Honorary degrees given

Joining the more than 2,000 undergrad­uate and advanced degree candidates receiving diplomas at Notre Dame’s 161st Commencement exercises Sunday will be 12 prominent visitors — including Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Harper Lee.

Honorary degrees are conferred in recognition of the accomplishments of various individuals. Students, faculty and staff members are all allowed to nominate a person for an honorary degree. University officers, including University President Father John Jenkins, narrow down the pool.

Three women and 10 men, including keynote speaker and President of Ireland Mary McAleese — will be awarded honorary degrees.

SEE STORY PAGE 15

Rectors leave positions

Six residence hall rectors will be leaving their posts at the end of the school year, the Office of Student Affairs said.

Last year seven rectors left. Some are leaving to pursue higher positions within the University, while others plan to further their education.

Sister Susan Dunn of Lyons, Anne Napoli of Badin, Katie Winkates of Lewis, Father Peter Jarret of Keough, Mary Ann Murninghoff of Pasquerilla East and Father Tom Eckert of St. Edward’s will all be leaving. Student Affairs.

The Office of Student Affairs has already started accepting applications and interviewing candidates to fill the positions.

SEE STORY PAGE 12
Commencement Weekend Events
Friday, May 19
5:30 p.m. Commencement Band Concert, DPAC, Leighton Concert Hall
8 p.m. Ethereal Choir Concert, Basilica of the Sacred Heart
Saturday, May 20
9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. SOTC-Commissioning, JACC South Dome
2 p.m. - 3 p.m. President’s Reception, Eck Center
5 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Commencement Mass, JACC South Dome
6:45 p.m. - 8 p.m. Graduation Dinner, JACC North Dome and North Dining Hall
9 p.m. Choir Club Concert, Leighton Concert Hall
Sunday, May 21
12:30 p.m. Distribution of Diplomas, JACC, North Dome
1:40 p.m. Academic Proclamation, JACC, North Dome
4 p.m. - 2 p.m. Commencement Ceremony, JACC South Dome

SOURCE: University of Notre Dame and Saint Mary College Web sites

Notre Dame’s highest honor goes to musician

By KATIE KERRY
Assistant News Editor

Renowned jazz musician Dave Brubeck will receive the 2006 Laetare Medal — Notre Dame’s oldest and highest award — during Commencement exercises this weekend.

The honor is given annually to a Catholic "whose genius has ennobled the arts and sciences, illustrated the ideals of the Church and enriched the heritage of humanity."

"The composed energy of Mr. Brubeck’s art helps us apprehend the fullness of creation," University President Father John Jenkins said in a statement March 30. "His life and his music splendidly interweave the celebration of beauty with the imperative to worship.

The popular pianist has produced a number of popular jazz pieces, including "Take Five" and "Blue Rondo a la Turk." In 1954, the Brubeck Quartet graced the cover of Time Magazine following the release of their album, "Jazz Goes to College."

The magazine called Brubeck "the most original and influential jazz artist at work today" and the creator of "some of the strangest and loveliest music" in the history of jazz.

Larry Dwyer, director of jazz studies at Notre Dame, said the Laetare selection reflects Brubeck’s "consistently high level of musical achievement" through his professional career, which has lasted more than half a century.

"Brubeck’s music always swings and always includes interesting and profound levels of improvisation," Dwyer said. "Best of all, everyone can grasp a rock fan or not — always enjoys listening to Dave Brubeck."

But Brubeck’s repertoire extends beyond the realm of jazz. This esteemed musician has composed and performed ballets, cantatas, solo piano pieces, an oratorio and a Mass — a statement to his Catholic faith. In a June 2005 National Public Radio interview, Brubeck echoed the words of a New Yorker first: "The composed energy of Mr. Brubeck’s art helps us apprehend the fullness of creation."

University President Father John Jenkins

"Brubeck’s music always swings and always includes interesting and profound levels of improvisation."

Dwyer Larry Dwyer Notre Dame director of jazz studies

Notre Dame announces its Laetare Medal recipient each year on the fourth Sunday of Lent in the Church calendar. The medal is inscribed with the Latin phrase, "Magna est veritas et praevalebit," or "Truth is mighty, and it shall prevail."

The first Laetare Medal was awarded in 1889 during World War II.

Previous medal winners include President Barak Obama, Nobel laureate Walker Percy and death penalty abolitionist Sister Helen Prejean.

Contact Katie Perry at kperry@nd.edu

News Brief: Flags will fly at half-staff during commencement weekend as part of a community-wide tribute to slain South Bend Police officer Scott Severson.

Notable facts of the Class of 2006

• About 95 percent of the 1,935 undergraduates who enrolled at Notre Dame in the fall of 2002 will receive a diploma Sunday (May 21) — a graduation rate exceeded only by Harvard, Princeton and Yale Universities.

• Some 80 percent of the graduates participated in volunteer and service-learning programs in the greater South Bend area and around the world.

• About 10 percent of this year’s seniors will continue in volunteer service to society, engaging in a year or more of work in programs such as the Peace Corps, Teach for America, the Jesuit Volunteer Corps, and Notre Dame’s Alliance for Catholic Education and Holy Cross Associates.

• All 50 of the United States are represented in the senior class, making Notre Dame among the nation’s most geographically diverse universities.
McAleese will speak to grads
Ireland's president to also receive honorary degree at commencement

By MARY KATE MALONE
News Editor

McAleese is Ireland's eighth president and the first from Northern Ireland. She was elected to the Irish presidency in 1997 and ran unopposed for a second term in 2004. McAleese has been welcomed by both Protestants and Catholics during her frequent visits to Northern Ireland, despite predictions that her presidency would cause further division.

As an attorney, journalist, scholar and now president, Mary McAleese is an inspiring model for women, a fierce champion for peace and a passionate voice within the Catholic Church.

McAleese has been an advocate for the Catholic Church, serving as a member of the Catholic Church Episcopal Delegation to the New Ireland Forum in 1984 and as a Church delegate to the North Commission on Contentious Parades in 1996. She was also a delegate to the 1992 White House conference on trade and investment in Ireland.

She studied law at Queen's University in Belfast and graduated with honors in 1973. McAleese was a professor at Trinity College and later worked as a reporter for the national television network of Ireland, RTE, for two years.

In 1981, McAleese returned to Trinity and six years later moved back to Northern Ireland to become the director of the Institute of Professional Legal Studies at Queen's University.

She was appointed Pro-Vice Chancellor there.

As an attorney, journalist, scholar and now president, Mary McAleese is an inspiring model for women, a fierce champion for peace and a passionate voice within the Catholic Church.

Father John Jenkins
University president

McAleese is not the first foreign head of state to speak at a University commencement. An Irish prime minister, two Canadian prime ministers and a president of El Salvador have all served as the commencement speaker during the past 50 years.

Last year's commencement speaker was Vartan Gregorian, president of the Carnegie Corporation.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mkmalone3@nd.edu

U.S. Appeals judge will address SMC seniors

By KELLY MEEHAN
News Editor

Ann Claire Williams, a judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals, will be the commencement speaker at Saint Mary's graduation ceremony Sunday.

Williams was appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois by Ronald Reagan in 1982, making her the first African-American woman to sit on the bench and one of the youngest federal appointees at the time.

Williams also became the first African-American woman to serve on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit when President Bill Clinton appointed her to the position in 1999.

As the third African-American woman to serve on any appeals court in the country, Williams originally began her career in education. She worked as an elementary school teacher in her hometown of Detroit before graduating from the University of Notre Dame Law School in 1975.

Although Williams did not graduate from Saint Mary's, senior Kathleen McMorrow said she believes Williams' ties to Notre Dame indicate her knowledge of the College's high reputation.

"She is an excellent choice," McMorrow said. "It is great to bring a woman with high credentials to a school that places such value on education."

Williams began her legal career as a clerk with Judge Robert Sprecher and she tried felony cases as an assistant U.S. attorney in Chicago from 1976 to 1985.

She has also worked to create programs to aid scholars who wish to follow in her footsteps. In 1997, she co-founded the Minority Legal Education Resources to assist minorities in their quest to pass the Illinois bar exam. In 1993, Williams co-founded the Just the Beginning Foundation in an effort to increase diversity in the legal profession through celebrating the work of African-American federal judges.

"Ann Claire Williams is an example of commitment, perseverance, and excellence," Saint Mary's College President Carol Ann Mooney said in a statement. "Judge Williams epitomizes the servant leader. She uses her professional expertise and her wisdom in service of her country and all of its people. Her careful analysis, encompassing vision, and moral courage have earned her widespread respect."

Contact Kelly Meehan at kmeehan1@saintmarys.edu

Expects its deep Thanks to the following seniors for their hard work and dedication over the years.

Pat Leonard
Maureen Reynolds
Megan O'Neil
Jennifer Kenning
Nick Guerrieri
Damian Althoff
Paula Garcia
Heather Van Hoegarden

Jim Kirihara
Nicole Zook
Molly Griffin
Mark Bemenderfer
Mary Squillace
Matthew Smedberg
Aya O'Connor
Sarah Vabalas

Geoff Matteson
Kirsten Hoelmer
Sofia Ballon
Sam Pandolfo
Maureen Malloy
Joe Blatt
Claire Heininger
Claire Kelley

And wishes them the Best of Luck in the years to come.
Dear Graduates,

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my prayers and best wishes to the members of the Class of 2006. I also want to express my gratitude for the rich contributions you have made to the University during your time here.

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

Mark Poorman, etc.

(Rev.) Mark L. Poorman, C.S.C.
Vice President for Student Affairs

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
ND valedictorian to graduate with 3.94 overall GPA

Distler will deliver address at commencement, attend Johns Hopkins University to pursue career in medicine

By MAUREEN MULLEN

New Woman

During the week of spring break, senior Catherine Distler enjoyed a vacation from academic rigor — senior Catherine Distler spent every free moment writing her valedictory address. As was the case of more than a dozen exemplary seniors vying for the opportunity to give the class of 2006 commencement speech, Distler said each nominated student was given three and a half weeks to prepare and submit a valedictory address. On April 24, Distler’s speech was accepted as the address for Sunday’s graduation ceremony. “It was a thrill to find out, but it’s also a very humbling experience,” she said. “His willingness to talk to me comes after they leave, the memories he made...”

University of Notre Dame has selected her as the address for Sunday’s graduation ceremony. “I am impressed and lucky to have met so many Notre Dame students who blow me away,” she said.

Distler’s commitment to service and relationships she formed with peers have rooted her valedictory address. “This is a speech that calls her fellow graduates to further action. “Everyone can make a change and leave something worthwhile for the world,” she said. Distler said her speech centers on the special, unique Notre Dame experience. “It’s about coming to Notre Dame and meeting peers and professors who can influence you,” she said. “It’s about expanding your world through the lens of Notre Dame, encountering the people who have changed the world in a very humble way. Fundamentally, it’s about the growth and uniqueness of the Notre Dame experience.”

Distler said she is more than prepared to give her speech. “I think it’s exciting, I’m nervous, but I think I’ll be able to”

Contact Maureen Mullen at mmullen1@nd.edu

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Contact Maureen Mullen at mmullen1@nd.edu
Board of Trustees visits Washington D.C. for meeting

Members pass a resolution expressing confidence in President Jenkins, discuss alumni-student relationship

By LISA GALLAGHER
News Writer

With the motto "work hard, play hard," Saint Mary's senior and class valedictorian Carrie Korf will be graduating Saint Mary's and entering business administration with a double major in business and management and a minor in mathematics. "I feel honored and blessed," Korf said of being named valedictorian.

While she did not seek out the honor, the two-time president and senior is looking forward to her strong sense of values and work ethic, both of which are evident in her past accomplishments and her plans for the future.

"We took a look at the structures by which students and alumni relate, and offered suggestions on ways we can improve those," Dave Baron, former student body president of Notre Dame, told the BOT.

"After working for a few years, I aim to get an MBA at a top-tier business school," she said. "My long-term goal is to head a profit and loss business unit, start my own company, or be the president of one." But first, Korf said she looks forward to relaxing and job searching. She said she plans to become more independent and taught her valuable and practical experience she gained at Notre Dame. "What will she miss the most? "My friends," said Korf, adding that her favorite memories are those that involved road trips with her roommates and Tuesday nights at Corby's Bar.

Contact Lisa Gallagher at lgallah@stmarysmary.edu

Saint Mary's College valedictorian Carrie Korf said she feels "honored and blessed," to graduate at the top of her class.

Contact Mary Kate Malone at mmalone3@nd.edu

SMC valedictorian exhibits appreciation for family support

Senior Carrie Korf to graduate at top of class with degree in business administration, minor in mathematics

By LISA GALLAGHER
News Writer

"The Board—met Pope Benedict XVI and Trustee members with various Vatican officials.

Typically the BOT meets at Notre Dame, but this year was different as the BOT used its meetings to better establish itself in the universal church and in the national political scene.

In Washington, the BOT passed a "vote of confidence" in Jenkins' April 5 closing statement on academic freedom and Catholic character at Notre Dame. "Jenkins' decision to not interplay between Catholic and non-Catholic teaching and controversial campaigns that appear to conflict with it," he said.

"The Board of Trustees passed a resolution expressing its confidence in [Jenkins] and its commitment in principle with the policies and the process developed for the evaluation of events at the University which touch upon the Catholic character of Notre Dame," BOT chairperson Patrick McCartan said in a statement.

"Representing the interests of the student body, Baron and Shappell traveled to Washington to present the second of two BOT reports their administration delivered to the Board this year. The report examined the sometimes-strained relationship between current and former students, a problem that can be attributed to misperceptions, Baron said.

"We took into account three specific events that have taken place on campus over the past couple of years to analyze the relationships those two groups have had," Baron said. "We took a look at the structures by which students and alumni relate, and offered suggestions on ways we can improve those." The major campus events Baron and Shappell used to demonstrate the student-alumni relationship—the "Candle" advertising spot controversy last fall, the academic freedom and Catholic character debate, and the Golden Dome re-gilding last spring—demonstrated the misperceptions that affect student-alumni relations, Baron said.

"Baron said the Dome re-gilding controversy proved that "students and alumni have a perception of each other that's not necessarily accurate. Sometimes they are more on the same page than they think themselves to be." Though Baron said the bouncy presentation and discussion was "received pretty well," Shappell said some Trustees wanted more evidence to back up the report's main points.

"Our goal was to start conversation between ourselves and the Board members," Shappell said. "It wasn't quantitative, it was more qualitative... [Board members] expressed frustration that there was no quantitative data but it definitely incited a lively conversation."

"Korf, who was took over as student body president April 1, said Board members were "more than willing" to "help her administration address the issue next year. Shappell used the improvement of student-alumni relations as a key platform in her campaign.

"We discussed the possibility of... the student body president and vice president speaking to the Alumni so she extends the Alumni Board to give a state of the student union to say what [the] student body has been doing throughout the year," Shappell said.

"In addition, three student-alumni picnics are planned for certain football weekends next fall where students can "network and socialize and share stories with alumni returning back to campus."

"It's a concern for everyone," Shappell said. "There's an obvious disconnect with generational differences but if we claim to be the Notre Dame family, we should try to foster as amicable a relationship between students and alumni as possible."
Jenkins replaces Malloy as president

September 23, 2005

University President Father John Jenkins was inaugurated as the University's 17th president Sept. 23, 2005, in a inauguration activities spanned two full days as afternoon classes were cancelled in order for students to attend an academic forum Thursday afternoon featuring Tom Brokaw as the moderator and a mass Friday morning.

Featured speakers at his inauguration included Board of Trustees chairman Patrick McCartan, Fort-Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D'Arcy and Alumni Association president Timothy Brady.

At his inauguration ceremony Jenkins recalled the legacy of Notre Dame's founder, Father Edward Sorin, and spoke of his desire for Notre Dame to strive to be a top Catholic university in the 21st century for research and learning. Jenkins called for a "bigger and better and than ever University." His promise to promote academic excellence and religious faith as "two indispensable and wholly compatible strands of higher learning" proved to be pillars of his presidency just months after he took office when he questioned the presence of controversial events like The Queer Film Festival and "The Vagina Monologues" at Notre Dame. (The Queer Film Festival was renamed, and after weeks of intense debate, Jenkins announced "The Vagina Monologues" would not be prohibit-

Jenkins replaced University President Emeritus Father Edward "Monk" Malloy who served at the University's helm for 18 years. University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh who served as president for 35 years, preceded Malloy.

Freshman's death stuns University

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

Mooney chosen to succeed Eldred

The Saint Mary's Board of Trustees announced Dec. 26, 2005, that they have chosen Carol Mooney as the 11th president of the College on Dec. 26. College President Marilou Eldred announced her retire­ment in March 2003, which launched a nine-month search process for her su­ccessor.

Scully resigns as executive VP

Executive Vice President President Timothy Scully re­signed in May 2005, due to an apparent power struggle in the University's leader­ship. A report investig­ating Scully's behavior, including his confrontation with a reporter, was to be delivered to trustees and would have cleared him of wrong­doing.

Elam convicted of sexual battery

Abram Elam, one of four football players accused of sexual assault in March 2002, was found guilty of sexual bat­tery on Aug. 30. However, he was acquitted of conspiracy to commit rape and criminal deviate con­duct. Donald Dykes was found not guilty on all charges and the other two players' suits were dropped.

Jenkins questions 'Monologues'

In a series of three speeches, Jenkins appeals to the Notre Dame community for feedback on the inter­play between aca­demic freedom and Catholic character. Vigorous campus debate followed. Ten weeks later Jenkins announced "The Vagina Monologues" would not be prohib­i­ted at Notre Dame.

New Student Center opens at SMC

After more than a year of construction the long awaited Student Center opened on Saint Mary's cam­pus, which connected to the newly construct­ed Noble Family Dining Hall. The build­ing serves as the cen­ter of campus life, con­taining many student organization offices, the College bookstore, an Internet cafe and a ballroom.

'Gay? Fine by Me' held on campus

On March 18, approximately 1,700 students from Notre Dame and Saint Mary's attended a pep rally to protest "Gay? Fine by Me" T-shirts worn by students at Notre Dame. Many of those who wore the shirts were cited by Notre Dame police for underage drinking.
Hurricane Katrina ravages Gulf Coast. Jenkins inaugurated as University President. Trustees travel to Rome.

Hurricane Katrina slams into coast

On Aug. 29, 2005, the most devastating storm in recent memory caved in the Gulf Coast and tore through the levees protecting the city of New Orleans, killing thousands, leaving millions homeless and inflicting damages some total in the hundreds of billions of dollars.

Its name was Hurricane Katrina. As the country turned its attention and its aid to the areas affected by Katrina, the members of the extended Notre Dame and Saint Mary’s family rushed to help not only its own, but all those strained by the storm.

The student governments and other student organizations from both schools made strides to help those hurt by Katrina, including a large-scale University-sponsored stadium relief collection held during the Michigan State home football game Sept. 17. The preliminary total raised from that effort was over $240,000, with money still pouring in from smaller collections.

A large portion of the funds went to Catholic Charities USA, the Congregation of Holy Cross in Louisiana and members of the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) in the devastated areas.

Twenty-five ACE instructors were in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama, with several more Saint Mary’s and Notre Dame graduates working in a similar area with organizations like Team America.

They stayed on even after many of their schools were closed to help rebuild, and to instruct refugees.

On Notre Dame’s campus, the Basilica of the Sacred Heart held nine consecrated areas.

Jenkins was inaugurated as the 17th president of Notre Dame.

In his inaugural address at the Joyce Center, Jenkins spoke about the quest for knowledge, the unity between faith and reason and the role of community and call to service.

This respect and gratitude for all who embraced Notre Dame’s mission is something I embrace the mission for our time,” Jenkins said in his inaugural address.

“This is our goal. Let no one ever again say that we dreamed too small.”

Jenkins said his goal was for Notre Dame to be the top Catholic university in the 21st century for research and learning.

University President Emeritus Father Theodore Hesburgh and Father Edward Malloy blessed the incoming president after his address, and distinguished guests included Indiana governor Mitch Daniels, Provost Thomas Burish, Alumni Association president Timothy Brady, Fort Wayne-South Bend Bishop John D’Arcy, Faculty Senate chair Seth Brown and Holy Cross provincial superior David Tyson.

A picnic and fireworks followed Jenkins’ address on South Quad.

Classes were cancelled for two days allowing students to participate in the inauguration events, including an academic forum featuring Tom Brokaw as the moderator on Thursday afternoon and a Friday morning Mass.

Jenkins was inaugurated as the 17th president of Notre Dame.

City passes housing ordinance amendment

A city ordinance passed over the objections of 2003 through the 2005 legislative session.

On Aug. 30, 2005, Hurricane Katrina slams into New Orleans. Mary Notre Dame students from the campus struggle to get in touch with family while the city is in ruins.

The resolution to the South Bend Community Council meeting Feb. 27.

The President-elect said he would consider the propositions of amending the ordinance by sending a notice to abate after the second violation or allow landlords to pass their fines on to tenants to reduce the tendency to evict after only one violation.

Council members said they were impressed with Baron’s desire to cooperate with them on meeting mutual goals and making community relations a priority at Notre Dame.

Student body president Lizzi Shappell and student body vice president Jill Andrichik have also verbally committed their administration to improving community relations.

SMC replaces two top administrators

In January 2006 Saint Mary’s College found itself having to replace two top administrators as Vice President of Student Affairs Linda Timm and Vice President and Dean of Faculty Pat White each individually announced they would vacate their positions at the conclusion of the semester.

After serving as vice president of student affairs at the College for 11 years, Timm announced she would be leaving at the end of the academic year to begin her presidency at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, Wis.

This move will be a new beginning for me — a new beginning professionally and a new beginning personally,” Timm said in an interview Jan. 17. “In this new role, there will be a new beginning for me — a new beginning professionally and a new beginning personally.”

Like Timm, White will also leave his post as vice president to head another academic institution — Loyola Academy.

White — who had served Saint Mary’s for 17 years — will begin his presidency at the newly named school College July 1.

College President Carol Ann Mooney has named business and economics professor Robert White as the interim vice president and dean of faculty until a permanent replacement is found — a position Mooney said would likely fill for the next two academic semesters.

Mooney said the College is contact with the new President of Student Affairs position by the start of the 2006-07 school year, but has not officially announced the names of any potential candidates.

Jenkins speaks on academic freedom

On Jan. 23, 2004, University President Father John Jenkins spoke to faculty members and students, respectively, about the interaction of academic freedom and Catholic character at Notre Dame.

The address — almost the same for both groups — outlined Jenkins’ concerns about the interaction of academic freedom and the University’s sponsorship of certain
events in light of Catholic teaching. Jenkins asked for continued dialogue on the issues and to await a formal policy announcement.

Jenkins said events sponsored by the University or its units — including academic departments — that are deemed to promote or appear to conflict with Catholic values "should not be allowed at Notre Dame."

Under the University's academic freedom, Jenkins said, there is no effort to "address concerns like Jenkins'.

The wave of response to Jenkins' speech — which he said was intended to open dialogue on the subject, and not be a final decision on anything — was massive, flooding dorms, classrooms, publications and student and faculty government.

An e-mail account was opened for the opinions of those concerned, as Jenkins promised to read every last one.

The most outspoken were the opponents of Jenkins' statements, who were dismayed by any serious restrictions placed on what could and could not take place on Notre Dame's campus. There were those, including law professor Emeritus Charles Rice — who called for Jenkins' resignation — several faculty members and Holy Cross priests and South Bend-Fort Wayne Bishop John D'Arcy.

For the next two months, the campus was embroiled in an often-circular debate awaiting Jenkins' final decision.

Monologues not prohibited

Two weeks after his opening address on academic freedom and Catholic character, University President Father John Jenkins announced a department chair was being pressed to ‘Monologues’ — a play written by student organizers of the ‘Monologues’ — entitled "Loyal Laughter" and the formation of an ad hoc University committee to address gender relations and sexual violence — to be composed of administrators, faculty and students, with Jenkins as chair.

Jenkins also said academic departments "are best situated to decide what events should or should not be sponsored," and have the responsibility to make clear that their sponsorship of an event does not imply endorsement — a large point of contention during the academic freedom debate. Jenkins' decision gave department chairs and College deans a large amount of responsibility in handling contentious issues, while setting a process for dealing with any problems that go beyond the bounds of the department.

Many faculty members and students expressed their satisfaction with Jenkins' conclusion — though the most enthusiasm came from approval of the University's President open dialogue throughout the decision-making process.

Several loud dissenters disapproved of the move, however, including law professor Emeritus Charles Rice — who called for Jenkins' resignation — several faculty members and Holy Cross priests and South Bend-Fort Wayne Bishop John D'Arcy.

Jenkins acknowledged the opposition, saying the University benefits from a strong, two-sided debate.

trustees convene in Rome

For the first time, Notre Dame's Board of Trustees convened in Rome for its annual winter meeting on Jan. 31 and Feb. 1, meeting with key Vatican leaders, participating in an academic conference and conferring two honorary degrees in the process.

The trip was touted as an opportunity to explore ties with the Vatican, as well as an avenue to improve understanding of how the University can better serve the Church.

A meeting in Rome had been on the Board of Trustees' agenda for several years, and University President Father John Jenkins' first year in office was deemed an appropriate time by members.

Trustees met with numerous Vatican officials, including representatives of the Congregation for Catholic Education, the Pontifical Council for Social Communications, the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith and the Secretariat of State.

Jenkins and other members of the delegation were also personally greeted by Pope Benedict XVI after his public audience Feb. 1.

The conference the group attended, "The Church and Culture," featured addresses by Jenkins, Rino Fisichella, auxiliary bishop of Rome and rector of St. John (Paul) Lateran University and Notre Dame Trustee Daniel Jenky, Bishop of Pearls, III.

Honorary degrees were presented to Fisichella and I. Francis Rooney III, U.S. Ambassador to the Holy See.

The event marked Jenkins' first major trip as University President and a new era in Notre Dame-Vatican relations.

Campus Labor Action Project mobilizes

This year, a new social action group made itself known at Notre Dame — the Campus Labor Action Project (CLAP). Formed by students in the fall of 2005, CLAP welcomed workers, students, faculty, alumni and others to join their effort to secure a "living wage" for campus workers.

The living wage — a movement instituted into policy at institutions nationwide, including Harvard University and Georgetown University — is the hourly rate of income that a worker in a specific area must make in a 40-hour workweek to support a family of four. To establish a living wage at Notre Dame, CLAP suggested a minimum $12.10 per hour wage, or $25,164 a year, for University employees.

On March 8, members of CLAP passed out copies of their 11-page report on the living wage and its implementation at Notre Dame to several University officials, including University President Father John Jenkins. Protests met University President Protonum Burish, Executive Vice President John Affleck-Graves and Vice President of Student Affairs Father Mark Poorman.

In the report, CLAP outlined three goals, which included meeting with Jenkins, making a public commitment to the principle of living wage and creating a joint task force of students, workers, faculty and administrators to address worker issues and come up with a just policy.

CLAP supported its cause with several petitions and was backed up by Notre Dame's student government, arguing its efforts were part of Catholic social teaching. Affleck-Graves issued a statement April 19 responding to CLAP's report, maintaining the University already provides its employees benefits and is not able to establish a "fair and just wage" for its employees by including benefits on top of their base salary.

CLAP responded with a rally, and finally by a sit-in in Jenkins' office on May 2, still demanding the joint task force outlined in its earlier report. Jenkins issued a statement that day saying he entrusted the matter to Affleck-Graves, and the University was committed to paying just wages and benefits to its workers.

As the semester ended, members of CLAP were left unsatisfied.

Contact Amanda Michaels at amichael@nd.edu and Kelly Meehan at kcmeehan@ saintmarys.edu
Class of 2006
Family Commencement Dance

Joyce Center Fieldhouse
Friday, May 19th
9pm - 12am

Stop by after dinner and enjoy dancing, drinks, and desserts. A photographer will be present to take portraits of the graduate with their friends and family.
ROTC seniors prepare to accept military duties

By KAITLYNN RIELY
News Writer

After four years of service to God and Notre Dame, 64 ROTC cadets will be commissioned as officers Saturday and begin to directly serve their country through the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps.

The tri-military ceremony will take place Saturday at 9 a.m. at the Joyce Center. The senior cadets will say an oath of office and then receive a certificate of their commissioning.

University President Father John Jenkins is expected to attend the ceremony.

Captain Amy Bellenbaum, the commandant of cadets for Air Force ROTC has supervised the training of this year’s graduation class. She said the ceremony is marked by tradition.

“At the end, they all do three cheers and they get to throw their hats up in the air,” Bellenbaum said.

The graduating cadets will be commissioned with a first officer rank. The Air Force will commission 19 second lieutenants, the Army will also commission 19 and the Marine Corps three. The Navy will commission 23 ensigns.

Lieutenant David McCaffrey worked closely with this year’s individuals.”

McCaffrey said the Navy ROTC rotates graduates out of the program prior to graduation, and graduates will receive their first choice of assignment — in June he will enter the Michigan National Guard.

McCaffery said the Navy ROTC cadet Captain Patrick Nagorski received his first choice of assignment — in June he will enter the Michigan National Guard. Nagorski will also attend Ave Maria School of Law in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Nagorski said being a member of the ROTC at Notre Dame was a rewarding experience and the best thing he did in college.

“Almost all of them got pretty much what they wanted to do, which is credit to Notre Dame, with academics being number one,” said Bellenbaum. "But definitely we had some really intelligent students coming out of this program,” Mackey said.

The various options that we offer include:

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Six residence hall rectors opt to leave University posts

Turnover deemed normal as some will take on higher positions at Notre Dame, others decide to pursue further education

By KATLYNN RIELY
News Writer

As the 2006-07 school year comes to a close, six rectors will leave their responsibilities for their respective residence halls to take up new positions at the University, pursue further education or explore different job opportunities.

Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs Sister Jean Lenz said this is not an unusually large number considering the amount of rectors employed at Notre Dame.

"When you have experienced halls, there's a turnover," Lenz said. "A new residence hall moves every year or there are a few people that leave.

Last year seven rectors opted to leave. This year, Sister Susan Dunn of Anne Nyperon of Badger, Sister Winikates of Lewis, Father Jarret of Kevin and Mary Ann Mueninghoff of Pasquerilla East and Father Tom Eckert of St. Edward's will all be leaving.

The University announced in February that Dunn would replace Mary Louis Gude as Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs. Dunn will officially begin her new position July 1 and will work under Vice President for Student Affairs Father Mark Poransan supervising the University's health, counseling and career services.

Dunn said her five years as a rector will be "a helpful in advance, a transition into her new position. She will be dealing with many of the same groups that she has worked with as a rector, such as the University Counseling Center.

Dunn said she will miss the challenges and the accompanying job of a rector. "I think being a rector at Notre Dame is just a unique opportunity because of having the same hall system," she said. "It's a privilege to get to know people. I think, at a deep level, everyone has been there four years, and they also get to know you at that level.

Six residence hall rectors opt to leave University posts

Just weeks apart this past January, two of Saint Mary's top administrators announced they would be resigning from their position at the College to head other academic institutions — leaving a major void in an already-established hierarchy and marked opportunity for change.

At the start of the spring 2006 semester, vice presidents of student affairs Linda Timm announced she would be leaving Saint Mary's current post as president of Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, Wis.

The second announcement of position vacany came from Vice President and Dean of Faculty Pat White, who announced Jan. 28 that he would depart Saint Mary's at the conclusion of the spring 2006 semester to begin his presidency at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Ind.

The resignation of these two administrators has given College President Robert Mooney significant shaping power on the College's sence.

In early April, Mooney and her search committee — comprising College faculty, staff and students — invited the community to forums to meet three candidates vying for the position of vice president and dean of faculty. These forum discussions were meant for the College community to meet with the three candidates — who, Mooney said, did not necessarily exhaust the College's options.

Although Mooney has not yet met with the candidates, Mooney said her first goal will become filling the position of vice president and dean of faculty by the conclusion of the spring 2006 semester.

The successful candidate will have a thorough understanding of the goals of a liberal arts education.

Carol Ann Mooney
SMC president

The primary role of the vice president and dean of faculty, White said in a January interview, is to serve as the chief academic officer of the College and to lead faculty to continue personal development through reviewing and improving academic programs and promoting quality teaching, leadership and service — something Mooney said he hopes to begin during his interim term.

In a letter sent to all students in the department of business administration and economics, Mooney explained that Professor Mary Ann Merryman of Administration would take on the role of part-time president during June 1 when her appointment as vice president is to place them in.

Mooney's fall 2006 courses have been replaced with two professors in the department on June 1 when her appointment as vice president is to place them in.

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search committee Dan Meyer said even though the search is taking place over the summer, students would still be involved in the process.

"Since most students are no longer on campus, we solicited nominations from students from the local market and those who are participating in summer courses," Meyer said. "We have five or seven students recommended for the three positions [with the candidates]."

On Wednesday, May 17 Meyer announced that the College's vice president of student affairs, Kaitlynn Riely, and associate director of financial aid, Jennifer Houssin, will begin their new positions in the next two weeks.

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New statue reflects spirituality, education

By MAUREEN MULLEN
News Writer

A new campus icon is soon to join the ranks of Touchdown Jesus and First Down Moses. The “In Celebration of Family” statue, officially titled “The Holy Family,” is scheduled to be erected Thursday behind the Coleman Morsø Building, building manager Tony Vargo said.

The bronze sculpture—which has been in the works for three and a half years—depicts a portrait of the Holy Family and is nearly nine feet tall. The sculpture was commissioned by the Brutoco family. Dr. Rudolf Brutoco is the father of two Notre Dame students and founder of the Brutoco Family Foundation, a foundation which supports philanthropic endeavors, particularly those relating to issues of education, health, and spirituality.

Though the foundation does not usually commission works of art, “In Celebration of Family” combines aspects of education and spirituality along with the notion of family, which are personally important values to his foundation and his family, Brutoco said.

A Wasli, who has created a number of religiously themed sculptures worked with Brutoco to create the piece and the accomplishments include a larger-than-life bronze bust of Christ, which he created in 1997. The bust is part of the Vatican collection of the late Pope John Paul II.

“Brutoco said the sculpture is one in which represent every Notre Dame parent or Notre Dame parent-to-be, for that matter, I’ll be able to relate to on some level.”

The aim of the sculpture is to communicate the idea that “Mary and Joseph not only pulled Jesus into the world, but loved him as their very own.”

He said it only seems appropriate to seek a statue to stand on Notre Dame’s campus.

“Notre Dame has always inspired people,” Brutoco said. “This sculpture is one more thing to relate to on this magnificent campus.”

Contact Maureen Mullen at mmullen16@nd.edu

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courage, particularly those

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involving in sanctifying the sculpture and

brought it to Notre Dame. Brutoco dealt with various representatives of the University regarding the approval and the commissioning of the statue and said it was the shared goal to "sculpt a private moment of intimacy and to invite all who see the sculpture to share in reflective appreciation of society’s core elements: the family, the Church, and the human heart.”

Senior Laura Feeney is one of five Notre Dame students who will travel to Houston, Texas in June as part of Teach for America’s two-year program. She said she already knows all of her future coworkers.

“There are actually a lot of Notre Dame students that get in [to Teach for America] which is a testament to us because it’s a very competitive program,” she said.

Feeney will be paid a teacher’s salary. She said Teach for America as a great way to gain professional experience while helping a community.

“The focus on service here is so huge ... it just kind of seems like a natural way to give back after four years,” she said.

Senior Kathy Peterson will be teaching at a Catholic school in Biloxi, Miss. starting in August for ACE. Classes for the Jesuit programs teach educators to hold classes for the first five and six weeks for Notre Dame students going to Puerto Rico without any kind of knowledge of the Spanish language.

Hayes will be picking it up from scratch which should be interesting,” he said. Because his major is Spanish, Hayes said his parents are very understanding, especially since his mother had wanted him to do the Jesuit Volunteer Corps.

Hayes said he sees the program as an opportunity for reflecting on the way to give back his time and skills.

“People would have a call to give back,” Hayes said. “For a lot of these people it is a good time that they leave the upper crust of knowing a very simple lifestyle.”

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Top seniors earn prestigious fellowships, scholarships

Peter Quaranto, Patrick Longenbacker, Julia Fitzpatrick and Mark Thomas selected for major national awards

By BECKY HOGAN
News Writer

Several members of the class of 2006 have received prestigious fellowships and scholarships that will allow students to obtain graduate degrees and gain career experience as they pursue their passions after they leave Notre Dame.

Senior Peter Quaranto received the Marshall Scholarship for Political Science and Peace Studies and will be spending two years studying in the United Kingdom. During this time, he will attend the University of Bradford which has the world’s largest center for peace and conflict studies. Quaranto is one of 43 students across the nation who received this honor.

Quaranto said that during his time at Bradford, he will have the opportunity to go to graduate school while also advocating the issues he cares about.

"This program brings together people from 35 countries, and as London is the nucleus for discussion on global security, I will have the opportunity to interact with experts in the field from all parts of the world," Quaranto said.

After his two years of study in the U.K., Quaranto hopes to merge peace-building and global security issues.

Quaranto said that his work in the Center for Social Concerns and the Kroc Institute has been influential during his four years at Notre Dame.

"Without the remarkable communities of people at the Kroc Institute and CSC, I would not be on the track that I am today," Quaranto said.

Senior Patrick Longenbacker received the National Flagship Language Initiative (NFLI) scholarship and will spend two years studying at Ohio State University and traveling to Qingdao, China. The National Flagship Initiative helps students gain proficiency in foreign languages so that they can work in federal government agencies.

Longenbacker will be continuing his studies in Chinese through the NFLI.

"U.S.-China relations are becoming more and more important," Longenbacker said. "There is a great need for people in the U.S. to understand China."

Longenbacker will be focusing his studies on international relations and once he is finished with the program he hopes to find a job in government involving U.S.-China relations.

While many fellowships offer graduate study programs, others prepare recipients for careers. Senior Julia Fitzpatrick received the Scoville Peace Fellowship, which will allow her to spend six to nine months in Washington, D.C. working for Outreach of Global Solutions. She said she will be doing research on U.N. reform and helping lobbyists who are trying to gain congressional support on international peace and security issues.

"This will be a great first step in learning how policy is formed," Fitzpatrick said. "I will enter as a full-time staff person—not as an intern—which means I will be given a lot of responsibility right away."

Fitzpatrick said her involvement in the Kroc Institute at Notre Dame and supportive professors have prepared her for work in Washington.

Senior Mark Thomas, who will graduate with a joint-major in philosophy and security issues, received the Javits Scholarship which provides him with full tuition and a stipend for his graduate study at Boston College. Thomas plans to earn a PhD in philosophy, focusing his studies on continental philosophy of religion. He hopes to pursue an academic career after his graduate studies.

Thomas said that his professors at Notre Dame helped him to pursue an advanced career and sparked his interest in philosophy.

Other fellowships that graduating seniors have received include French Government Teaching Assistantships, Fulbright Teaching Assistantships, Simon Fellowship for Noble Purpose, Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program and the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.

Contact Becky Hogan at rhogan2@nd.edu

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The Nanovic Institute for European Studies
Announces the Winners of Research and Travel Grants for 2006-2007

Congratulations to undergraduates:

Samantha Alarie-Leca (France)  Conor McEvily (England)
Michael Bednarczyk (Poland, language study)  Jessica Morton (England)
Molly Hayes (England)  Andrew Sullivan (England)
Catherine Kent (The Netherlands)  Grant VanEaton (Germany, language study)
Kristine Nugent (Ukraine)  Jessica Winschel (Germany, language study)
Stacey Vanderhurst (Ireland)  The Katie Murphy McMahon Grant for Russian and East-Central European Studies

And to graduate students:

Marlene Daut (Haiti)  The R. Stephen and Ruth Barrett Family grant for best proposal
Melinda Grimsley-Smith (Ireland)  And graduate studies
Andrew Irving (Italy)  Kate Hennessy (The Paul G. Tobin Dissertation Fellowship)
Glen Ryland (Namibia)  Graduate fellowship winners:

Sean Brennan (The Dominican and Frank Annese Fellowship in Graduate Studies)
Deloitte & Touche USA LLP congratulates the University of Notre Dame Class of 2006 and welcomes our new hires and summer interns!

Events opened for all fourth and fifth-year seniors

By KELLY MEEHAN
Saint Mary's College

Just weeks away, attending senior week events is nothing but a distant dream for many seniors who would be returning to Notre Dame next fall for their final year of coursework.

Since they are graduating this year, fourth-year seniors were not originally invited to participate with their classmates in senior week events like the Chicago Cubs game and a Cedar Point visit.

But after seniors voiced their frustrations last week, organizers made the decision to accommodate those who were originally turned away.

The impossibility of attending traditional senior week events had led many seniors to fourth-year architecture student Candace Galas questioning the logic behind student government's seemingly neglectful decision.

"We can't accommodate the whole class (of 2006)," she said. "We just do one more year because our major requires us to. It didn't seem fair because we do have a lot of friends who made it through Frosh-O and from the dorm we came to know and become close with.

As the incoming president of the Notre Dame chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Galas' goal is to meet with senior week organizers in order to make the event a possibility for all seniors.

"Someone (senior class president) Emily Chin found out about us not participating, and she let us become involved," she said. "Student Activities office was willing to have us be a part of senior week. The logic behind student government and have done great work throughout the year.

Contact Amanda Michals at amichal@nd.edu and Kelly Meehan at kmeehan@saintmarys.edu

Deloitte & Touche USA LLP congratulates the University of Notre Dame Class of 2006 and welcomes our new hires and summer interns!
My mom made me do it.

My mom forced me to apply to Notre Dame and then when I was accepted, she convinced me it was the right place for me, despite the awkward visit I had as a prospect.

Sure I was a Notre Dame football fan — I wore number 44 in sixth grade basketball because I liked Irish fullback Marc Edwards — but I never thought I would go to school here.

But I did.

And so this weekend things have come full circle. Sometime in the last four years, I fell in love with Notre Dame. I fell in love with the campus, the traditions and the people.

And I will always hold my experiences at Notre Dame close to my heart. Everything from winning a football championship in Notre Dame Stadium to working for The Observer to falling in love with the student section.

But that's not all.

May be your experiences are different. Maybe you were friends with the bomber at Corby's, maybe you will graduate with honors. Or maybe you won't remember anything at all. But the one thing remains — these experiences are Notre Dame experiences.

Not everyone understands us Domers. They don't understand why we can walk in a room, be introduced to someone who is an alumnus and instantly ask, "Where did you live?" and suddenly have a new friend.

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I've been told Kenny Chesney said it best: "For a while, we had it all. We never dreamed it wouldn't last." But let's be honest. We knew one day, sooner rather than later, it would be over. Why did I spend most of my Wednesday nights at Ross Rahm's this year when I knew I had a 9:30 class the next morning? Did my friends and I tolerate the tardy (a whole dollar!) increase in cover at the Backer? Because we knew the day would arrive when we would have to say goodbye to the students anymore, when this place would belong less to us than to those who still follow. I remember how annoyed I was my first few football Saturdays when campus would be invaded by alumni trying to revive their college days. Game days were always fun, of course, but those alumni still thought they owned the place. What nerve! They had their turn, I thought, and now it was ours. The passing years made me more sympathetic, and now I have to be one of those alumni. I guess I always knew it was going to happen. Let's face it — we've seen this weekend coming since freshman year.

While we're at it, let's admit something else: We knew what we had. Every time I walked across South Quad on that perfect fall day, every time I looked up at the Dome at night, every time I sat up with my friends until way too late, I knew how lucky I really was to be a Notre Dame student. Of course I had those moments when I took this place for granted; five finals in four days doesn't exactly engender nostalgia. Neither does trudging to class in winds strong enough to knock you to the ground. But for the most part, I tried to remember that never again would I live 50 feet from my best friends in a place that can even look beautiful in the worst weather.

I'm a firm believer in the fact that people come into our lives for a reason and change us forever. And I can honestly say that in my four years here at Saint Mary's, I was deeply changed in ways many by so many people. Saint Mary's has been my home and I will miss it dearly. This campus is the most beautiful and serene place in the world. Too many times I took it for granted and failed to absorb the beauty. Many of the buildings are a testimony to the hard work and dedication of the faculty and students. The Avenue is gorgeous and I will miss driving down it on crisp fall days, with leaves slowly falling to the tree-lined asphalt as I glide over them, so they float free once again.

I still miss walking across campus at all hours of the day and night, seeing Le Mans tower standing tall against the frigid winter winds and thick falling snow, I will miss the people I've met more. It's always been difficult for me to say goodbye to people I love. People light my heart on fire — this amazing community accomplished this well throughout the last four years. Truly, I have been altered intellectually by my high-minded professors, spiritually by this wonderful Catholic community, but, best yet, personally by my friends — the best friends I could ever call my own.

To my professors: Thank you for your hard work and dedication to the education of the students. I have had the privilege to take classes that you loved your jobs and that has helped motivate me to work harder. While much learning occurred inside the classroom, much also occurred outside. There have been many times when I have been able to apply what I learned from you in a classroom to the real world. That gift alone makes me smile. Thank you from the bottom of my heart.

To my classmates: In each of my classes, you never ceased to amaze me with your intelligence and wisdom about things I would never imagine a college-aged person would have. But I believe that is the beauty of Saint Mary's — we are unique women who have had unique life experiences and we come together to form a family. Thank you for promoting my education with your life experiences. Know that you aided in my education just as much as reading any assigned book. To my friends; I cannot find one word to describe the love and respect I have in my heart for each of you. We have been through so much together. We have supported one another, commended one another and loved one another. I will treasure our friendships for the rest of my life. Thank you for all the good times — and even the bad. Part of a college education is forming lifelong friendships and I know I found countless ones and I am so grateful. May you carry on the traditions and continue the beauty in each of your life. I will miss you. There are so many stories to be told of moments here — both highs and lows. But at the end of the day, I have been changed by each of these moments. I have been transformed from a starry-eyed, would-like-to-think-she-knows-it-all young girl into a more intelligent, more worldly young woman.

Sarah Vabulas is a graduating communication studies major with a religious studies minor and former Assistant Managing Editor of The Observer. She thanks her parents for the wonderful opportunity to attend her dream college. She will miss looking at Le Mans tower and the Golden Dome as well as visits to the Grotto. She would like to thank The Observer staff for the many life lessons in leadership and struggle as well as the laughs and friendships. She has never been prouder to be a member of a hardworking and outstanding group of people that no matter what, she will miss the randomness that goes along with college friends and welcomes you to visit her in Chicago. She can be contacted at svabulas@nd.edu.

The views expressed in this column are those of the author and not necessarily those of The Observer.
I can vividly remember being in the back seat next to all my belongings as my parents drove onto campus on the first day of Freshman Orientation. This was a big day not only for me, but also for my family — my father went to Notre Dame, my mother went to Saint Mary's and they met studying abroad in Rome. As the road curved and we passed the bookstore, I remember my father saying, "My daughter will be attending Notre Dame were the best years of my life.

For me, this was somewhat of a shock. How could his favorite years be before I was born? But as I looked out the car window, I realized that my father was nostalgic for the times in college that he remembers as carefree — lots of time to read and learn, opportunities to travel the world, no monthly bills to pay, meals ready at the dining hall, no major responsibilities, and plenty of crazy and fun friends (they have reactions almost as much as people). Of course, meeting my mother was probably a major highlight. But I felt a heavy mix of anticipation, fear and excitement press down upon me. How would Notre Dame be for me?

At that moment, I could not imagine what now, looking back, the highest points of my Notre Dame experience have been. I would never have had the chance as a photographer for The Observer who had the job that has let me see Notre Dame from top to bottom (literally) and around the world. Assignments have allowed me to climb the scaffolding of the Dome when it was being reglazed last year, descend into the tunnels under campus, cover football games on the sidelines and travel to Rome for the Board of Trustees meeting. I took a camera when a group of 30 students drove to New York City to protest the war in 2003, and I've photographed lectures and performances from the Motion Pictures Institute. In the midst of looking through my own camera lens, I've come to see that Notre Dame gives us a unique perspective — one that emphasizes a search for wisdom, an ethical viewpoint and a universal community. So while I definitely didn't find a husband, I have discovered a lot about myself. The complexities of my academic, spiritual and personal growth have changed me into a different person from that first day on campus, and in some ways my identity has been reconstructed on the ground of this place.

I'm sure your Notre Dame experience was different than mine. But as the years go by, and we look back at all the photos of our favorite moments, our backwards glance will become clouded with a rosy glow of nostalgia — our time here will only get better and better.

In a few days, as I drive away with my belongings, I think I will actually feel a little lighter. I'll be thankful for all of the opportunities that my parents and Notre Dame have given me. I'll have happy memories of friendships, adventures abroad and some fantastic dance parties. But I'll also feel a fresh sense of independence that comes with new responsibility. And I'll look forward to the best years of my life.

Claire Kelley

Anticipating the best Looking back, ahead

Tha Thank The Academy

It is graduation season: the sun is warm, the weather poetic, and the pages of The Observer are filled with self-congratulations. I do not need to add to this torrent, in the spirit of life in the real world "commercializing," therefore, allow me a few remarks of a more pointed nature.

As it happens, a few thousand of us are gathered here to receive awards from the University, the Motion Pictures Institute, the English program, and of course, some of the comparisons stand. Where we go from here is a question with as many answers as the students here, but judging from the tables populating Notre Dame's career fairs, it would seem that The Academy is most interested in as many of us as possible at national or multinational corporations — and sending periodic and sizable remittances back to South Bend. This may, in our way of thanking The Academy for giving us the tools to succeed.

Well, in our case, the foreseeable future doesn't promise a job which will allow me to offer The Academy the magic money moniker. Even if it did, however, up until late this year I doubted that I could find such a position at the University itself unless things took a marked turn. But University President Father John Jenkins recently issued April 5, represented that turn, and if its realization is anything like its formulation, I still have hope for education at Notre Dame.

I have no intention of thanking The Academy for existing or for building attractively. But I have every intention of thanking Notre Dame that I am an alumnus. The University of Notre Dame does that much — and I have no intention of thanking it for its dorm spirit or its athletic tradition. The Notre Dame that I thank or don't think it's one thing, or it

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nothing; it either is, or is not, a place where ideas are submitted to rigorous scrutiny, and where minds are enabled to engage in that scrutiny. It is a place where drama, art and literature are valued and engaged, where culture and upbringing see the measure of all things, where view-points are not only voted but heard and examined.

Jenkins has demonstrated to my satisfaction that he intends to keep this place. He did so by refusing to identify the voice of the teacher or department with the institutional voice of the University. He did so by visibly listening to students and faculty during the academic freedom debate, rather than what many feel in the standard M.O. hearing only the donors, trustees and ratings organization. He did so by attacking "The Vagina Monologues," and more recently a generation which seeks to undermine the very idea. Despite his honest disagreement with their espoused moral prescriptions, he has yet to meet me with genuine interest in promoting the welfare and equal rights of women in American society, who has attended "The Vagina Monologues" and not been powerfully affected. Thank you, Father.

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The firing of Tyrone Willingham, unless there was something behind it that we don’t know about, was simply ridiculous. Let us remember the sorry situation of this small team when Ty took over. It was in complete chaos. He molded this team, in his very first year, to play with a new and winning attitude. He was also the instigator of molding this team as an opportunity as well as its heart — and in order to do this he had to do what he needed to do, despite the fact that he knew what was coming up next. Tyrone Willingham was fired just as the molding process, which was mainly taking place on the offensive side of the ball, was coming to fruition. Next year his quarterback would have been an experienced junior throwing to very experienced wide-receivers and tight-ends. The offensive line showed dramatic improvement over last year and would have been even better next year. He finally has a west-coast type tail-back and played now has a full-year under his belt. The truth is that the offense was a machine the last part of this season — and was set to dominate next year.

Our study-abroad advisor from Notre Dame visited Cairo today, and I was informed that there have been numerous let­ ters in the Observer about worries for students studying abroad. Also, the office in Hurley hall has received many phone calls recently about students concerned about their kids in the different programs.

I support my friends’ statements. My friend and fellow donor, Aaron and I, are doing our part to ensure that this is the same in all programs for all students abroad elsewhere.

On the streets, when people ask me where I am from, I refuse to hide and say I am from Canada. I always say that I am an American. I hope, too, in several months time to have that same pride. Usually this leads into a discussion about Iraq. Yesterday, outside the mosque of Al-Azhar, the Egyptian people who I told them how I loved Egyptian people. They were so grateful that I was there. Arabic with three old Egyptian men about the grave situation in the Middle East. They told me how they loved American people, and I told them how I loved Egyptian people. I was told to come back next week we ought to gather again outside the mosque and invite Saddam Hussein and President Bush to join us if they want to hear it.

Not once have I ever felt threatened or_proposing, even in a heated discussion. The only time that I have heard a name would probably scare many who have been here before, is when the people who were the only truth. I do not claim to have been in Iraq. Cairo is no Baghdad, I know, but Baghdad is too far. Nonetheless, I do not claim to have more perspective than anyone else.

However, this experience inevitably shapes my perspective.

I hope some time to meet Aaron’s two roommates who are from the Gaza Strip and maybe find out what life is like as a Palestinian. I enjoy getting hands-on experience with Egypt and the Egyptian people. We decided that next week we would stay until the end of the semester.

I do not say stories that Bush is only in this for oil or to finish something his father started. Weapons of mass destruction and changing the regime are secondary, truthful matters. It is impossible to soil this all in, though, my only truthful conclusion is that war is not the answer in this case. I know that before I came here. This area is too complex to fully explain in a short letter. This type of letter is not a satisfactory answer to many. But, I think the diplomatic is the only way now. My hope is that Bush and his advisors to know what war will mean for people in this area and the affects of molding this team as a national hero, so, about what is going to happen in the world. But, please do not worry too much. If war does happen, we will stay until the end of the semester because I am pretty sure we will be fine.

Teresje J. Fergibbons  
Cairo, Egypt  
March 6, 2003

Homosexuals excluded once again

It should come as no surprise that Bishop John D’Arcy is once again condemning an attempt to bring a sense of inclusion to the Catholic student community at Notre Dame. In a Feb. 10 letter to the South Bend Tribune, the bishop blasted the Notre Dame Queer Film Festival, calling it “an abuse of academic freedom” and claiming that it was going against the festival, “the rights of others are violated.”

In his letter, D’Arcy claims homosexual “believing in the mainstream of the Catholic life, not shunned.” After his continued efforts to keep homosexuals from the priesthood and his current condemnation of the Queer Film Festival, this call for inclusion is most certainly a hollow one. While D’Arcy, in his role as defender of the Church’s teaching, has focused on the opposition to homosexual acts, he has remained largely silent on the issue of respect and understanding toward homosexuals.

He has offered superficial words of acceptance to homosexuals but has neglected to support it in a meaningful way. The message that is heard here is that the Church has no desire to accept homosexuals according to Church teaching as he does in condemning it. Ours is a faith marked by Christ’s love, and in the words that he said should not be admitted.” This was also D’Arcy’s response in the wake of the sexual abuse scandal that rocked the Church, and even as late as this past summer D’Arcy was once again calling for a ban on homosexual priests.

Academic freedom: problem?

Perhaps the ongoing discussion of academic freedom and Catholic character has reached the point where we should make an effort to ask, “What is really at stake in this dispute?”

One of the basic questions is simply, “To what extent and why (or should) recognized student organizations, at Notre Dame or any Catholic university, refrain from discussion and performance of materials which question or challenge standard Catholic teaching concerning sexual morality?”

I have yet to hear a strong Catholic voice explain why, or discuss whether, a Catholic university fully tolerant of student freedoms on such matters is on the slippery slope to secularization. Perhaps there are arguments of that ilk, but nowhere is the argument presented.

Father John Jenkins, nor the Chancellor of the University of Dayton, Father James Heft, has produced such an argument in this discussion so far.

A winning attitude

Unbelievable. Notre Dame realizes after three years of mediocrity that it doesn’t have the coach that can get the team to do what program where it needs to be so it fires him. All of a sudden, according to all the so-called NCAA football experts, Notre Dame “panicked,” Notre Dame “didn’t give him a chance,” the firing was “racially motivated.” Notre Dame was exposed as “no different than all the other football factories.”

That’s reflective of the number one issue in America today — no one wants anyone to be held accountable for their actions or results (much less themselves). Poor performance is always someone else’s fault, or can be blamed on one’s abusive parents, broken home or ethnicity.

Coach Tyrone Willingham knew exactly what the coaches wanted and exactly what was expected … put a consistent winner on the field. If he didn’t think he could do it, he shouldn’t have taken the job. Neither should Urban Meyer or anyone else take the job and claim three or five years from now that the coach failed. The environment at Notre Dame is brutal. Schedule brutality, brutal academic requirements, crappy weather, demanding alumni, etc., etc., blah, blah, bish. If you aren’t up to the challenge, don’t take the job. If you aren’t going to whine about the situation, don’t take the job.

Unfortunately, Willingham was not doing the things that needed to be done to achieve the aforementioned objective (put a consistent winner on the field). He was getting blown out of games at an unprecedented rate. He wasn’t recruiting enough impact freshmen. He couldn’t win over the hearts of the alumni, students, etc. He lost to teams he clearly should have beaten. Worst of all, there was no momentum in the program ... no success trajectory ... things were not obviously getting better. Willingham was fired for the same reasons every­ day Americans in challenging jobs get fired — not because he is a bad per­ son, not because he is black, not because he can’t be successful somewhere else. Because he couldn’t get it done at Notre Dame and there was no convincing evidence that things were improving.

Go Irish!

Ty ‘couldn’t get it done’

Joseph Wenski  
Brad Tucker  
Sophomore  
War Memorial  
Feb. 14

Four years in review

A look at the war from: problem?

Excerpts From Past Issues

The Observer page 19

Friday, May 19, 2006

Weber, Joseph Wysocki  
March 6, 2003

Terence J. Fergibbons  
Cairo, Egypt  
March 6, 2003

Go Irish!

Bill Lewis  
Alumus class of 1976  
Dec. 1, 2001
What was your favorite experience at Notre Dame?

- Jenny Maccagnano, Chicago, Ill.
  "Studying abroad in Rome."
- Amanda Kelly, Chicago, Ill.
  "Entertaining ten Navy boys all at once ... I was just doing my American duty."
- Kelly Snyder, Celina, Ohio
  "Mock Trial's Team Ramrod - you wrote it in the paper."
- A.J. Lindburg, Albany, N.Y.
  "I probably don't remember it."
- Kathleen Kudla, Schaumburg, Ill.
  "Assisting my friends with their bratwurst stand on game day."
- Rachelle Galecki, Concord Twp., Ohio
  "All of my very convincing fake names."

Describe your college experience in three words.

- Danny Gibbs, Salt Lake City, Utah
  "Drink, drank, drunk."
- Ryan Hutchinson, Marion, Ind.
  "I made it."
- Cameron Raines, San Diego, Calif.
  "What was college?"
- Bill Kiolbasa, Willowbrook, Ill.
  "I'm not drunk."
- Karen Daniels, Sioux City, Iowa
  "I'm not sober."
- Nick Kramer, Zionsville, Ind.
  "Lack of memory."
What was your favorite class and who was your favorite professor?

Sarah Wright
Chula Vista, Calif.

Amy Yahn
Santa Rosa, Calif.

Cecelia Hilliard
Chicago, Ill.

Erin Ainsworth
Houston, Texas

Stephanie Rosales
Rolling Hills Estates, Calif.

Stephanie Smith
Hollister, Mo.

"Human Ethology with Prof. McKenna, because I like monkeys and babies."

"Professor Whitman’s Autism Class, because it helped me find my passion."

"Aerospace design, because I got to build an airplane and work with her."

"Aerospace design, because I got to work with her and build an airplane."

"Clive Neal — physical geology, because he’s a crazy British man."

"Professor Yang, because he’s a crazy Chinese man."

What are your plans after graduation?

Bobby Seus
Medford, Ore.

Brandon Harris
New Orleans, La.

Brendan Delaney
Hippoponge, N.Y.

Brian Redmond
St. Louis, Mo.

Greg Boschert
St. Charles, Mo.

Joe McCarthy
Novi, Mich.

"I’m running the mountain gorilla exhibit in the Chicago zoo."

"Going to LA taking film scoring lessons."

"I want to orchestrate the merger between UNICEF and Smith & Weston."

"Scaling Mount Everest."

"I’m touring Europe and will come back to try to be an acrobat."

"Working in the ever downward spiraling economy of Detroit."
ND WOMEN'S SOCCER
Notre Dame can't win its 2004 magic falls in quarters
Irish procure first Big East tourney title in five seasons with 3-0 victory
By KEN FOWLER
Sports Writer
A year after capturing their second-ever national championships, the Irish couldn't find a way to top Portland in a national semifinal. After winning the nation's top scorer over each other, the first 10 or 15 minutes, we were all over them," Irish head coach Janusz Bednarski said after the 1-0 loss in the title game.

Notre Dame and Katie Thorlakson lost the game to Portland, 1-0, in the title game. One of the two 17-0 seasons, the Irish ended second in the Big East Championship in Milwaukee, Wisc.

The season began with second-seed senior Patrick Ghattas finished as an All-American. The Irish went 11-6-1 in the four games. Both Irish national championships and also to the championship and also to the championship a week later.

The Irish then traveled to Portland, with the victory in the second round of the tournament. "And I think they were good enough to win," Irish head coach Kyle Cassilly said after the contest. "And I think they were good enough to win."
Track

Squads send 32 to regionals with championship hopes

By CHRIS KHOREY
Associate Sports Editor

With 32 athletes headed to the NCAA Regional meet in Knoxville, Tenn., May 26-27, Irish head coach Joe Piane is ready to cap off an already successful track season with an appearance at the NCAA Championships.

"Thirty-two is a very good number," Piane said. "Last year we had seventeen. I think we can get several people to the NCAAs.

The men's side won the Big East outdoor championship this spring, while the women took first in the indoor meet.

Piane said the women's squad, which also won the conference cross country title in the fall, was doing better in the hammer throw and the 2000-meter run than we thought we would, and they ended up doing a little bit worse.

"In a championship meet, you have to find the kids that come to play," Piane said.

One of the runners that led the Irish to victory in the 5,000 was junior Kurt Benninger, who has qualified for the regionals in the 800, 1,500 and 5,000 meter events.

Piane said it is rare for one runner to be successful at all three distances.

"Benninger] has very good leg speed," Piane said. "There isn't another guy in the 5,000 that can run the 800 as fast as he can.

Benninger was also one of Notre Dame's top cross country runners, finishing sixth in the NCAA championships with a 10,000-meter time of 29:50.2.

"You pick an event, he can run well in it — from the 800 to the 10,000," Piane said.

On the women's side, senior Stephanie Madia will look to cap off a stellar career by advancing to the NCAAs.

This season, Madia took third in the 3,000 meters at the Big East indoor championships, and fourth in the 5,000 at the outdoor meet.

In cross country, she finished third at the NCAA Championships, crossing the line in 19:48 — the fastest 6,000 meter time at the NCAA championship.

"Stephanie is a tribute to hard work," Piane said. "She came in her freshman year and was in seventh in all the NCAAs and she just decided to work. That's what's great about this sport — what you put in is what you get out."
Irish drub Cornell to advance to NCAA quarterfinals

By JAY FITZPATRICK

Attacks Foote and Byers belittle Big Red defense with four goals each; Notre Dame set for rematch with G'town

Notre Dame is having the best season in the program's ten-year history—and it's not over yet. The No. 7 Irish (14-3, 4-1 Big East) beat Cornell 16-8 behind a strong effort by attacks Crysti Foote and Jill Byers Sunday for the second time this season to improve to 4-3 and advance to the quarterfinals of the NCAA Tournament.

Foote and Byers combined for 12 points, netting four goals and two assists each against the Big Red. The Irish also benefited from 12 saves by senior goalie Carol Dixon.

Foote has scored over 100 points so far this season, shattering the school single-season points record. She also set school records in many other categories, including career points, goals, assists and draw controls, and she ranks first in the country in assists. She has also set school scoring Notre Dame single-season goals, points and assists marks.

The Irish rode their fourth best offensive season in the program's ten-year history—and it's not over yet. The Irish also benefited from 12 saves by senior goalie Carol Dixon.

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By the standards of almost any other program, it was a major disappointment. But as Foote's college career is coming to an end with this tournament, another is just beginning in Bryan, who has broken the Notre Dame freshman records for goals, assists and points as the second-leading scorer on the team with 51 goals — the second highest total in Irish history only behind Foote. 22 assists. Byron will be forced to lead this team after Foote's graduation.

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SMC GOLF

By CHRIS KHOREY

Associate Sports Editor

By the standards of almost any other program, it was a successful season. But despite five tournament victories during the regular season and an MIAA champion, the Belles were not selected for the NCAA Tournament, a snub head coach Mark Hamilton said was a major disappointment.

"We played the second toughest schedule in Division III golf and we had the third most tournament wins," Hamilton said. "We traveled all over and played. We played who we had to play and beat who we had to beat, but unfortunately we didn't get selected."

Two teams from each of five regions are selected by a committee to compete in the Division III championships each year. The Belles lost the Division III bid to DePauw and Southwestern.

The Belles faced the Tigers head-to-head once this season, in the Illinois-Western Spring Fling. DePauw won the tournament, finishing 27 strokes ahead of third-place Saint Mary's.

The Belles and Pirates did not face each other in the regular season.

Belles senior Megan Mattia qualified for the national tournament as an individual, finishing her Saint Mary's career with a three-round score of 328 and a No. 18 finish.

Saint Mary's won the MIAA Championship Oct. 8 at Thornapple Pointe Golf Club in Grand Rapids, Mich., beating second place Olivet by 36 strokes and reaching a goal set early in the season by Hamilton.

"Our goal for the fall is always to win the MIAA and begin to put ourselves in position to qualify for the NCAA," Hamilton said.

Saint Mary's faced stiff competition throughout their season, facing mostly Division I teams in the Notre Dame Invitational at Warren Golf Course Sept. 10-11 and the Shamrock Invitational in Tega Cay, S.C., over spring break March 18-19.

"It was a great honor to be invited to the Notre Dame tournament, so we had to play in that," Hamilton said of the decision to play in tournaments with larger schools. "As for the Shamrock, over spring break you need to find the right tournament in the right location at the right time."

Hamilton said he liked the challenge of playing such tough opponents.

"You get better by playing with better players," Hamilton said. "You can't get better playing lesser opponents. Our attitude is that we'll go anywhere and play anyone."

Besides the sheer difficulty, there was another downside to the schedule. Hamilton said he was told that playing so many non-Division III opponents hurt the Belles when the NCAA selection committee met.

"I think it actually hurt us a little in our selection process," Hamilton said. "I'm not really sure why, but that was the word on the street."

Contact Chris Khorey at kkhorey@nd.edu

MIAA champion Belles snubbed from NCAAs
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- Mike Golic, ESPN Personality and former Notre Dame football player, Class of ’85

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Irish make long awaited return to NCAA Tournament

Undefeated No. 1 Virginia overcomes Notre Dame pressure to win first-round battle; Kemp snags 20 saves in loss

By TIM DOUGHERTY
Sports Writer

After No. 15 Notre Dame earned a surprise berth to the NCAA Tournament, the Irish challenged No. 1 Virginia with the Cavaliers' toughest home contest of 2006 in Charlottesville. But it was not enough to upset the nation's only undefeated team as Virginia continued its way to a school-record 14th consecutive victory with a 14-10 win over the Irish in their closest win at Klockner Stadium this season.

Notre Dame fell behind early when Virginia senior attack Matt Ward — the No. 17 rated scorer in the country — netted two of his season-high 20 saves.

"He made some saves on some great shots," Corrigan said. "Anybody who watched that game knows we have one of the top goalies in the country." Even down six, the Irish would not roll over. After Matt Karweck scored with 34 seconds left in the third, Notre Dame outscored Virginia 5-2 in the final period to close to 14-10 with 2:31. Junior midfielder Bill Iva added the Irish effort with two goals, and Walsh (three assists), Hubschmann (two goals, one assist) and Hoff (three goals) led the team with three points each — but no one could find the net in the last couple minutes.

"We know we had to limit Virginia's big runs, but we didn't," Irish senior captain defender D.J. Driscoll said Monday in a phone interview. "But we never gave up and hung in the game. They're not used to having anyone within four or five goals. Coach said if we could keep it within four goals, we'd have a chance. We just didn't capitalize on the chances.

Notre Dame's ability to stay in the game early came in no small part thanks to injury-riddled sophomore faceoff specialist Taylor Clagett, whose shoulder requires surgery next week. Clagett won four of five first quarter faceoffs en route to 16-12 advantage over Virginia, including four of six against Charlie Grauer, who ranks sixth in the nation in faceoff percentage.

"He was hurt pretty much all year," Corrigan said. "Amazingly he was able to play through that, and still able to beat the top players in the country. He's a great competitor and tough as nails." In the loss, the Irish held the nation's top scoring team to a goal and a half below their season average, as well as scoring three more goals than Virginia's seventh-best scoring defense averages against them. "Notre Dame came closer to executing its game plan than the likes of No. 8 Syracuse, No. 6 Johns Hopkins and No. 4 Maryland today, who lost by an average of 6.75 goals per game. Virginia noticed.

"Notre Dame may have been the last team selected, but they clearly were not the sixteenth seed," Cavaliers coach Dom Starlitz said in a phone interview Tuesday. "They had a great season and gave us a stern test — more than we can handle." Notre Dame snuck into the tournament for the first time since a semifinal appearance in 2001. After starting the year 7-2 and 1-0 against Colorado, where they dropped two straight, the Irish found their way to another NCAA birth and seemed to stay there.

"It was a good game to have going into the tournament and we had a good week of offensive practice before Virginia," Corrigan said. "Even after the Irish dismantled Quinnipiac, they needed No. 19 Delaware to upset No. 10 Towson and No. 16 Penn State to miss the automatic ECAC bid with a loss to No. 5 Georgetown. Both happened, and despite recouping top-20 wins, two of Notre Dame's losses came to the No. 2 and 3 teams in the country (Hofstra and Cornell) — and that strength of schedule presumably earned them the final tournament birth.

When you get into the tournament it's about winning. You're not looking for moral victories, you're looking to win," Corrigan said. "I would've taken not playing well and winning. But this is a great thing for our program to build on. It's something hopefully we can use to propel us to next year into a great season." As for the departing senior class, they entered Notre Dame with visions of Final Fours but persevered through three straight postseason-less seasons before finally making it to the Final Four in their fourth and final year with the Irish.

"With a lot of people coming back, we expected to go pretty far," Driscoll said. "We thought we had the talent to be a Final Four team. Playing finally in the playoffs was an awesome experience. In the end, we played an awesome game against an awesome team."
Congregation of Holy Cross

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Congratulations Class of 2006
Irish go to Big East tourney, hurt by close losses

Quinn leads team in season comeback

By BOBBY GRIFFIN
Sports Writer

Following Notre Dame's Feb. 4 heartbreakig 89-86 overtime loss at Louisville after Cardinals guard Taquan Dean buried a 25-footer, the Irish dropped to 1-4 in the Big East.

The defeat was devastating. With the strength of the Big East and just seven games remaining on the conference schedule, the team's postseason prospects looked bleak. Notre Dame coach Mike Brey admitted later he would have been surprised if the Irish would be a position to make the Big East tournament one month later given the team's league record.

"If you would have told me after the loss to Louisville that we'd put ourselves in a position to play on senior day to get to New York, I would have thrown a parade," Brey said following Notre Dame's March 4 win over DePaul.

But Notre Dame found the strength to finish 6-10 in the Big East (16-14 overall), en route to the Big East tournament — the same event Brey stressed was the team's major goal at the beginning of the season.

The No. 12-seeded Irish ended up losing their Big East game 67-63 to No. 5-seeded Georgetown and would later drop its second-round NIT game to Michigan 87-84, after defeating Vanderbilt in its first round contest.

It also failed to reach the NCAA Tournament for the third consecutive season after advancing to the Sweet 16 in 2003. But considering where the team was in early February, the resiliency it showed in putting together a strong finish (5-2 in its last seven games) and impressive individual season performances — the year was not a complete failure.

"We didn't hang a banner or play in the NCAA Tournament, but I truly feel this group was representative of this universi-
ty," Brey said April 12 during the team's post-season banquet.

In order to reach the Big East tournament, Notre Dame defeated Rutgers, South Florida and Seton Hall, before dropping consecutive games to Connecticut and Marquette.

Irish senior point guard Chris Quinn backs down a Rutgers defender during Notre Dame's 90-63 win Feb. 8 at the Joyce Center.

The Irish responded with wins over Providence and DePaul. Irish guard Chris Quinn was a huge reason for the team's turnaround. The senior point guard finished the season with 17.7 points per game (fifth in the Big East), 6.5 assists per game (first in the Big East) and 42-percent shooting from 3-point range (second in the Big East).

Quinn's statistics and overall leadership were enough to make him a first team Big East selection and CBS Sports line named Quinn a third team All-American. The Associated Press also named Quinn an All- American honorable mention.

"A lot of teams might have fadied away," Quinn said in a March 6 press conference after being selected for the All Big East team. "Over the season, there have been tough times when we've really been down as a group, but we've had to battle back and get ready for the next game."

Some of the more memorable moments of the season came from Quinn as well. He scored 37 points in Notre Dame's 100-97 overtime loss to Pittsburgh, nailing 3-pointers down the stretch to force an overtime in a game where the Irish trailed by nine with under a minute.

Notre Dame forward Russell Carter also emerged as a legitimate scoring threat during the 2005-06 season, using his explosiveness as a change of pace in Notre Dame's predomi-
nantly 3-point shooting offense.

Carter averaged 11.5 points in his last seven games. He led the team in scoring in the team's last three regular season games against Marquette (20 points), Providence (21) and DePaul (22) — propelling the Irish offense to their postseason berth.

Notre Dame also got strong production from senior guard Kyle McAlearny, who will likely assume point guard responsibilities next season fol-

lowing Quinn's graduation. McAlearny averaged a Notre Dame-high 9.5 points in 22.4 minutes per game.

Contact Bobby Griffin at
rgf03@nd.edu

ND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

Notre Dame bows out in first round of Big Dance

Senior point guard Megan Duffy leads Irish all season, freshman shooting Lindsay S chrader ready to take torch

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

After starting the season with six straight victories, the Irish struggled for much of the rest of their schedule before losing to Boston College 78-61 in the first round of the NCAA Tournament in West Lafayette, Ind.

Senior point guard Megan Duffy led Notre Dame all sea-
sion, averaging 15.6 points, 4.1 assists and 3.9 rebounds in 38.4 minutes per game.

Notre Dame finished the year 18-12 (8-8 Big East). The NCAA Tournament loss marked the second straight season in which the Irish failed to advance to the Sweet 16. The team lost 70-61 to Arizona State in the second round in 2005.

"Obviously, this isn't the way I wanted to go out, and this isn't acceptable for the Notre Dame program," Duffy said after the loss to Boston College.

Notre Dame began the sea-
sion in the top-25 and moved all the way up to No. 10 with its 6-0 start, which included a win over Michigan at the Joyce Center and a 74-61 win over Indiana.

But Notre Dame lost 65-54 to Purdue Dec. 12, 87-86 to DePaul Dec. 18, and 62-51 to perennial powerhouse Tennessee at the Joyce Center.

"Obviously, this isn't the way I wanted to go out, and this isn't acceptable for the Notre Dame program," Duffy said after the loss to Boston College.

"That's a play we practice a lot when we go through game situations," Gaines said after the game. "Lindsay did a great job of finding me [after] Courtney threw a great pass."

But Notre Dame's run ended with two straight defeats.

Two months after the season ended, Schrader was one of 37 players invited to participate in the tryouts for the USA Under-20 national team.

Duffy was selected by the Minnesota Lynx in the third round of the WNBA Draft April 5. The Lynx will announce their roster for the upcoming season May 22.

Contact Ken Fowler at
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FOOTBALL

Weis brings new offense and success to Irish

By MIKE GILLOON
Sports Writer

Notre Dame ended the season with a 34-20 Fiesta Bowl defeat at the hands of Ohio State.

But first-year Irish coach Charlie Weis furthered his reputation as an offensive guru as Notre Dame broke dozens of offensive records on its way to a 9-3 season and the program's first BCS berth since the 2000 campaign.

Even so, the season highlight might not have come in the Arizona desert — where Ohio State sprinted past the Irish for the win — but in mid-October, when defending national champi-
on and then-No. 1 Southern California faced the Irish in Notre Dame Stadium.

The campus presence of ESPN shows College GameDay and Gold Pizza, as well as a Friday night pep rally in the stadium that drew over 45,000 fans, helped a game that gave Notre Dame a 17-minute timeout-of-possess-

ion — almost upset the Trojans, but USC quarterback Matt Leinart shook off the game line with seconds remaining to cap an epic final quarter and give the Trojans a 34-31 win.

Notre Dame opened the season Sept. 3 with a 42-21 rout over Pittsburgh at Heinz Field. Quinn set the season's tone by blazing a trail for Stovall. One- third running back Darius Walker and the second to junior wide receiver Jeff Samardzija, who was named a consensus All-American after making 77 receptions for 1,249 yards and 15 touchdowns. Samardzija had only 24 catches — none of them for touchdowns — in his two seasons under former Irish coach Tyree Willingham.

Weis joined Knute Rockne as the only Irish coaches to win their first two games on the road Sept. 10 when Notre Dame upset then-No. 3 Michigan in Ann Arbor. Quinn and the offense sputtered, but the defense — led by a Zbikowski interception for a touchdown and a goal-line fumble recovery from safety Chinedum Ndukwe — held the Wolverines in check.

The Irish entered their home opener Sept. 17 ranked No. 10 in the nation, but that the loss in South Bend was temporarily halved as Michigan State quarterback Drew Stanton threw for 327 yards and three touchdowns to defeat Notre Dame 44-41 in double over-
time thanks to a 19-yard, game-winning field goal by Jason Teague on an option pitch. The Spartan upset thwarted a 21-point comeback by the Irish as well as 487 passing yards and a then-school-record five touchdown passes by Quinn.

Notre Dame sailed through its next two games — both on the road — defeating Washington 36-17 Sept. 25 and Purdue 49-38 Oct. 1.

The team then had a bye week before welcoming Stanford with a 34-10 win over struggling Tennessee Nov. 5 as Zbikowski returned both a punt and an inter-
ception for touchdowns. The jun-
ior finished the season with four scores — two on interceptions and two on punt returns — to help earn him third-team All-America honors from the Associated Press.

The Irish then defeated Navy 42-21 Nov. 12 and Syracuse 34-10 Nov. 19 to enter their Nov. 23 road matchup with Stanford with an 8-2 record. Despite two touchdown receptions and 191 receiving yards from Samardzija, the star of the day was sophomore running back Darius Walker, whose six-yard touchdown run with 55 seconds remaining and subsequent two-point conversion gave the Irish a 38-31 win and catapulted them into the Fiesta Bowl. Weis rode the Cardinal on the conversion attempt, as he called a direct snap to Walker, who trotted into the end zone.

Walker ran for a career-best 186 yards on 35 carries to help the Irish avoid an upset at the hands of a pesky Cardinal squad and ended the season with 1,196 yards on 253 carries and nine touchdowns.

Contact Mike Gilloon at mgilloon@nd.edu

FOOTBALL RECRUITING

New Jersey wide receiver becomes fifth player in 2010 class

By BOBBY GRIFFIN and CHRIS KHOREY
Sports Writers

After the Tampa Bay Buccaneers drafted wide receiver Maurice Stovall in the third round of the 2006 NFL Draft, Irish head coach Charlie Weis needed an eventual replacement — and he might have found his man.

Duval Kamara, a 6-foot-3, 190-pound wide receiver according to Scout.com, from Hushken, N.J., verbally com-
mitted to Notre Dame May 11 on ESPN News.

"He's a tall guy who can get up and make some of the miraculous, circus-type catches that Stovall made so many of last year," Mike Frank of irisheyes.com said.

Frank also praised Kamara's quickness, which he said is better than Stovall's, and his ability to block downfield.

Kamara's high school (Hoboken High School) is a primarily run-dominated offense and Frank said the 6-foot-3 receiver displays an aggressive defensive mentality when it comes to blocking in run formations.

Kamara had 43 catches for 930 yards and 12 touchdowns last year as a junior for Hoboken High School. Frank said that while the wide out may compete for playing time his freshman year in 2007, he will have a lot of competition from his classmates and the many wide receivers that will already be on campus.

Weis has also extended class of 2010 scholarship offers to wide receivers Arrelious Benn (6-foot-2, 205 pounds, Washington D.C.), Greg Little (6-foot-3, 205 pounds, Durham, N.C.), and Deontez Thompson (5-foot-11, 186 pounds, Belie Glade, Fla). None of these three have given verbal commitments to Notre Dame.

"When it's all said and done, you're going to see three our standing receiver prospects in this class," Frank said. "In any other class, Duval might come in and play right away, but in this class you're going to have a lot of competition from the other members of his class plus the guys who came in last year."

"He's a tall guy who can get up and make some of the miraculous, circus type catches that Stovall made so many of last year," Mike Frank of irisheyes.com said.

Frank said Kamara becomes the latest verbal commitment in the class of 2010 already tight end Mike Weis (6-feet-5, 230 pounds, Arlington Heights, Ill.), linebacker 只有 (6-foot-1, 230 pounds, New Brit-

ish players after his first year at Notre Dame.

"He said the Jimmy Clausen commitment was something he considered, but he said that with or without Jimmy, Notre Dame was the right place for him," Frank said.

Frank said Weis would probably continue his recruiting momentum with another commitment in the coming months. Justin Trattou, a 6-foot-4, 250-pound defensive end out of Ramsay, N.J., is scheduled to announce his college choice June 1.

"I would be very surprised if he did not choose Notre Dame," Frank said of Trattou.

This year's recruiting class follows on the heels of the 2006 signing class, which was rated No. 5 in the country by scout.com. Weis signed 28 players after his first year at the helm.

"The talent level and skill level that Charlie Weis has brought in with these last two classes is definitely an upgrade from some of the guys that were being brought in before," Frank said.

Three members of the 2006 class — wide receiver Georige West, running back James Aldridge and offensive line-

man Chris Stewart — entered at Notre Dame in January and went through spring practice with the team. Several others, including offensive lineman Sam Young, linebacker Tureyan Smith and tight end Konrad Reuland, are expected to com-

pete for playing time next fall.

Contact Bobby Griffin at ggriff30@nd.edu and Chris Khorey at kkhorey@nd.edu
ND SOFTBALL

Irish squeeze out Big East tourney championship

By CHRIS KHOREY
Assistant Sports Editor

Despite an up-and-down season and a frustrating three-game losing streak late in the year, Notre Dame rebounded to win the Big East tournament and earn a berth in the NCAA Tournament, which will begin today against UC-Santa Barbara in Evanston, Ill.

The Irish (40-19) won the conference championship with a 1-0 victory over No. 18 Louisville in Evanston, which will begin today against Notre Dame rebounded to win the Big East tournament and earn a berth in the NCAA Tournament, which will begin today against UC-Santa Barbara in Evanston, Ill.

The Irish (40-19) won the conference championship with a 1-0 victory over No. 18 Louisville in Evanston, which will begin today against Notre Dame.

The Irish faced a tough early season against two-. The Irish faced a tough early season when the New York Islanders and U.S. National Development Team — after a successful tenure with Notre Dame's CCHA rival Lake Superior State, during which he won two Division-I national titles.

The Irish faced a tough early schedule in 2005-06, including a western road trip against two-CCHA powerhouses Michigan and Colorado College. Notre Dame dropped those three games 6-3 and 3-1, respectively, but got its first win of the year two games later against Princeton at the Joyce Center.

Walsh said the team's first win was important as a boost for the younger players, but that the team really started to mesh with Jackson's new systems a weekend later — against CCHA powerhouse Michigan.

"Even though we ended up losing both games, you can ask anybody — we dominated," Walsh said of the 8-5 and 4-2 losses.

"I wouldn't necessarily say it was a specific series that sparked a turnaround," Wallace said. "Right after Christmas break everybody seemed to step into their role and everyone was on the same page."

A 4-3 win and a 5-2 loss against Northern Michigan two weekends later — the first time the Irish came from behind to win — gave Jackson a better view of his team's progress.

Despite the winning two-half record Notre Dame rode into the playoffs, it was not enough to earn a second round berth as the Irish lost to No. 8 Nebraska-Omaha and evitar the regular season series finale against Alaska-Fairbanks. The Irish challenged Northern Michigan to every game, but ultimately could not finish. Rogers made 61 saves in two games, allowing four unearned goals, but ultimately couldn't win.

After a season in which coaching staff and players spent time adjusting to one another, it is necessary to take a look towards the future.

The freshman class consists of eight players — one goalie, three defensemen and four forwards. A majority of the class verbally committed to the Irish prior to Jackson's hiring in May of 2005. Goalie Tom O'Brien (Mokena, Ill.) and defensemen Brett Blachford (Tempe, Ariz.) and Jeff King (Rockford, Ill.) signed their letters of intent.

O'Brien had a 2.93 goals-against average and a .920 save percentage for the Bridgewater Bandits of the EHLC last season. The forward scored 11 goals (Gig Harbor, Wash.), Dan Kissel (Streamwood, Ill.), Christian Raduenz (Gig Harbor, Wash.), Dan Kissel (Streamwood, Ill.), Christian Raduenz (Gig Harbor, Wash.), and collected 54 points, scoring 20 goals and tallying 34 assists — the second most points on his team and good enough for 12th overall in the league.

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

HOCKEY

First-year coach earns confidence of team, more victories

By KYLE CASSILY
Sports Writer

Notre Dame earned eight more victories than its five-win 2004-05 season — finishing 13-19-4 after a 3-1 and 1-0 sweep at the hands of Alaska-Fairbanks in the first round of the CCHA playoffs, marking a distinct improvement in a one-year period.

Notre Dame compiled an 11-12-4 CCHA conference record — after winning just three conference games last season. The Irish secured home-ice advantage in the playoffs with the eighth best record in the CCHA.

"Perhaps the most noticeable change for the Irish this season was behind the boards. Those men were first-year head coach Jeff Jackson, new associate head coach Paul Posluszny, returning assistant coach Andy Slaggert and freshman goalie, assistant coach Jim Montgomery.

"There's not a better staff in college hockey," Irish senior alternate captain Mike Walsh said. "There could be a comparison between [Jackson] and [Irish head football coach] Charlie Weis in commitment and being educated about the game and expecting a lot from his players." Jackson joined the Irish after stints with the New York Islanders and U.S. National Development Team — after a successful tenure with Notre Dame's CCHA rival Lake Superior State, during which he won two Division-I national titles.

The Irish faced a tough early schedule in 2005-06, including a western road trip against two-CCHA powerhouses Michigan and Colorado College. Notre Dame dropped those three games 6-3 and 3-1, respectively, but got its first win of the year two games later against Princeton at the Joyce Center.

Walsh said the team's first win was important as a boost for the younger players, but that the team really started to mesh with Jackson's new systems a weekend later — against CCHA powerhouse Michigan.

"Even though we ended up losing both games, you can ask anybody — we dominated," Walsh said of the 8-5 and 4-2 losses.

Irish senior Tim Wallace felt the team really started to roll in early January — the Irish went 7-6-3 record starting with a Jan. 6 win against top-ranked Colorado College and ending with the regular season series finale against Alaska-Fairbanks. The Irish challenged Northern Michigan to every game, but ultimately couldn't finish. Rogers made 61 saves in two games, allowing four unearned goals, but ultimately couldn't win.

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Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

The University of Notre Dame's Science, Technology & Values Program in the College of Arts & Letters is pleased to announce the following graduating students for the Class of 2006

Sofia Ballon Hamann
Kristiana A. Bekhit
J. Bradford H. Bertsouman
Katherine E. Clark
Elizabeth M. Collins
Ryan A. Durfee
Lauren J. Frank
Katrina Gossett
Megan E. Holm
Deborah A. Hornacek
Alyssa K. Howell
Vasili K. Karas
Patrick F. Kaminski
Amy P. Kranz
Sarah Levin
Daniel Lloyd
Roger K. Madrid
Rory J. Makielski
Joseph J. Marmora
Kari L. Meersman
Caitlyn C. Mooney
Shannon K. McFadyen
Elizabeth O'Shaughnessy
Lauren R. Pallone
Lee C. Regner
Aaron C. Roberts
Andrew P. Roberts
Kathleen Roblez
Andrew M. Romano
Angelica Sandra
Madeline J. Saunders
Margaret M. Spring
Kathleen M. St. Martin
Jennifer N. Stall
Ann T. Tran
Daniel J. Weber
Karen E. Weil
Jessica R. Woesner
Katherine C. Zmolek
Craig Cooper continued from page 40
de his swing was long. There’s not any kind of pitcher that he fakes that he can’t hit.”

The slugger was voted sec­ond-team all-Big East his sophomore season and was awarded a spot on the third team last year. His .392 bat­ting average this season seems certain to secure an honor or two.

“I’ve said it many times that if Cooper isn’t Big East player of the year, there should be no investigation,” Mainieri said.

Cooper entered 2006 in third place on the all-time Big East career batting average list at .400. He credits his success to the confidence and discipline Mainieri has instilled in him while at Notre Dame.

“My confidence has grown just being here four years — coming to a program I knew was one of the top in the country [and] being able to compete with the best,” he said. “As you get older and play more games you get more patient and that has really helped me.”

His time with Notre Dame has only been part of the forma­tive process that has allowed him to strike fear in the eyes of pitchers everywhere in the Big East. In the summers of 2004 and 2005, Cooper played for the Whitecaps in the Cape Cod League — the pre­mier summer baseball league in the country.

Cooper was third on the Whitecaps with 17 RBIs and three home runs in 2004. He collected 12 doubles and three doubles in 2005:

“Playing in the Cape has been the biggest thing that’s helped me competition,” said Cooper.

“Everyday we were going out hitting against someone in the country. No, I pitch­er. By the end of the season your confidence grows that you can hit against these guys.”

Craig Cooper Irish first baseman

The hitting streak came trenched into Notre Dame’s record-setting 23-game winning streak and the hits stopped only a game before the wins did.

He has secured a hit in all but eight of his 46 games this season and has 35 RBIs, 32 walks and nine stolen bases so far.

But with both streaks now behind Cooper and the team, the senior can focus more on guiding Notre Dame deep into the Big East and NCAA Tournaments and toward his future beginning with the MLB draft in June.

“With his athleticism, strength, quality of swing, feel he has a chance to progress to pro ball,” Mainieri said. “He has a lot of the ingredients that pro teams look for. It’s a tough decision. I’d love to see him in pro ball, but I wouldn’t bet against Cooper.”

Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

The Irish collected wins over Pittsburgh, South Florida, Rutgers, Purdue and various non-conference foes during the non-conference portion of the season — including a dramatic 7-6 come-from-behind win against St. John’s on April 15.

“The guys took turns being heroes,” Irish coach Paul Mainieri said of his team dur­ing the streak. “It’s something we should be very proud of. That’s something they can never take away from us.”

One of those heroes on a consistent basis was senior first baseman Craig Cooper, who muscled out a 21-game hit streak within Notre Dame’s win streak. His consecutive hit mark was snapped a game prior to the win streak.

Notre Dame (35-14-1, 18-5-1 Big East) still has a firm grip on the Big East regular season title with a final conference-series remaining to be played this weekend against Villanova. Villanova holds an 8-3 record in conference play and resides in tenth place.

But the Irish have suffered from a recent string of close defeats, dropping four of their last six Big East games. Three out of the four losses were by a single run.

The losses came on the past two weekends to league rivals Louisville and Seton Hall, and Michigan took a 3-1 decision Tuesday from Notre Dame in non-conference play.

“They’re in a lot of [tight] games,” Mainieri said. “We’re winning most of them but it’s been a real grind for the players.”

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THE BEACON/The Observer in Notre Dame’s 12-1 win over Cleveland State May 2 at Frank Eck Stadium.

Irish gear up for Big East tournament after loss to Michigan

By KYLE CASSILY

SPORTS Writer

The 2006 campaign is not yet over for No. 19 Notre Dame — with the Big East tournament and an almost assured NCAA bid already — but the team has etched itself a permanent place in the Irish record books.

Starting with a 12-5 win against Georgetown in the nightcap of the 26-game doubleheader, the Irish won 23 straight games — surpassing the previous modern record of 18 set by the 1991 team — and took control of the Big East standings. The streak lasted a little over a month and ended with an 11-8 loss at the hands of Bowling Green.

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Contact Kyle Cassily at kcassily@nd.edu

Irish outfielder Cody Rizzo rounds third base during the Big East tournament beginning May 23 at Bright House Networks Field in Clearwater, Fla. The Philadelphia Phillies’ spring training comple­x, NCAA Regional play is slated to begin June 2 at campus sites. The Irish can earn a berth in the Big East tournament through an automatic berth via the Big East tournament or with an at-large selection.

THE HANCOCK/The Observer
The Alliance for Catholic Education is proud to welcome its thirteenth class of Catholic school teachers. We give thanks for their gift of service to America's Catholic schools. Please join us in congratulating the following 2006 graduates of Saint Mary's College and the University of Notre Dame.

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Kasey Farrell - Charlotte, North Carolina
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Sarah French - Brownsville, Texas
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Carolyn Gibbs - Los Angeles, California
Kevin Green - Los Angeles, California
Sarah Green - Mobile, Alabama
Katie Hammond - Jacksonville, Florida
Meghan Hanzlik - Plaquemine, Louisiana

Janet Ibarra - Kansas City, Kansas
Katie Key - Birmingham, Alabama
Pat Kurz - Austin, Texas
Katie Laird - Phoenix, Arizona
Dan Lovrisha - Tucson, Arizona
Jessica Maciejewski - Mission, Texas
Laura MacLean - Austin, Texas
Kyle Martin - Fort Worth, Texas
Margaret Morgan - Charlotte, North Carolina
Clare Murphy - Savannah, Georgia
Kathy Peterson - Biloxi, Mississippi
Lindsay Peterson - Phoenix, Arizona
Meghan Regan - Brownsville, Texas
Dan Reynolds - Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Mike Santos - Los Angeles, California
Michael Scully - Charlotte, North Carolina
Maureen Shields - Austin, Texas
Tyler Smith - Washington, D.C.
Michael Vanden Boom - Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Danielle Webber - Los Angeles, California
**Mattia**

continued from page 40

later, at the Hope College
Jamboree in Holland, Mich. 
Mattia earned a then-
career low 160 over two 
rounds to lead Saint Mary’s 
to a victory in the three-team 
tournament. She finished the 
year with an 82.60 scoring 
average, lowest on the team 
and better than teammate 
and eventual national cham-
pon Stefanie Simmerman. 
In her sophomore year, 
Mattia posted an 84.60 scor-
ing average in the fall semes-
ter, the Belles returned to the 
NCAA championships that 
spring, although this time 
without Mattia, who was 
studying abroad in Italy for 
the semester. 
Returning to the United 
States for her junior year, 
Mattia posted an 84.56 scor-
ing average and shot 340 
over four rounds to tie for 
26th place as the Belles took 
sixth at the NCAs. 
Mattia finishes her career 
with a personal best of 154 
for two rounds. She set that

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**Soccer**

continued from page 40

became the locker room leader 
and the force behind second-
semester freshman Kerri Hanks’ emergence as the premier young 
goal-scorer in the country. 
Besides being top-flight players, 
Thorlakson called the entire team 
“really good friends.”

“And that’s what makes it so special,” she said. 
Thorlakson finished her career 
with 55 goals and 73 assists for 
183 points.

After a surprising snub to end 
her junior season, Thorlakson 
earned first-team All-America 
honors in 2005. Only Portland’s 
Christine Sinclair kept 
Thorlakson from collecting the 
coveted Missouri Athletic Club 
Hermann Trophy awards.

Thorlakson tore her ACL last 
season, Thorlakson said she tried 
to play as hard and as aggressive 
as former Irish standout Melissa 
Tancredi. Tancredi served as the 
defensive centerpiece on Notre 
Dame’s championship team in 
2004 and now plays for the 
Canadian National Team.

“I’m just looking forward to get-
ing back and playing with 
Sinclair again,” she said. 
At the end of the 2005 regular 
season, Thorlakson said she tried 
to play as hard and as aggressive 
as former Irish standout Melissa 
Tancredi. Tancredi served as the 
defensive centerpiece on Notre 
Dame’s championship team in 
2004 and now plays for the 
Canadian National team with 
Thorlakson.

Thorlakson said her youth in 
Langley kept her removed from 
the NCAA so much that she had 
no idea what to expect when she 
came to Notre Dame.

“I didn’t even know what con-
ference we’re in,” she said. “I didn’t 
even know we were playing for 
a national championship.”

But watching the upperclass-
men on the team during her 
freshman season — in which 
Notre Dame finished 13-8 — 
changed all that. And the national 
championship two years later 
changed the status of Notre Dame 
soccer.

“[2002] was a pretty rough sea-
son,” Thorlakson said. “The sen-
iors this year paved a pretty hard 
road that the upcoming freshman 
won’t have to.”

She said her favorite memory 
besides the national champi-
onship was Notre Dame’s 5-2 vic-
tory over Santa Clara on Sept. 5, 
2004 at Alumni Field.

“It was my favorite game prob-
ably,” Thorlakson said. “Notre 
Dame was so fun. I had never 
played with that type of team. I 
had the time of my life.”

What Thorlakson did while 
having the time of her life was to 
re-establish Notre Dame as a 
prominent power.

“We’re coming back every year 
with top-10 teams,” she said. 
“You can’t really look at it as a 
bad year when you lose to the 
eventual national champions.”

Contact Ken Fowler at 
kfowlerl@nd.edu

Irish forward Kaitie Thorlakson moves upfield in Notre Dame’s 5-
2 win over Yale Nov. 18.

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AR: Kristen 
Hempstead
There will also be new offices, teams will have a similar new Joyce Center. The lacrosse games on the easternmost edge Athletics Complex. One of the for construction just to the west track and field facility is slotted adjacent on the southern end to southeast corner of campus, ing to spend about 15 million dollars," White said. "We're look­connected to the north dome.

Other parts of the plan calls for softball's facility — current­ly Ivy Field — to move to the southeast corner of campus, adjacent on the southern end to Frank Eck Stadium. A new track and field facility is slated for construction just to the west of the new softball field. Men's and women's soccer, which currently play home games on the easternmost edge of campus at Alumni Field, will have a new 2,000 seat stadium adjacent to the east side of the Joyce Center. The lacrosse teams will have a similar new facility just east of the new soccer field. Both stadiums will include team meeting rooms, a lounge, locker rooms and rest­rooms.

The football team's practice fields will be altered as part of the plan so all players will be along the road that separates them from Guglielmino Athletics Complex. One of the three practice fields will then have artificial turf.

What's more, the outdoor tennis facility will be moved from its current location next to the Eck Tennis Pavilion to the cur­rent site of Ivy Field. The men's and women's soccer practice fields will be moved adjacent to where Alumni Field cur­rently stands.

White also touched on a variety of other issues:

♦ White said Notre Dame is committed to playing seven home games four road games and an "off-site game" controlled by Notre Dame in the future. He said the off-site game will have ticket sales the same way a Notre Dame home game does, and that will increase the success rate of individuals who enter the ticket lottery on a yearly basis. White also said that the pre­arranged game at the Meadowlands in East Rutherford, N.J., will be one of the four "road" games, not the "off-site game."

♦ "In a way, that gives us access to nine games," White said, referring to Notre Dame's large fan base in the New York metropolitan area.

White said the "off-site" game will either be held in Jacksonville, Fla., Orlando, New Orleans or Dallas. He said Notre Dame will not negotiate with the stadiums what teams the Irish will play in those games.

He said the implementation of the off-site game will help national recruiting efforts.

"What we're looking for is to grab the headlines in the area," White said.

White emphasized that this off-site game is just one more way Notre Dame is trying to move "further away" from conference affiliation and solidify its place as an independent.

"I think over time, we have really behaved like a wannabe conference member," he said. "But I think that we want to return to the "barn­storming" era of Knute Rockne."

White said that Notre Dame does not need to make its schedule any tougher.

"We need to schedule in a way it puts us in a position to win national championships," he said. "We could have a great football team and schedule our­selves out of a championship."

White said that having a top­five strength of schedule is not conducive to realizing the end goal of any football season.

"The last time I checked, the most important thing here is to try to win national champi­onships," he said. "That's what we're trying to do."

♦ White said he was disappointed that radio-broadcasting company Westwood One will not use 26-year veteran Tony Roberts on their radio broad­casts of Irish football games next fall and that Notre Dame played no role in the decision-making process.

Westwood One chose to phase Roberts out of future broad­casts, but Roberts declined to come back after contract nego­tiations for what would have been Roberts' final two years failed.

"I have great respect for Tony and am very disappointed that that outcome became a reality," White said.

♦ White speculated qualitatively about possible scenarios in which football coach Charlie Weis would leave Notre Dame. Declining to offer specific num­bers, White called the buyout option is Weis' 10-year contract "irrele­vant" and said that no coach at Notre Dame has a "parachute clause" in which they can choose to leave the school for specific other institu­tions or professional teams.

♦ Addressing the men's bas­ketball team's failure to reach the NCAA Tournament three straight seasons, White said he wants the program to rise to the status of "elite.""

"Who isn't frustrated? The guy who is the most frustrated is [Irish coach] Mike Brey," White said. "I think Mike is a very good basketball coach and I think we've got a chance to become an elite program."

♦ During the meeting, asso­ciate athletic director John Heisler said Notre Dame's foot­ball game against Air Force Nov. 11 likely will be televised only on College Sports Television Network because of Air Force's new contract with CSTV that gives the network exclusive rights to all home games.

White said he is concerned that many fans may not have access to the game. He said Notre Dame will consider the television situation in future negotiations to make "return" games after a team plays at Notre Dame Stadium.

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Irish move in different direction: Willingham fired, Weis hired

November-December, 2004

The news stunned a grey Notre Dame campus on the morning of Nov. 30, as head football coach Tyrone Willingham was fired after three seasons with the Irish. Willingham started 8-0 but finished his tenure at Notre Dame with a 21-15 record and three 31 point losses to USC. There was a large outcry in the media and on campus about the removal of Willingham having racial implications. After rumors that Irish athletic director Kevin White was close to hiring former Utah coach Urban Meyer, Meyer spurned Notre Dame for Florida — leading to the eventual hiring of New England Patriots' offensive coordinator, and four-time Super Bowl winner, Charlie Weis on Dec. 14. Weis brought a pro-style offense to Notre Dame that shattered every major single-season passing record en route to a 9-3 season. His impact was felt immediately as the Irish jumped ahead of Pittsburgh 35-13 in the first half of the season. Weis led the team to credibility with a 34-31 loss against then-No. 1 USC.

ND-USC lives up to pre-game hype

College Gameday came to campus as more than 40,000 fans attended the Friday night pep rally before a matchup between the No. 1 and No. 9 teams in the country. The game, watched by an estimated 30 million people, matched the hype as Matt Leinart's touchdown won the contest with three seconds left.

Women's soccer wins national title

After an impressive regular season that saw the women's soccer team Irish with a 24-1-1 overall record, the Irish won the National Championship against UCLA on Dec. 5. It was the first national title since 1995, one that came after two overtime periods and penalty kicks.

Brey-coached Irish find Sweet success

As the No. 5 seed in the West Regional, Mike Brey led the men's basketball team to the Sweet 16 for the first time since 1987. Brey took over as head coach in 2000 and has steadily improved the basketball program. Under his guidance, his teams qualified for three straight NCAA Tournaments.

Fencers win two titles in three years

In 2003, Notre Dame won its first National Championship since 1994 — after finishing second or third every year since then. In 2005, they proved victorious again, winning their second title. Since 2002, Irish fencers have won individual national titles, with senior foilist Alleja Kryczalo winning three.

Baseball team wins 23 straight games

First baseman Craig Cooper has a 21-game hit streak in the midst of the team's longest winning streak of the modern era. Notre Dame's winning ways pushed the team all the way to No. 2 in the Baseball America poll. The streak ended with an 11-8 home loss to Bowling Green.

Pilots stop women's soccer repeat hopes

In the 2005 Elite Eight, Portland squashed Notre Dame's dreams for repeat titles en route to winning a national title of its own. The game, held at Portland's Merlo Field, featured the top two players in college soccer — Pilots forward Christine Sinclair and Irish forward Katie Thorlakson.

Hockey earns first ever NCAA bid

As the No. 4 seed in the Grand Rapids regional, the Irish advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the first time in the program's 26-year history. Coach Dave Poulin's team played a difficult schedule during the regular season to earn the at-large bid, including a win over then-No. 1 Boston College.

Women's golf makes NCAA's

For the first time in the 16-year history of the program, the Irish earned a bid in the NCAA Tournament. The Irish received the No. 19 seed at the Central Regional at Illinois State by winning a school-record four tournaments during the regular season, including their second consecutive Big East championship.
Men's soccer takes down defending national champions, women's

Aug. 28 — Freshman Keerti Hanks scores four goals in Notre Dame's 6-0 win over Vermont in women's soccer for a total of seven goals in her first two collegiate games.

Sept. 3 — Notre Dame football routs Pittsburgh 42-21 at Heinz Field in the team's first game under Charlie Weis.

Sept. 10 — Charlie Weis becomes the first Irish football coach since Knute Rockne to win his first two games on the road as Notre Dame tops Michigan 17-10 at the Big House in Ann Arbor.

Sept. 11 — Notre Dame women's golf wins the Notre Dame Women's Invitational at the Warren Golf Course by nine strokes over Toledo.

Oct. 22 — Brady Quinn throws six touchdown passes and Maurice Stovall catches four to set program records in Notre Dame's 49-23 victory over BYU.

Nov. 6 — Five players score for Notre Dame women's soccer as the Irish defeat Connecticut 5-0 for their first Big East postseason title in five years.

Nov. 21 — Notre Dame's cross-country team finishes third and women's cross-country team finishes fourth at the NCAA Championships in Terre Haute, Ind.

Dec. 5 — The Fiesta Bowl selects Notre Dame football for its first BCS appearance since 2000.

Dec. 6 — The BCS title game between Notre Dame and Ohio State.

Dec. 7 — Chris Truitt scores a goal with nine seconds left as Notre Dame hockey defeats Minnesota State 3-2 in a non-conference game.

Jan. 3 — Ohio State wins the Fiesta Bowl 34-20 over Notre Dame in football.

Nov. 8 — Notre Dame women's golf takes victory place in the Lady Jaguar Invitational in August, Ga.

Dec. 25 — Portland defeats the Irish 3-1 in the quarterfinals of the NCAA women's soccer tournament to stop Notre Dame's quest for a second straight national title.

December

Dec. 25 — Notre Dame's men's basketball team faces off against Oklahoma State in the NCAA Tournament.

January

Jan. 4 — Christian Petralia scores 37 points, including 30 after halftime — but Notre Dame men's basketball falls 100-97 to Pittsburgh in double overtime.

SPORTS
Year in Review
lacrosse turns the corner, men’s golf wins third straight league title

burst onto the scene in 2005, emerging as Notre Dame’s fourth runner and finishing in the top 15 in four of the five races she appeared in. Notre Dame finished third or higher in every meet but the NCAAs, and won the National Catholic Championship Sept. 16 for the fourth straight time and the twelfth time in the last 14 years.

Women’s Golf
Notre Dame ended its roller coaster season with a third-place finish in the Big East tournament in Dade City, Florida April 25. Overall, the Irish went 80-47 against all opponents and took home one tournament championship— the Notre Dame Invitational Sept. 11.

Junior Noriko Nakazaki led the Irish with a 75.65 scoring average and won the individual title at the Notre Dame Invitational. Sophomore Jane Lee had the second lowest average on the team with a 76.41 average. Seniors Katie Brophy and Lauren Gebauer were also regulars in the Notre Dame lineup, combining for three top-10 finishes.

Freshman Lisa Maunu made an impact in her first year, competing in all nine tournaments and posting a 79.81 scoring average and two top-10 finishes.

Lee decided after the season to turn professional. She will compete in the LPGA’s juniors program this summer with a chance to make the regular tour in the later fall.

Crew
The Irish capped off a successful season with a Big East title and their highest-ever finish in a regional meet— taking third in the Central-South Regional Championships in Oak Ridge, Tenn. May 14.

Notre Dame’s first varsity eight won the grand final at regionals, finishing first in the race for the first time in program history. The Irish finished in 6:26.00, edging out No. 4 Ohio State by 8.2 of a second.

On April 30, Notre Dame won the Big East Championship meet in Worcester, Mass., taking four grand finals. Head coach Martin Stone and his staff were named the Big East Coaching Staff of the Year award.

Notre Dame’s season concludes with the NCAA Championship in Columbus, Ohio. Hutchinson, who swam the 500 freestyle, 6:50.04 and 400 individual medley, became just the fifth Irish freshman to qualify for four events.

At the national meet, Carroll set the school record in the 300 individual medley with a time of 2:00.48.

Men’s Soccer
Notre Dame (12-8-4) upset No. 3 seed and two-time defending national champion Indiana 2-0 in the second round of the NCAA Tournament on Nov. 22 before falling to Clemson 1-0 in the Sweet Sixteen to end its 2005 season.

The Irish, who had lost to Indiana 3-0 at home only a month before, came back behind goals from junior Justin McGeeney and sophomore Joe Lapira and a six-save performance from junior goalkeeper Chris Cahill to upset the Hoosiers. Notre Dame defeated Western Illinois 2-0 at home in the first round to advance to play Indiana. Lapira led the team in scoring with seven goals and was one of 12 bids.

Jamie Afridi
Irish cross country runner

assists on the year while McGeeney tallied five goals for the Irish. St. John’s forced Notre Dame to bow out in the second round of the Big East tournament with a 1-0 loss on Nov. 5. The Irish faced the Red Storm after they defeated Syracuse 4-2 in penalty kicks in the first round of the conference tournament when regulation ended in a scoreless tie.

Men’s Cross-Country
Notre Dame captured a third-place finish at the NCAA Championships in Terre Haute, Ind. Nov. 21 behind the legs of junior Kurt Benninger, who crossed the finish line in eighth place for the 10,000-meter race.

Benninger posted a time of 29:50.2, while teammates Tim Moore and Caleb Van Ort placed 31st and 41st, respectively, with times of 30:15.0 and 30:40.0. Benninger finished 34.3 seconds behind overall winner Simon Bairu of Wisconsin.

The Irish were beat out by Wisconsin and Arkansas for the NCAA title in the 31-team field.

Everyone was pretty disappointed after last year’s NCAA meet,” Irish sophomore Jamie Afridi said. “After a solid indoor/outdoor track season, the guys put in a solid summer and got right back to work on the golf course. Every workout and every race was a total team effort, and the result was a third-place finish against the best competition in the nation.”

Notre Dame men’s tennis takes down Texas A&M in the second round of the NCAA Tournament after losing 4-1 to Louisville in the Big East finals.

April 25 — Notre Dame men’s golf collects its third straight Big East Championship by erasing a 12-shot deficit in the first round and beat Louisville on the first playoff hole.

April 14 — Heather Booth throws a one-hitter as Notre Dame softball wins the Big East championship 5-0 over Pittsburgh.

May 13 — Notre Dame men’s tennis takes down Texas A&M in the second round of the NCAA Tournament after losing 4-1 to Louisville in the Big East finals.

May 16 — Crysti Foote is named one of five finalists for the Naismith Trophy, given annually to the best men’s and women’s collegiate lacrosse players in the country.

May 16 — Notre Dame women’s crew gets its first-ever berth to the NCAA Championship by earning one of 12 bids.

Feb. 18 — Notre Dame men’s swimming and diving earns its second straight Big East title, and the women’s swimming and diving team tops Rutgers by 18 points for its 10th consecutive conference title.

Feb. 19 — Irish sprinter Maryann Rinaldi wins the 200-meter dash at the Big East indoor championship with a time of 23.96 seconds as Notre Dame wins the women’s competition.

Feb. 25 — Tuyah Gaines hits a buzzer-beater layup at the end of regulation for Notre Dame women’s basketball, and the Irish beat Cincinnati 75-66 in double overtime.

March 4 — Notre Dame beats DePaul 66-61 in men’s basketball to earn the final spot in the Big East tournament.

March 5 — Senior captain Crysti Foote’s three goals lead No. 17 Notre Dame women’s lacrosse to a 17-15 victory over No. 18 Cornell as the Irish improve to 4-0 a year after finishing 3-12.

March 20 — Michigan guard Dion Harris hits a buzzer-beater 3-pointer in double overtime to beat Notre Dame men’s basketball 87-84 in the second round of the NIT.

April 25 — Notre Dame men’s golf collects its third straight Big East Championship by erasing a 12-shot deficit in the first round and beat Louisville on the first playoff hole.

April 15 — Notre Dame women’s tennis takes down Texas A&M in the second round of the NCAA Tournament after losing 4-1 to Louisville in the Big East finals.

March 9 — Notre Dame earns a fourth place finish in the NCAA fencing championship as junior Patrick Ghattas finished second in the men’s sabre for the second straight year.

March 19 — Lindsay McCarler scores 29 points but Notre Dame women’s basketball loses 78-61 to Boston College in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

May 7 — Notre Dame men’s lacrosse earns its first-ever berth to the NCAA Championship after posting a 10-4 record.

May 5 — Irish women’s tennis players Catrina and Christian Thompson earn their third straight bid to the NCAA Championships as the No. 3 seed in the doubles draw as Catrina also earns a berth on the singles side.

February
March
April
May

The Championships were the finale of a season in which the Irish took first-place at the Valparaiso Invitational and Big East championships. The team earned second-place honors at the National Catholic Championships, Notre Dame Invitational, Pre-National Championship and the NCAA Great Lakes Regional.
Basketball
Saint Mary's proved it could play with the best in the MIAA.

A year after compiling an 11-15 record, including a 6-10 conference mark, the Belles earned their first winning conference record (9-7) and captured the No. 4 seed in the league tournament.

But the off-season for Saint Mary's had been rocky as the athletic department did not renew the contract of first-year coach Steve Bender after he won MIAA coach of the year honors.

After the decision, Saint Mary's officials declined to comment on the specifics of the matter, saying they would address personnel issues. A replacement has not yet been named.

The Belles began the season with a 68-51 loss to Hanover but responded with a 66-61 win over Franklin.

Four consecutive losses followed — including a trip to conference foe Hope — but Saint Mary's righted its ship with consecutive wins over MIAA opponents Adrian and Alma to move to 2-1 in the conference.

The Belles went 1-2 in the non-conference Clark College tournament during winter break but returned to league action in January with a 51-45 win over Tri-State.

Following losses to Olivet and Calvin, Saint Mary's took league contests over Kalamazoo and Albion to improve to 5-3 in the conference.

The Belles then lost their second meeting with Adrian but won three in a row against Alma, Tri-State and Olivet to move to 8-4 in the conference. Saint Mary's lost to Calvin and then best Kalamazoo in its third-to-last regular season game to reach nine league wins for the first time in history.

But the Belles' run ended there, as Saint Mary's lost its final two regular season games — against Albion and Hope — and fell behind Alma in the first round of the MIAA tournament.

Cross Country
Junior Sara Otto and senior Becky Feauto led the Belles to their best-ever finish at the 2005 MIAA championship meet, as Saint Mary's finished fifth in the six-kilometer race hosted by Calvin College in Riverbend Park, Muskegon, Mich.

Saint Mary's previous best finish in the conference championship was sixth. This year, the Belles' team score of 163 beat Olivet (183), Alma (183), Adrian (227) and Tri-State (257).

The meet capped a season in which Feauto and Otto finished first and second on the squad almost every week and led the Belles to several strong finishes.

Saint Mary's finished the 2005 season in style with several runners capturing personal bests in the Division III Great Lakes Regionals at Voice of America Park.

Nelis won the 200-meter and 500-meter freestyle events.

Saint Mary's athletic director Lynn Kachmarik said Feauto and Otto specialized for the underclassmen. Dingeman recorded the team's best time in the 5,000-meter run.

Saint Mary's righted its ship with consecutive wins over MIAA opponents Adrian and Alma to improve to 5-3 in the conference.

The Belles finished 11-18 (5-12 MIAA) for the underclassmen. Dingeman recorded the team's best time in the 5,000-meter run.

Winter Sports
Soccer
Senior Becky Feauto and junior Sara Otto led the Belles throughout the year.

Saint Mary's had its best MIAA season in school history, winning nine games. But the Belles lost in the first round of the league tournament and the school did not renew the contract of MIAA coach of the year Steve Bender.

Soccer: Saint Mary's posted six shutouts en route to another strong season in the MIAA. The Belles finished the year on a three-game winning streak.

Swimming: Saint Mary's finished fifth in the MIAA championship meet, coming in fifth place at the event.

Tennis: The Belles finished fifth in the MIAA as Kristen Palombo earned second-team all-league honors after leading Saint Mary's all season.

Volleyball: Three Belles earned All-MIAA honors after a tough season for Saint Mary's. Junior Anne Cianci earned second-team All-MIAA honors, while junior Kristen Playko and senior Shelly Benders earned honorable mentions.

Swimming: Saint Mary's athletic director Lynn Kachmarik served as interim head coach for the Belles in the 2005-06 season before the team introduced James Dinh-Thinh as head coach Feb. 24.

The Belles' regular season came to an end Jan. 28, when they dropped two home meets to Albion and Calvin by scores of 119-60 and 143-59, respectively.

The team was guided by its seniorcaptains Katie Dingeman and Kelly Nels. Throughout the campaign, Kachmarik said Dingeman and Nels were strong examples for the underclassmen. Dingeman recorded a time of 1:08.13 in the 100-meter butterfly at the MIAA Championship meet.

In the Belles' final regular season meet, Nels recorded the team's best time in the 500 freestyle, coming away with a 5:34.74 and earning second place overall.

After losing 8-1 to both Calvin and Indiana Wesleyan in the beginning of the season, the Belles won 14 regular season matches, Saint Mary's coach just as effectively as captains Dingeman and Nels did this year.

Saint Mary's finished the 2005 season in style with several runners capturing personal bests in the Division III Great Lakes Regionals at Voice of America Park.

Nelis won the 200-meter and 500-meter freestyle events.

Basketball earns best conference record ever, cross country finishes fifth

The Belles look forward to next year and hope that junior Karla McGough, Sarah Budd and Mary Stanekas, all of whom specialized in the freestyle, will be able to step up to the plate and assume the leadership role for the Belles just as effectively as captains Dingeman and Nels did this year.

Saint Mary's last team win came April 12 against Kalamazoo, a thrilling 5-4 victory in which the Belles captured the final four matches of the match.

McDavitt and Calie Mackey combined for a second-place finish at the MIAA meet in the No. 1 doubles competition.

Saint Mary's last win came April 12 against Kalamazoo, a thrilling 5-4 victory in which the Belles captured the final four singles matches of the match.

McDavitt sparked the rally with her 6-4, 6-0 victory over Kalamazoo's Laura Spencer for Saint Mary's first singles win of the season.

Volleyball
Three Belles earned All-MIAA honors after a tough season for Saint Mary's.

Junior Anne Cianci earned second-team All-MIAA honors, while junior Kristen Playko and senior Shelly Benders earned honorable mentions.

The Belles finished 11-18 (5-12 MIAA) after losing six of seven matches to begin the season.

At the Elmhurst College Invitational, Saint Mary's dropped its first nine sets against Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Elmhurst and St. Scholastica before rebounding with a straight-set victory over Blackburn.

The Belles then began their MIAA schedule with a 3-1 loss in Hope before taking three of five matches at the non-conference Wooster College Invitational.

The high point of the season came when Saint Mary's earned three straight victories in the month of September — a 2-0 win over Kalamazoo and Manchester. All three matches went to five sets.

But the Belles dropped both of their games at the SMU Triangulator Sept. 24 and won just four more times in their final 13 contests.

Saint Mary's lost its final two regular season games — against Albion and Hope — and fell behind Alma in the first round of the MIAA tournament.

Cross Country: The Belles earned their best ever finish at the MIAA championship meet, coming in fifth place at the event.

Senior Becky Feauto and junior Sara Otto led the team throughout the year.

Soccer: Saint Mary's posted six shutouts en route to another strong season in the MIAA. The Belles finished the year on a three-game winning streak.

Swimming: Saint Mary's did not win a dual meet in the season but had several swimmers post personal best times at the league championship meet.

Tennis: The Belles finished fifth in the MIAA as Kristen Palombo earned second-team all-league honors after leading Saint Mary's all season.

Volleyball: Three Belles earned All-MIAA honors after a tough season for Saint Mary's. Junior Anne Cianci earned second-team All-MIAA honors, while junior Kristen Playko and senior Shelly Benders earned honorable mentions.

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Natalie Richardson, 42; Louis Farrakhan, 72; Monty Sait, 78; Jonathan Jackson, 22

Happy Birthday: Everything you do this year will make a difference to your future. Financial gains can be made, but only if you are willing to do something unique. If there is something you want, realize that you will have to fight for it. This can be a great year — but it will require effort on your part. Your numbers are 5, 18, 27, 36, 37, 39.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Traveling to a destination that is inspiring and creative will get you moving in a whole new direction. Communicating with people in the know or who have experience you lack will help you make a breakthrough this month. **

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): The more you look back at your goals and aspirations from the past, the easier you will come to realizing some of your dreams. A reality hit because you may be too afraid to do exactly what you have to do. You could be trying to do too many things now. You could be a part of that industry, organization or culture in some way. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Things are heating up in your world. Stay calm and make the most of some good opportunities that are present. Plan some form of entertainment that will allow you to mix business with pleasure. A posture evening is in order. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You’ll be feeling a little restless today. Make some changes to your surroundings. The more you can do to spruce up your living space, the better. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): This will be a hectic day. You will be involved in a wide variety of projects. It will take organization and patience to get everything done the way you want. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Don’t let things get to you today. Bring overly concerned about a problem you think you are having will cause the situation to escalate. Avoid being judgmental. Keep and observe without taking over. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You’ll have some interesting ideas about your future and how to make changes leading to a better life. Personal alterations will take you by surprise. **

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): It’s time to collect old debts and to clear up money matters. Once you sort the bull, you will feel much better about your future. A larger budget or a solid investment will get you moving in the right direction. ****

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Just when you think you’ve figured everything out, something will happen that will change your mind. Love is prominent, but make sure you stick to your own. Spreading yourself around or leading someone on will come back to haunt you. ***

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Keep your nose out of everyone else’s business and you will do much better today. Arguments will not solve problems. Pushing your will on someone will lead to opposition. ****

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your generosity may be welcomed and appreciated, but it may leave you feeling cash poor. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): You may have the discipline to get things done, but you are likely to cause ill feelings with someone if you go about things without proper approval. **

Birthday Baby: You are changeable, versatile and very interested in everything without getting approval. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Your generosity may be welcomed and appreciated, but it may leave you feeling cash poor. *****

Eugenia’s Web sites: astroadvice.com for fun, eugenialast.com for confidential
ND ATHLETICS

White unveils master plan for athletic facilities

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Notre Dame athletic director Kevin White unveiled an aerial rendering of what will be a $100 million plan to renovate athletic facilities on the east side of campus Tuesday. White did not announce a timetable for construction of the new facilities, which will complement the Guglielmino Athletics Complex and 10,000-square-foot indoor golf facility slated to open by September as part of a "master plan" for athletic facilities on campus.

The blueprint White unveiled includes a 30,000-square foot addition to the south dome of the Joyce Athletic and Convocation Center to be used for ticket offices and a lounge from which fans could enter basketball games, revamped hockey facilities and a redesign of the existing athletic facilities adjacent to Joy Field.

"What the project we're most excited about is Joyce South," White said in the scheduled informal meeting with the media at Greenfield's Café that became an impromptu news conference. "It will be all state of the art. ... We think this project — a twenty-five million dollar project — is a pretty substantial need."

White said the basketball arena will get all new seating back for the arena, and the lounge will include a "Stadium Club" type area for spectators.

The current hockey arena in the north dome will be completely redesigned, according to the plan. White said the new facility will include approximately 4,000 full seats and a 2,000-seat lounge that the one planned for the south dome as part of the new "boutique, high end" arena. He said the architectural design firm HNTB has already completed the schematics for the project. White did not announce a timetable for the $100 million plan.

OUTSTANDING SENIOR ATHLETES

Top of their class

Katie Thorlakson led Notre Dame to 2004 NCAA Championship

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Irish forward Katie Thorlakson started 37 of 43 games during her first two years at Notre Dame — but she really made her mark after scoring or assisting on 18 of her team's top five for the day, is round that was not in the team's top five for the day, is one of the best players he's ever worked with.

"She's been solid from day one on campus," Hamilton said. "Without a doubt she's been the most consistent player that I've ever had or that Saint Mary's has ever had."

Mattia's appearance at the NCAA's was her third in four years, but her first as an individual. The senior worked out on the course by herself for most of the week leading up to the tournament.

"We played as a team right up until a week before nationals," Hamilton said. "That last week I worked with her a little, but she was mostly on her own."

With the performance, Mattia earned an honorable mention to the All-America team. She was also named to the All-Region first team this season.

Mattia was the low scorer for the Belles in every tournament they played this season, winning three tournaments, finishing second in another. Mattia was also named the MVP as Saint Mary's won the MIAA championship Oct. 8 in Grand Rapids, Mich. On March 19, the third day of the Shamrock Invitational in Tega City, S.C., Mattia shot 74, tied for the lowest score ever by a Saint Mary's golfer. Hamilton said he thought the round was unparalleled in school history.

"I feel that that's best round ever shot at Saint Mary's," Hamilton said. "It was a tough golf course and we were the only Division III team there."

Mattia made an immediate impact upon her arrival in 2002. She carded a two-round score of 183 in her first collegiate tournament in Big Rapids, Mich. That score was good enough for fourth on the team.

She had the low score for the Belles for the first time in her career four tournaments.

Golfer Megan Mattia led Saint Mary's to five tournament wins this year

By KYLE CASSILY
Assistant Sports Editor

For her entire career, Megan Mattia has been near the top of the leader board. The Saint Mary's senior finished his spectacular career Saturday by competing as an individual at the NCAA Division III championships in Howey-in-the-Hill, Florida.

The Irish went 9-3 and 2-1 in their first season under head coach Charlie Weiss.

Recent losses have brought the Irish back to earth after a 21-game winning streak in March and April.

By CHRIS KHOREY
Assistant Sports Editor

Left, Irish forward Katie Thorlakson dribbles the ball in Notre Dame's 5-2 win over Yale Nov. 18.

Top of their class

Katie Thorlakson led Notre Dame to 2004 NCAA Championship

By KEN FOWLER
Sports Editor

Recent losses have brought the Irish back to earth after a 21-game winning streak in March and April.
CONGRATULATIONS
CLASS OF 2006
CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations, Allison!

We celebrate your success and we will always treasure the beauty and traditions of Notre Dame!

We love you!
Dad, Mom, Christopher and "Biscuit"

Angel Bunny,

We are so proud

Love,
Mom, Rocky & Michelle

Ian: Congratulations !!!!

Your dream of graduating from Notre Dame is achieved. Hope is the great power that can move you to further success. God will give you the aspiration and enthusiasm to continue achieving your dreams. Hold nothing back to your life projects but give them all you've got.

Love you always, with all the pride that can be had,

Mom and Dad
During the years ahead, when you come to a fork in the road, take it.
Love, Mom and Dad

Diane, We are so proud of all your accomplishments -- from your first dance recital to your last performance at ND, and EVERYTHING in between. Congratulations!
Love, Mom, Dad and Tracy

Congratulations - EAB. Thank you for being who you are! An awesome daughter & domer.

Congratulations Eddie! Be proud of all of your accomplishments!

To our very own Rudy. Congratulations and may God bless you always.
Love, Mom, Save, Brigitte and Pop*

Congratulations Patrick! We are so proud of you!
Love, Mom Dad, Katie & Meaghan
Congratulations Ryan.
We are so proud of all your accomplishments!
Love, Mom & Dad

You’ve always been our Supergirl.
Love, Dad, Mom, & Katie

Your dream became a reality!! We are so very, very proud of you Laura!
We wish you continued success in everything you do.

Love you!
Mom, Dad, David, Brian

Congratulations, Kathy!
Love, Mom & Dad

You did it, Moo Moo! We are so proud of you!
Love, Greg, Rita & Michael
Natalie Noelle Cal

Natalie! Congratulations!

We are proud of you. A wonderful world in need of your talents and your heart and your soul awaits you. One day at a time, one person at a time, we know you make a difference.

Love always from
Mom, Dad, Javy and all your family

Snip -
You made the right choice after all!
We are so proud of you!

Love, your family

"The journey is the reward."

Congratulations Rory upon completion of the first phase of your journey. We wish you success and happiness in the next phase. We are proud to call you our son and our brother.

Much love,
Mom, Dad, Maeve, & Kiera

Congratulations Tamara Nicole (Tootsy)!

We love and are so very proud of you! You are a blessing from God. We are always excited to see what God has for your future. Our love always and forever. Mom & Dad Prov. 3:5-6
Congratulations Jim!
You made your dream happen!
Love,
Mom and Dad

Your Family Always believed
that you could do it.
Love, Mom, La Sharn, and
Laron

DOUBLE DOMER!
Congratulations Michael!
Love, Mom and Dad

Congratulations, A.J.
aka Gadget!
Your creativity and hard work are paying off. March on knowing you have the love and support of your family!

We're proud of you and your accomplishments!

Love, Mom, Dad, Shawn, Jeannie, Granny, & Papa

Through all the years
we have been so proud of you.
Congratulations Maureen
and the
University of Notre Dame
Class of 2006.
Love,
Dad, Mom, Katie, Patty, Brian, and Mary Beth

Joe Trombello '06
A true 'DOMER' from start to finish. Thanks for fulfilling 'OUR' dream.
Hope it was yours too.
CONGRATULATIONS & MUCH LOVE,
DAD (71) & MOM (SMC 73)
May you feel proud of all you've accomplished at Notre Dame.
May your self-confidence help you meet the challenges of everyday life.
May your determination help you overcome life's obstacles.
May your creativity stay with you forever.
May you find success in all you do.
May life be an inspiration to you everyday, as you are to us.
May you always find happiness and friendship.
May you continue to follow your dreams.

Congratulations, Jenny!
Your dream began at an early age. We are so very proud of you.
Love, Mom, Dad and Alyssa

Congratulations, Jostyn!
Your dream began at an early age. We are so very proud of you.
Love, Mom, Dad and Alyssa

Congratulations on your great achievement. You have done us proud.
With love from Chinky, Obi, Nna, Mum and Dad.

Congratulations Mike!

Love, Mom, Dad, Sue and Peter

Congratulations Matt!

Thanks for the memories!!
Love, Dad, Mom and Ben
Congratulations, Christine!

You have delighted me with your achievements, impressed me with your insight and amazed me with your foresight. Continue to seek your passion, your journey has just begun! May God richly bless you today and always.

With love and admiration,
Mom

"Do your little bit of good where you are; it's those little bits of good put together that overwhelm the world."
—Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Our Precious Mary

You are the sunshine of our lives! May God continue to bless you and may His light continue to shine through your life, and your illuminating smile.

Our love and prayers are with you always, Your Most Blessed Family

Our pride is immeasurable. Congratulations!
Love, Mom and Dad

Finally filled those shoes. Congratulations, Ian!

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Scott

Your excellent decision and hard work have brought you to this big day. Congratulations on graduating from Notre Dame! We are so proud of you! Love,
Mom and Dad

We are so proud of you... congratulations!!
Love,
Andrea Larsson and Staci Mcmullin

Bountiful Blessings, Baby 'Leen! From Home to Dome—What a Trip!

Love From Deep in the Heart of Texas, Mom and Papa
ND CLASS OF 2006!

CONGRATS!

Megan Colleen Wysocki, our Domer daughter!

Love, Mom and Dad

Congratulations Sam!

We’re very proud of you! Go Irish!

Love, Mom, Dad, & Kelly

Congratulations Matt.
We Love you, Mom & Dad

Picture Yourself

Congratulations Paul!
You continue to make us proud.
Love, Mom and Dad

CONGRATULATIONS!
Love, Mrs. Christopher
If you can imagine it,
You can achieve it.

Lyons Hall to 725 E. Angela
"Wait for the Dazzle"
XOXO Q & D

Zachary,
May God Remember You and Bless You.
(Psalms 115:12)

Love,
Mom, Dad, Phillip and Matthew

Kristin Dormuth
In 4 short years
#13 on your list
became
#1 in your heart

Love you
oodles & bunches
Mom and Dad

From Church in the Highlands to
Notre Dame, you've always been
our pride and joy.
Congratulations Kathryn!

Jerry,
We always knew you were
destined for
great things!
Congratulations
on you success,
We love you.

Dad & Mom
To Kourtney, the apple of our eyes, Congratulations!

Love,
Mom and Dad,
Kelley and Mike,
Kristen and Alex,
and Brad

"...it's over, you did it!"
Love,
Mom and Dad

Congratulations Lamb!
We're proud of you!
We love you!
Mom and Dad

Jamie-Boy, CONGRATULATIONS!
We are always so proud of you!
Love, Mom, Dad, Elizabeth and Priscilla

Mi estrellita ya la hiciste!
Gracias por hacer
nuestros sueños una realidad. Ojala que los
togos también se cumplan.
Congratulations Steve Rzepka!

We are so proud of you!

Love, Mom & Dad

Congratualtions to our Bio Belle!

Bye-O Saint Marys - Hello PhD in Bio. We're very proud of you!

Love, Mom, Dad, Matt and Dylan

Brenna Mannion

Good Health
Good Friends
Good Family
and now a Good Education!

God loves you and so do we!

Your family

Congratulations Stephen!

Your future's so bright, we have to wear shades!!!

Love, Mom, Dad, Marta and Corby

Congratulations Scott!

May your future continue to be bright!

Love, Mom and Dad

Clare-
“A thing of beauty is a joy forever!”

Love, Mom, Dad, and Mary
Congratulations Alexandra!
We love you and are so proud of you!
Love, Mumsy and Dad

Congratulations Brittny Rose!
We are so proud of you.
Love, Mommy & Daddy

Congratulations Kerrie!
From your first day of school till your last - you've made us so proud.
Love, Mom & Dad

Congratulations Matthew
We are all very proud of you.
Love, Mom, Dad & Kevin

Congratulations Kim!
We are very proud of you!
Love, Mom, Dad & Chrissy

Congratulations Poul!
Twenty years ago you already knew your destiny was Notre Dame, sports, and surgical tape! Wishing you peace, love, and happiness as you follow your dream...
Love, Mom and Dad
Congratulations Amber

You have always made us very proud.

Love, Mom, Dad, Maya, Glenn, Judi, Willy, Jack, Sam and Grandmom and Deda

Congratulations Son!

You are an inspiration to our family.

May God keep you happy, healthy and successful.

We are very proud of you and your accomplishments.

We love you!

—Your family
CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations Erica!
We are very proud of you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Stephanie and Melissa

Congratulations Ryan!

Your Dream is Now Complete!

Love, Mom, Dad, Stacie and Shawn

Congratulations Richie!
You did great and we’re very proud of you.

Love
Mom, Dad, and Chris

Dressed for the success that you were destined for even then! We are so proud of you.

Love,
Mom, Ephrem, Walter & Epiphany

Congratulations Courtney! We love you and are so proud of you!

Love, Mumsy and Dad
The Observer

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2006

Friday, May 19, 2006

CLASS OF 2006!

Angela Dorothea Piccione

From your first Catholic School Graduation to your most recent Catholic School Graduation, you have remained true to your family, your faith, and your ideals. We are very proud of you! Congratulations on your graduation from The University of Notre Dame!

Love, Dad, Mom, Stephanie, Jennifer, Uncle Tony, and Mark

"There is a good reason they call these ceremonies "commencement exercises." Graduation is not the end; it's the beginning."

Author: Orrin Hatch

May God keep you safe as your dreams come to be.
May you remain close to your Mother, and also to me.
May your love of life, see you through good times and bad,
and may the times you are happy, far outnumber the sad.
may each magic moment be full of wonder for you,
and most important of all,
know we'll always love you.

Congratulations & Love

- Mom, Dad, & Kenneth
CONGRATS!!

TO OUR MONTANA COWBOY,

“Choose to chance the rapids,
Dare to dance the tide...”

For all you have accomplished we are
beaming with pride!

So ride into the future,
We’re right there by your side!!

God Bless,
Love
Mom, Dad & Katie

Congratulations Karen!
“For I know well the plans I have
in mind for you, says the Lord...
to give you a future full of hope.”
Jeremiah 29:11

Christy Tabit is #1!

Congratulations Andy! You’ve always
loved swords! Your hard work has
paid off. Now you have a REAL ONE!

Love, Mom,
Dad, Erin,
Marci and Tim

Fill your paper
with the
breathings
of your heart...
William Wordsworth
From cheering for the rams to cheering for the Irish, it has been a Great Ride. We love you and are so proud of you.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Katie, Courtney, Eddie and Elliott

Congratulations Sunshine/Bunk!!
We are so proud of you! May you continue to live your dreams. Always remember to “Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.”

We love you.
Peace and Love
Momby and Dada

1989 2006

Congratulations, Laur! We are all very proud of you!

Love, Mom, Dad, Brods, Jenni, Zak, Nate, Evan Fedaks, Auntie Ann, and the Mars.
Congratulations Stephanie!
We are very proud of you.
Love, Mom, Dad, Brian and Stacy

Amy Leonard-
We’ve been proud
since the beginning!
Congratulations!
Love, Dad, Mom,
and Melissa

We are so very
proud of you!
Love, Mom & Dad ('75),
Chris ('04), and Ben!

Kevin,
We couldn’t
be prouder!
Love you,
Mom and
Dad

Go Irish!
CONGRATS CLASS OF 2006!

Then I was deep within the woods
When, suddenly, I spied them.
I saw a pair of pale green pants
With nobody inside them!

I wasn’t scared. But, yet, I stopped.
What could those pants be there for?
What could a pair of pants at night
Be standing in the air for?

Way to Be, Christopher!
Love, Mom, Dad, & Kathryn

You lived your
dream of the
Fighting Irish.

We love you.

Mom & Dad

Anne Michelle, We’re very proud of who you are,
what you have done, and where you are going.
Love, Mom, Ross & Dad

Katie,

Congratulations on fulfilling
the dream you had since
you were a little girl. We are
so proud of your
accomplishments. You have
become a lovely young
woman and we are blessed
to call you ours. We love
you and may God bless you
always!

Love,
Mom, Dad and Sean
GOOD LUCK SENIORS!

You've come a long way, baby!

Lynn – You've grown into a beautiful person, and we couldn't be more proud of you.

Love, Mom, Dad, Karen, Steve & Nala

Ryan, you saved the best for last. Now your dreams are at your fingertips. Congratulations!

Love, Mom, Dad, Bill & Jenny

Jordan Thomas Beissel, aerospace engineering

"May God guide your way as you reach for the Stars."

Love, Mom, Dad, Joy (ND '09) and Christopher

Congratulations, Claire...

Keep delighting in reading and writing!

Love, Dad, Mom, and Will

Elizabeth, we are so proud of you. We love you very very much!

Love, Mom and Dad
CONGRATS

We celebrate your compassion, your intellect, your kindness, your humor, your determination, your loyalty, your adventurous spirit and your ability to ski fast and play the cello with passion. We salute the woman you have become.
Love, Mom, Dad, Joe, Moxxie, Bella and The Bears

Marissa Elizabeth,
Congratulations on all you accomplished and for enjoying to the fullest your four years at Notre Dame. You have given yourself and us many memories to cherish. Always keep that beautiful smile, trust in the Lord and remember your family loves you very much.
Dad, Mom and Amanda

Congratulations Molly!

To Our Favorite
"Nobody Likes A Dumb Blonde"

Your Irish Fan Club,
Ann Acker SMC 1970
Edward Hogan ND 1970
Carol Collins Hogan SMC 1972
Laurence C. Acker ND 1973
John "Cal" Collins ND 1975
Jerome Klingenberg ND 1977
Mary Acker Klingenberg SMC 1979
Laurence W. Acker ND 2003
John Collins ND 2006

Congratulations
Jen! Always keep your wide-eyed idealism!!!
Love, Dad

Justin~
“Delight yourself also in the Lord and He shall give you the desires of your heart.”
Psalm 37:4

Love,
Mom & Dad

Look how far you've come!

Congratulations!
I Love You More.
Dad
Class of ’06

Meggie—We are so proud of you!

Love you and Saint Mary’s
Papa & Grandma

Congratulations Mark!

We’re glad you chose ND!

Love, Mom and Dad

Congratulations Ashley! Good luck, God Bless, Irish Forever.

We Love You, Mom, Dad, Lauren & Tyler

Congratulations Erin! Cherish everything that your ND experience has brought your way in the past 4 years and keep reaching for the stars.

We’re so proud of you!

All our love, Mom, Dad, Coley, and Ali

They came as the Mustangs from Blue Valley North—They leave as the Four Horsemen from Notre Dame.

Joey, Zan, Kate and Hunter, you make us so proud. Love, Moms and Dads

“To Give Anything Less Than Your Best is to Sacrifice the Gift.”

-Steve Prefontaine
Congratulations John!

We are so proud of you!

Love,
Mom and Dad.

Congratulations Miss Cate!

We are so proud of you!

Love, Mom
Dad, Will
Cal, and
Gracie

Good Luck!

Congrats Jimbo!

We love you!
The Fam

When people say dreams don’t come true, tell them about Matt.

What do you do when you realize all your dreams have come true.

Congratulations
Dee Dee

Love,
Mom, Dad, Andy,
Robby & Blake

We Love you Sarah!

Mom, Dad, Mary
CONGRATS SENIORS!

Tim, Congratulations!
We can't wait to see what comes next for you. We are so proud of you.
Love,
Mom, Dad, Anne & Bill

Congratulations Derek, our 2006 Graduate of Notre Dame!

This picture tells it all; athletic, hard worker, scholar, and funny guy! What's next? May all your dreams continue to come true.

--Love Ma & Dad

Congratulations, Chelsea and Ryan.
The best is yet to come!
All our love,
Mom and Dad

It seems like only yesterday...
Congratulations!
We love you!
Mom, Courtney, Grandma & Grandpa

Congratulations, Jeannie!
Always follow your dreams.
Love, Mom and Dad

We're so proud of you Britta.

Love,
Mom & Dad

Congratulations Anne Kwiat ('06)
We are proud of you!
Love,
Mom & Dad
Jim ('00)
Katie ('00)
Mike ('04)
CONGRATULATIONS

CLASS OF 2006!

Congratulations, Stretch!
You lived a dream.
Love, Dad and Mom

Hey Big Brother, Mom and Dad made me do it-

Congratulations!!

Congratulations Kevin!
Touch down by our Special "K".
Love, Dad, Tim, Andy, Meg and Jake
CONGRATULATIONS Catherine! You have remained true to the Legacy of Notre Dame. We are so proud of you!

Love,
Mom and Dad

Leif, Go For It!

CONGRATULATIONS KRISTINA

We are so proud of you! You have become more beautiful than ever in Mind, Body & Spirit. We are truly blessed! We love you very much.

FELICIDADES

Papi, Mami and your three brothers
Christian, Ricardo & Marcos Barrios

AND GOOD LUCK!
The prophecy comes true! Congratulations, Katie!

Love, the Mom, the Dad,
Lazy J, IWU-D & Rusty

We knew you would go places!
We are so very proud of you.
Look out Texas!

Love,
Mom and Papa

Congratulations!

The only place for “MC” was “ND”

Love,
Mom, Dad, Jen, Michael,
Christine & Dominic