni Field against Northwestern. Kirkoff is scheduled for 7 p.m., with proceeds from donations going towards Grassroots Soccer, an organization for kids ages 10 to 17 that is dedicated to AIDS awareness and soccer instruction in Africa.

Clark is asking each fan at the game Monday to donate $1 to the cause, in hopes of matching the $2,000 the team raised at its summer camp.

Contact Justin Schuver at jschuver@nd.edu
The Standing Committee on Gay and Lesbian Student Needs welcomes the class of 2008.

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

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

Current members:

- Sr. Mary Louise Gude, CSC (Asst. VP for Student Affairs (Standing Committee Chair))
- Joanna Basile (Junior, English and Gender Studies Major)
- Fr. David Burrell, CSC (Professor, Philosophy and Theology)
- Robby Davidson (Senior, Political Science Major)
- Mayra Gomez (Senior, Political Science Major)
- Ed Mack (Rector, O'Neill Hall)
- Andy Magee (Junior, Organ Perf. and Computer Science Major)
- Fr. Richard Warner, CSC (Director, Campus Ministry)
- David (Day) Zimlich (Senior, Anthropology Major)

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

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

WHAT: Drop-in Reception

WHEN: Monday, August 23rd, 1:30-3:30 p.m.

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

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

For more information, please visit our web site www.nd.edu/~scglsn. Check under "Current Events."
SMC Soccer

Returning players will lead Belles this fall

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

Their starting defense is returning, they have a new coach and they lost just three seniors. In Jen Concannon's opinion, there is no reason this team shouldn't compete for the MIAA title.

"This year, we're looking at top one or two in conference," the senior said. "We're just that much better. We should have done it last year."

Last season, the Belles finished fourth in conference with a 6-4-4 record in the MIAA and a 10-5-4 record overall. Concannon led the team in 11 goals and seven assists. She was named first team All-MIAA, along with junior Carrie Orr. This duo will be joined by senior Katie Taylor on defense, who was named second team All-MIAA last year, and Carolyn Logan who was named to the second team. Logan recorded nine goals as a freshman.

The 2004 Belles will also be under new leadership. Caryn Mackenzie enters her first year at Saint Mary's after coaching girls soccer at John A. Cutts High School in South Bend since 1993. She brings her long-time assistant Ramzi Bualuan, who is also the director of undergraduate studies in computer science and engineering at Notre Dame.

"I couldn't be more jammed about coaching these women," Mackenzie said. "We're cautiously optimistic."

"We're really excited. We have the chance to be something very good."

Jen Concannon
Belles co-captain

"We're cautiously optimistic."

Caryn Mackenzie
Belles coach

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Belles co-captain

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

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Everyone knows about the football Saturdays, the green shirts and most of all sports in Notre Dame. Yet another reason to love Notre Dame is the student sections. But what about intramurals? Everyone plays intramural sports [at Notre Dame]." - The Princeton Review

"Everyone plays intramural sports" is a great achievement. Full-contact intramural football is where it begins. The only non-service academy university in the country with such a program, Notre Dame is home to a dorm league each fall. Men from each hall suit up just as they did under the Friday night lights for their high school team. But this time, it is different. More is at stake. A chance to play in the championship game at Notre Dame Stadium. The House that Rockne built, awaits those good enough. There may be 80,000 screaming fans, but these athletes become a part of Notre Dame football, even if it's just because they played on the same field as the likes of Joe Montana and Jerome Bettis. They run out of the tunnel, and it becomes their Stadium too. But they aren't the only ones.

Meanwhile, the women are busy competing for a shot in the Stadium as well, with their own interhall flag football league. It is the one chance they get to set foot on the legendary field. But don’t worry, Notre Dame isn't just about football. There is basketball, volleyball, even horseshoes. And if those don't suit your fancy, you can play racquetball or even bowl. And of course, don’t forget broomball and badminton. This variety of over 20 sports each year could be the reason that 80 percent of students participate in intramurals.

Or could it be that the championship of both the men and women's basketball leagues is played in the Joyce Center. And when these athletes play here, they can think of the great players who made the JACC their home — Matt Carroll, Troy Murphy, Ryan Humphrey and many others. Or they could remember what has happened on the same court. Just this year, the Irish women upset then-No. 4 Connecticut Jan. 13, giving the Huskies just their fourth loss in three seasons. And the Irish men did the same a month later, defeating then-No. 5 Connecticut Feb. 9. And don’t forget about 2001, when now-Olympian Ruth Riley led the Irish to a National Championship season.

All of these games occurred on the same court as an Intramural game. Ridiculous, don’t you think? There should really be some kind of rule against that.

But at Notre Dame, there isn’t. Ivy Field, home to the Irish soccer team, becomes home to the Pasquerilla West softball team. The Welsh Family softball team and every other women's dorm team, for that matter, in the fall. Each fastpitch softball intramural game is played on the varsity field, from the first game to the championship game.

Maybe that's why Notre Dame was ranked No. 1 by the Princeton Review this year in the category of "Everyone plays intramural sports." And Notre Dame was also the top dog in "Students pack the stadiums." So you wonder how do they do it? One night it's a bitter rivalry of Siegfried versus Knot and the next it's a Big East matchup of Notre Dame versus Connecticut. But that is what makes this place special. Both of those sports are important. Both will have fans, and both will have stars. After all, it is the same game.

But then you say, intramural athletes don't receive recognition like varsity athletes. Wait, they have that covered. The annual "RecSprints," modeled after ESPN's ESPYs, honor athletes of the year, a team of the year and a game of the year. There's even a dinner reception for the winners and nominees.

So just when you thought your athletic career was over, coming to Notre Dame as a "former" athlete isn't so bad. Really, it's just a way for you to have a fresh start. And besides, how many people can say they competed on the varsity field or arena at one of the greatest sports schools in the country? It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, so don't pass it up.

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

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu.

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Football

Avery Williamson and his coaching staff had to answer to a new crew of critics after the Notre Dame faithful after a 9-7 season, a season that included blowout losses to Michigan (35-0), Florida State (37-20) and Southern Cal (40-7). The Irish began the season by riding high with the second-largest team in the country, but the 38-12 debacle at lowly Syracuse closed out the 2003 season.

Players to Watch

Sophomore quarterback Brady Quinn started his first game Sept. 27, 2003 against Purdue and threw 59 passes for 297 yards, one touchdown and one interception. He was replaced by senior forward Teresa Horton, who is a candidate for numerous preseason awards.

Fencing

Zaguinis will join defending national champion ValerieProvince to form possibly the best women’s sabre squad in the country. Senior épéist Michal Sobieraj finished third in 2003 and second in 2002. Redshirt freshman Andrew Arsenault will be the most important parts on the men’s team, who have never won a national title. The Irish might have difficulty repeating their program.

Players to Watch

After winning a gold medal, Zaguinis will be expected to produce nothing short of an impressive run at the NCAA Championships. She will have to challenge Providence for the national title.

The Observer • SPORTS
Saturday, August 21, 2004

NR Women’s Basketball

After reaching the Sweet 16 for the third time in eight years last season, Notre Dame returns all but three players, including All-American forward Jacqueline Bairstow. Bairstow will be the most important parts on the women’s team (Compared to 5-0 on the men’s team (Compared to 9-7 mark in the Big East and lost in the NIT quarterfinals to Oregon at the Joyce Center. The Irish will have to repeat the NCAA Tournament for the first time with Bairstow at the helm.

Players to Watch

Senior guard Chris Thomas battled a knee injury throughout the season, however managed a game Thomas-East surgery in April and will be expected to produce nothing short of an impressive run at the NCAA Championships. She will have to challenge Providence for the national title.

Men’s Basketball

In coach Mike Brey’s fourth year at Notre Dame, his team ran into major troubles for the first time. The Irish finished with a 19-13 record overall, 9-7 mark in the Big East and lost in the NIT quarterfinals to Oregon at the Joyce Center. The Irish might have difficulty repeating their program.

Players to Watch

The obvious player to watch is Thomas, who admitted in the offseason he shot the ball too much and will focus more on being a leader on the floor. Irish fans will be looking for the Irish men to work on the Irish men’s Wooden watch list.

Fencing

Senior forward Teressa Horton will control the midfield. Jen Buczkowski and swing player Courtney Lavere will be expected to produce nothing short of an impressive run at the NCAA Championships. She will have to challenge Providence for the national title.

Players to Watch

Junior forward Torin Francis left the program at 20-3-1 regular season in 2003, the team focuses on repeating the regular season performance and carrying that intensity into the postseason.

ND Women’s Soccer

The Irish are always looking to improve, but after a dominant 20-3-1 regular season in 2003, the team focuses on repeating the regular season performance and carrying that intensity into the postseason. Michigan put an abrupt end to the Irish season in the second round of the NCAA tournament with a 2-0 victory, and disappointment surrounded the 6-0-0 Big East Mid-Atlantic Division champs.

Players to Watch

Assistant coach Randy Waldrum’s grasp on the Irish team is going well into the second four straight home games, host.

ND Women’s Basketball

The Irish had the best season in team history during the 2003-04 season, advancing to the NCAA tournament for the first time in the program’s 36-year existence. Although their time at the NCAA’s was short – the Irish lost to Minnesota 5-2 in the first round – Notre Dame put itself on the national radar screen in college hockey.

Players to Watch

The Irish might have difficulty repeating their success from last year, after losing four key players to graduation in forwards Brady Quinn and Aaron Cie and defenders Brey and Kevin Holtz. On the Irish men’s Wooden watch list.

Fencing

Losing only one member from their third-place NCAA championship team, the Irish look to make a run at their second national title in three years. Coach Ianusz Rednartski, the Irish men’s coach for the past three years in time.

Players to Watch

After winning a gold medal, Zaguinis will be expected to produce nothing short of an impressive run at the NCAA Championships. She will have to challenge Providence for the national title.

Hockey

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Players to Watch

Assistant coach Randy Waldrum’s grasp on the Irish team is going well into the second four straight home games, host.
CHECKING OUT THE TEAMS

ND Volleyball

After losing in the first round of the NCAA Tournament last year, the Irish took to proving on that performance. The team included key seniors Kristen Kinder, Naree Dame, and Katie Taylor. Both were named second-team All-MIAA.

SMC Cross Country

This fall, the Belles hope their returning runners will use their experience to guide the team to a high finish in the MIAA.

NCAA Women’s Golf

Men’s Soccer

The Irish took 10th at the NCAA Championship last fall, and recent press has highlighted the strength of an Irish program that could challenge to improve on last season’s finish.

ND Women’s Golf

The Irish 2003-04 team wrote their own chapter in Notre Dame’s sports history as they advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the first time ever.

SMC Soccer

Adrian

Albion

Alma

Ivy

Hope

Kalamazoo

Olivet

Saint Mary’s

The Irish lost a disappointing finish to what was otherwise an impressive 2003 season, losing in Michigan in overtime of the Swedes 14 round of the NCAA Tournament. With a team that included five key seniors, the Irish were poised to make a serious run at a national title, but came up short. They might have difficul-ty repeating this success this year as Notre Dame will have to replace seven total seniors including the five players who were responsible for 35 of the team’s 35 goals last year.

Among key returnees is senior goalie Chris Sawyer, who achieved All-American honors last year and has been a three-time All-Big East selection over his Irish career. Senior defender Nick Stewart and Kevin Goldthwaite should help Notre Dame have one of the better defensive teams in the Big East.

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The Irish took the 10th in the NCAA Championship last fall, and recent press has highlighted the strength of an Irish program that could challenge to improve on last sea-son’s finish.

The Irish came just four strokes short of qualifying for the NCAA Championship as they finished in 12th place at the NCAA Central Regional in West Lafayette, Ind.

Narrowly missing the tournament put a sour finish to what was otherwise a successful season.

Notre Dame won the Big East championship, defeating defending-champion Virginia Tech by five strokes.

Junior Tommy Balderston finished in third place at the tournament, earning an All-Big East Conference team selection as a result.

All five golfers who participated in the NCAA Regional return to the team this season, as the team heads into 2004 with a realistic chance to repeat as Big East champions.

Freshmen Greg Rogers and Mike King add additional depth to the team this year.

The Belles open their season Sept. 1 at home against the University of Chicago.

After losing just three seniors and gaining a new coach, the Belles look to improve on last year’s fifth place finish in the MIAA.

The fall, they will be under the leadership of the leadership of Caryn Mackenzie, who comes to Saint Mary's from John Carroll High School, where she was the head girls’ soccer coach.

Mackenzie returns a talented bunch, including senior Jen Crafer, a three-time all-conference selection. She leads the team in points and earned first-team All-MIAA honors last season. Mackenzie was named the team’s most valuable player.

Also returning from last season are several key returnees, including the five players who were responsi­ble for 35 of the team’s 35 goals last year.

Junior Lauren King, who hails from Toronto, Ontario, will be one of the featured runners this season along with Emily Haddad. Megan Johnson and Stephanie Media.

King was named to the 2004 Collegiate Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-America second team Thursday, and will lead a team that won three of its eight scheduled meets last fall.

Last season, King became the first Irish women’s cross-country runner to earn All-America honors at the NCAA championship. The team finished 17th place.

The Irish took second in the Big East last season, but they will also have to deal with several schools at the Division I level.

For the fall season, shooting a 679 as they finished first in the eight-team tournament at Ohio State.

The spring portion of the schedule also started off well for the Belles, as they took fifth-place overall at the 19-team format State Invitational, a competition that included several schools at the Division II level.

In the spring of 2004, Saint Mary’s finished eighth in the NCAA championship with Stefanie Smimmer leading the team with an 82.92 scoring average throughout the four-round tournament.

The Belles should have another good season this year, with Smimmer returning as a senior. The only players left to graduation from last year are Jaelyn Thompson and Elizabeth Hanlon.

The Irish took second in the Big East Championship last fall and earned their 12th consecutive trip to the NCAA Tournament. This year’s team is ranked No. 23 to start the season that includes 12 NCAA Tournament teams from a year ago.

Men’s Golf

SMC Cross Country

This fall, the Belles hope their returning runners will use their experience to guide the team to a high finish in the MIAA.

Saint Mary’s finished 39th last season at the NCAA Division III Regional Meet at Hanover College led by Sara O'Brien who finished 9th. O’Brien returns this year along with Elizabeth Commers and Kelsie Wahl.

Three runners led the Belles at the regional meet, as Commers finished 14th and White took 14th, respectively. Also placing at the regional were Erin Wombell (14th place) and Becky Feusto (16th).

Three runners return this year as the basis of a team that will strive to improve its regional performance, as just 98 teams entered the regional.

The Belles will also look to improve on last year’s sixth-place finish at the MIAA Championship. However, they lose captain Katie Simpkins in graduation. Simpkins finished 28th at the regional.

The Belles open their season Sept. 1 at home against the University of Chicago.
**Brazil**

continued from page 36

last game too," she said. "Your whole life you dream about putting on that Irish uniform and when that finally happens, you're shaking."

Coach Randy Waldrum told Notre Dame's athletic Web site that he was pleased with the results, especially from his younger players. "We didn't have too many bad performances over the course of the six games," he said. "It was great to see how the freshmen can fit in. We found out that our depth is going to be tremendous."

The depth will be particularly tremendous at the goalkeeper position. Three different players saw significant playing time in net over the course of the six games. Waldrum has made it clear that junior Erika Bohn, sophomore Nikki Westfall and freshman Lauren Karas will all be on call to defend the Irish goal when the regular season begins.

"I've never had three keepers as good as and as close in performance as these three," Waldrum said. "We have to make the kids understand, because we play so many games in a short period of time, that some may have to sacrifice some minutes to help keep the team fresh."

"Work and practice have been a big part of the team's journey to the southern hemisphere, but the foreign environment provided a great opportunity for the team to bond with the upperclassmen getting the chance to impart some useful advice to their freshmen teammates.

"We talked a lot about school and stuff, what to expect being a student athlete," Jones said. "They told me don't worry, just go out there and be yourself, just play hard and that's really all you can do. You can't worry about things you can't control."

NCAA rules permit every school team to take one foreign trip every four years. The Irish last left American soil in the summer of 2000 (also for Brazil) and finished that year as one of the best teams in school history. Ranked No. 1 for most of the season, the team's only loss came in the NCAA semifinals to eventual national champion North Carolina.

If the Irish want to improve from last season, they will need to be deep enough to win last year's leading scorer, Amy Warner, to graduation. Warner helped lead the 2003 Irish to a near perfect regular season and a No. 2 ranking. But the team lost three of its last five games including twice to Michigan, once in the season finale and then again to eliminate the Irish in the second round of the NCAA tournament. Notre Dame will meet the Wolverines again in this year's final regular season contest Oct. 28 in Ann Arbor.

Before the team concentrates on revenge, the team must focus on first things first, namely sorting out the lineup. "We haven't really talked about playing time," Jones said. "The Brazil trip was just to see where everyone fits in."

If Jones and the rest of her new classmates continue to perform well, they may fit in sooner than they think.

Contact Matt Mooney at mmooney@nd.edu

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Record
continued from page 36

Andrew MacKay swam for the Cayman Islands in the Olympics.

liked to go a little faster, but with all the nerves at the Olympics, I was happy.”

MacKay’s quick start in the 200-meter individual medley helped him distance himself from the field, as his start was .02 seconds faster than anyone else in the field.

“I’ve always had a pretty good start,” he said. “Playing a lot of sports growing up, I guess you just develop a quick reaction.”

MacKay will enter Notre Dame this fall as the only Notre Dame men’s swimmer to have participated in the Olympics. He also holds the Cayman Islands national records in the 100-meter butterfly, and several other records in the backstroke, breaststroke and individual medley events.

He reached the Olympics after earning an invitation in both the 200-meter individual medley and 400-meter individual medley at the 2003 Pan Am Games.

“It was huge,” MacKay said of the Olympics. “You’re up against the best in the world.”

MacKay said he will be in South Bend the day after the closing ceremonies, which are August 30. He will be flying from Athens straight to South Bend to join the rest of the class of 2008.

“I can’t wait to get there and enjoy the campus,” MacKay said.

Contact Heather Van Hoegarden at hvanhoeg@nd.edu

Gold
continued from page 36

he was recruiting the star junior fencer two years ago.

“Shes had to take a leave for the Olympic games that she wouldn’t be able to make it with the crazy schedule,” Bednarski said.

But Bednarski also had to sell Zagunis and her family on the ability to continue fencing at a world-class level while surviving in the classroom.

“The academic challenge of Notre Dame sometimes makes athletes frightened because they know the daily schedule is very tough,” Bednarski said.

“I think it’s a challenge for us and for her. We have to take care of her. She is a talented kid.”

While Zagunis didn’t attend Notre Dame for a year, she wasn’t even on the U.S. Olympic team until June. Zagunis lost in the semifinals of a tournament in March to Sada Jacobson by one touch (a point in fencing).

That loss dropped Zagunis to No. 11 in the world rankings and left Jacobson’s sister Emily at No. 10 in the world. The qualifying system left Zagunis as the Olympic’s first alternate and both Jacobson sisters going to Greece.

When the Nigerian team declined its Olympic spot, Zagunis claimed the spot at the top-ranked fencer in the April 1 rankings not currently qualified for the Olympics.

The fateful turn of events paved the way to Zagunis’ gold medal.

“I’m just happy in the first place that I was able to come here and compete,” Zagunis said.

Bednarski said Zagunis was initially slated to return to South Bend on Friday. With her success, those plans could change as the United States Olympic Committee might want Zagunis to participate in the closing ceremonies Aug. 30, meaning Zagunis would get to campus a few days later.

Contact Matt Lozar at mlozar@nd.edu

Welcome
Students

For your convenience the following Student Service Offices will be open under the “Golden Dome”

Saturday (8/21) from 9:00 a.m. to Noon and Sunday (8/22) from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m

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Registrar 105 Main Building
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Student Employment 115 Main Building
Immigration Services 121 Main Building
Undergraduate Admissions 220 Main Building
Residence Life and Housing 305 Main Building

Regular business hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.
... which is a lot different from high school. "Herschel Walker, the 5-foot-11, 202-pound senior Marcus Wilson and 6-0, 216-pound junior Jeffjen Jenkins. Wilson played in 11 games last season and entered the spring with another 29 yards, a 2.1 yards per carry average. Though he has received sparing playing time, Wilson has the most game experience in the Irish backfield after Grant.

"Anybody could potentially receive the nod at running back, with the depth of the backfield and also with the nature of the position. "I think the running back position is very physical, anybody can go out in any play," Walker said. "So if you’re two or three, you got to be ready to go."

Backfield bullets
Senior Ryan Grant needs only 295 yards to become the 13th player in Notre Dame history to rush for 2,000 yards in a career. He has rushed over 100 yards in a game four times for the Irish and has a career rushing total of 1,705 yards and 13 touchdowns.

Freshman running back Darius Walker could be attracting even more attention to himself with his choice of jerseys. Well, that is if it had been his choice. Walker dons the famous number three worn traditionally by Irish greats, including Rick Mirer and Joe Montana.

The most recent player to wear No. 3, converted wide receiver Arnaiz Battle, is returning kicks for the San Francisco 49ers. "I was No. 7 in high school and I was hoping to try to get that this year," Walker said, "but Carlyle Holiday moved to wide receiver and he still wanted to keep his number. I wanted to try to make a change, be a good back, lie’s got enough experience in the Irish backfield after Grant."
Olympics

Domers shine in Athens

Zagunis captures sabre fencing gold medal in Athens for U.S. team

By MATT LOZAR
Sports Writer

Winning an Olympic gold medal is a pretty unique answer to the standard question of "How was your summer?"

Incoming freshman fencer Mariel Zagunis can now say just that.

Zagunis won the women's individual sabre competition Tuesday in Athens, Greece, becoming the first U.S. fencer to do so.

"I'm so happy," said Zagunis told the Associated Press. "I'm so happy.

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Irish freshman records fastest start in 200-meter individual medley

By HEATHER VAN HOEGARDEN
Sports Editor

Andrew Mackay has always had quick reflexes. But it wasn't until the Olympics that the Cayman Islands competitor was really able to show them off.

The Notre Dame freshman got off the starting block in the 200-meter individual medley Wednesday morning in just 0.59 seconds, the fastest time in the 2004 games by any non-back-stroker.

As a result, he finished 41st in the 50 swimmer field — six places higher than his seed — in 2:07.65, a personal best. It was my best time, so I can't complain about that," Mackay said from Athens. "I would have

Irish return most of their starters and hopes to build on last season's loss in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

By MATT MOONEY
Sports Writer

A Freshman Orientation was a little different this year for the newcoyers on the Notre Dame women's soccer team.

Instead of packing their bags for South Bend, the Irish took their game south of the equator to Brazil for six exhibition games against local semi-professional teams.

With the freshmen joining the rest of the team for the first time, Notre Dame meshed well on its way to an undefeated 5-0-1 record. The Irish encountered little trouble with the opposition, outscoring their international counterparts by a combined 16-3 margin.

Senior Candace Chapman, sidelined for all of last season with a knee injury, led the team with four goals while first-year players Janica Tjeder and Ashlyn Jones both split their first foot with five points apiece.

Jones tallied two goals and three assists despite getting a few butterflies in her first collegiate action.

"I was definitely extremely nervous for at least the first couple games and even the

FOOTBALL

Young running backs hope to make impact

By PAT LEONARD
Associate Sports Editor

In the first week of fall practice, freshman running backs Darius Walker and Justin Hoskins received the opportunity to showcase talent that made each a state Gatorade Player of the Year in Georgia and Michigan, respectively.

But another freshman back looks to prove just as much as the highly touted incoming players.

With a reported tweaked left hamstring sidelining starter Ryan Grant from practice for several days last week, red-shirt freshman Travis Thomas (6-foot, 212 pounds) has received first team duties behind the starting Irish offensive line over the past few days.

Thomas, Walker and Hoskins are all preparing as if the next carry belongs to them.

"Last year was a learning stage, the red-shirt year," Thomas said. "I took a lot from Julius [Jones] and Ryan [Grant]. This year we got a few guys bumped up (in the rotation) and I know what I'm doing. So they're throwing me in there and giving me that experience, and hopefully I'll be ready to go in the first game."

Notre Dame out-rushed its opponents 1,887 yards to 1,526 yards last season, though the bulk of those yards came in explosive outings from Jones. Grant ran for 310 yards and three touchdowns on just 143 carries last season, averaging 3.6 yards per carry. Thomas hopes to contribute at least as much as Grant did last season.

"Within the last year and this year, you usually rotate backs a little bit one and two, [like] Julius and Ryan [last year], and I think we're going to do some of the same this year," Coach Tyrone Willingham said.

"We'll let the players determine what happens," Willingham said. "But the truth is if we can be our best — I think it's usually when you have the opportunity to have two backs that are always fresh and always attacking the defense, I think you have your best chance to be successful." "Within the first couple

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