

In this issue:  
Notre Dame  
alums get  
together to  
honor much-  
beloved  
classmate

## Special back- to-school issue!

Notre Dame students  
taking classes in  
new wing

2018 alum Destiney  
Sandle taking classes  
at Syracuse University

*plus:*

George Denyer

Angela Adams

Brian Eisbrenner

Lara Salahi

Fr. Joe Hindelang

Gerst and Holland

2017-18 donors

Irish news

Alumni notes

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fall/winter '18-'19

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# HOMECOMING

Notre Dame Homecoming Weekend  
 Oct. 12-13, 2018 • Pre-game tailgate,  
 alumni tent, football game, 5K Fun Run

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**Mike Kastler, MSF**  
*NDHS, Class of 1975*



IRISH is a magazine devoted to the alumni and friends of Notre Dame Preparatory, Notre Dame, Oakland Catholic, Pontiac Catholic, St. Michael and St. Frederick schools. It is distributed free of charge. For more information, please see the alumni section of Notre Dame Prep's website at [www.ndpma.org/alumni](http://www.ndpma.org/alumni).

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DIRECTOR OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

Beth Campbell

EDITOR

Mike Kelly '73 (NDHS)

IRISH is published twice yearly (spring/summer and fall/winter) by the Notre Dame Alumni Association.

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#### ON THE COVER:

2018 alum Destiney Sandle is studying architecture at Syracuse University. See page 12

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Are you interested in advertising to nearly 14,000 of your fellow alumni and friends? Place an ad in an upcoming IRISH. Contact Mike Kelly '73 (NDHS) for more information and pricing: [mkelly@ndpma.org](mailto:mkelly@ndpma.org).

# A WORD FROM YOUR ALUMNI DIRECTOR



If you haven't been to campus lately, you are missing out! More than 350 were on hand on August 17 when Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy hosted a special blessing and ribbon-cutting to officially open its stunning new science, art and technology wing. The new facility, which totals about 26,000 square feet, includes a one-story science, technology and arts wing that has been added to the shared middle division and upper division building. The building houses science laboratory facilities, collaborative learning classrooms, a robotics lab, a specially designed greenhouse, and a fine arts studio. If you haven't been by to see it and would like to, please reach out to me. I would love to take you on a tour!

The fall is a very busy time here on campus and we invite you back to participate in one of the many upcoming events. Join us on October 6 for **Oktoberfest** in the main gym. Enjoy dinner, dancing and cocktails! The alumni office will be sponsoring two tables for alumni and if you are interested in attending, please email me at [bcampbell@ndpma.org](mailto:bcampbell@ndpma.org). We will be providing free tickets for the first 20 alumni.

**Homecoming Weekend** is set for October 12-13 at 7 p.m. Festivities begin on Friday night as we invite alumni to the Fr. Colin House for a pre-game tailgate and premier parking at the lower division at 5 p.m. Stop by with your family and enjoy a beverage and some appetizers before heading to the alumni tent at 6:30 p.m. The game

starts at 7 p.m. Early the next morning, the alumni association will again host the Notre Dame **5k Fun Run**, beginning at 9 a.m. in the lower division parking lot. Cost is \$20 per runner and new this year, we will be having a costume contest! Come join the fun by registering at our website at [www.ndpma.org/nd5k](http://www.ndpma.org/nd5k).

Finally, we are excited to offer an alumni theatre night at the opening of the upper division's fall musical **Footloose** on November 19 at Avondale High School. Again we will provide free tickets for the first 20 alumni interested in attending. Please email me at [bcampbell@ndpma.org](mailto:bcampbell@ndpma.org) by November 1 to reserve your ticket. Following the show, the alumni office will be hosting a cast party backstage for all alumni.

We hope that at least one of these upcoming events piques your interest. We look forward to seeing you all soon!

*Beth Campbell*

Beth Campbell  
Director of Alumni Relations, Notre Dame

## NOTRE DAME'S "SPEAKER SERIES" STARTS UP AGAIN OCT 24



Hello Notre Dame alumni!

As I was sitting through a "Speaker Series" career presentation on advertising last February, which was given by Meghan

Collinge and Brian Dooley, I couldn't help but notice the impact on the couple dozen or so students who attended. They were mesmerized by the wealth of information that was being provided! Questions abounded while Meghan and Brian dutifully delivered their message of passion on being a Notre Dame grad and how it impacted their careers. The students thoroughly enjoyed the program.

If you're not familiar with the Notre Dame Alumni Association's "Speaker Series," it's time to jump on board with us! The idea is to convey to students through our rich and deep ND alumni expertise, various career

opportunities and how a Notre Dame education has helped them throughout their career development.

For 2018/2019, we would like to have four different Speaker Series sessions targeting four different career themes: engineering, medicine, entrepreneurship and physical therapy.

WE NEED YOUR HELP to make this successful! If you've had a fulfilling career in any of these four areas, please contact me TODAY. I would like to assemble our panel of speakers as soon as possible.

For the 2018/2019 school year, we have four dates set aside:

**Entrepreneurship:** Oct. 24 – 9-9:40 a.m.

**Engineering:** Nov. 1 - 1:25-2:45 p.m.

**Physical Therapy:** Jan. 17 - 9-9:40 a.m.

**Medicine:** Feb. 1 - 1:25-2:45 p.m.



Please contact me at [michael10291@yahoo.com](mailto:michael10291@yahoo.com) as soon as possible to reserve your slot in one of these sessions. Our students will be eternally grateful!

Thank you!

Mike Kastler '75 (NDHS)  
Member, Notre Dame Alumni Association  
Board of Directors

# HOME COMING 2018 IS COMING OCTOBER 12 AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO SHOW YOU'RE A FIGHTING IRISH FAN THAN BY WEARING NOTRE DAME SPIRITWEAR!



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Store hours: 7:30 a.m. – 2:30 p.m. (during regular school days) or make an appointment for additional bookstore hours. If you would like to order items listed online or if you have questions or suggestions, e-mail Larry Jack at [ljack@ndpma.org](mailto:ljack@ndpma.org) or call 248-373-5300, x-8054.

## STAYING IN TOUCH:



### THE NOTRE DAME E-NEWSLETTER

Receive news and information, emailed monthly. Update your email address at [ndpma.org/update](http://ndpma.org/update).



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## NDAА BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Notre Dame Alumni Association's current board of directors:

**Dean Aldo** '76 (PC)

**Molly Campbell** '08 (NDP)

**Jane Dika** '02 (NDP)

**Brian Dooley** '85 (NDHS)

**Bobbie Hall** '00 (NDP)

**Lisa Healy** '98 (NDP)

**Mike Kastler** '75 (NDHS)

**Patty Dean Phillips** '52 (SF)

**Meredith Scott** '02 (NDP)

**Dan Staniszewski** '02 (NDP)

**Amy Tkac** '02 (NDP)

## ALUMS GET TOGETHER IN CHICAGO

More than 30 Notre Dame alums living and working in the Chicago area got together Aug. 9 at the Frontier restaurant in downtown Chicago for a reception hosted by the Notre Dame Alumni Association. The alumni, which represented Notre Dame High School and Notre Dame Prep, dined on hors d'oeuvres and drinks as they reminisced about their alma mater with members of Notre Dame's administration. "More traveling alumni receptions are planned, so stay tuned," said alumni relations director Beth Campbell.



Notre Dame's Fr. Leon Olszamowski, s.m., '65 (NDHS) speaks with alums in Chicago.

## NOTRE DAME'S FALL OPEN HOUSE SET FOR NOV. 4

Join hundreds of interested parents and their children who will be attending Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy's 2018 Open House on Sunday, November 4, from 1 to 4 p.m. They — and you — will experience the school's pre-kindergarten through 12th grades and learn about what the school's lower, middle and upper schools have to offer in terms of an overall excellent educational experience and the school's rigorous International Baccalaureate program, all of which helped Notre Dame Prep earn the top ranking of all Catholic high schools in Michigan three of the last four years.

## NOTRE DAME'S BOARD ELECTS NEW CHAIR

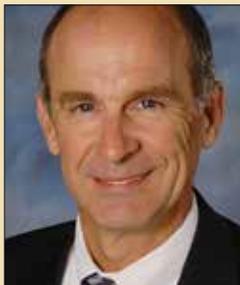
Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy announced in June that its Board of Trustees elected longtime school supporter and alum parent Stephen V. Pangori as chair, effective July 1, 2018. He replaced Daron Gifford, who finished up his seven-year term as chair and will now serve as chair emeritus for one year.

Pangori has been a member of Notre Dame's board since October of 2014 and currently serves as chair of the board's building committee.

Andy Guest, who is NDPMA's head of school, is delighted that Pangori accepted this new role.

"Steve has been a wonderful advocate for the school for many years," Guest said. "He comes with a wealth of management experience, but more importantly, he is a true man of faith and recognizes how essential it is that such a high-achieving Catholic school will remain available for children in southeast Michigan well into the future."

Pangori currently is president, CEO, and member of the Board of Directors of Anderson, Eckstein & Westrick (AEW)



a leading design firm based in Shelby Township, Mich., which provides civil engineering, architecture, consulting and surveying services to municipal, institutional and private clients.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering and is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers. He also is a board member of ACE Mentor-Michigan, the Michigan affiliate of ACE Mentor Program of America, Inc., which helps mentor high school students and inspires them to pursue careers in design and construction.

A resident of Clarkston, Pangori and his wife, Laura, and children Maria '13 (NDP), Andrea '15 (NDP), Dana '17 (NDP) and Anthony '18 (NDP) are members of St. Daniel Catholic Church, also in Clarkston.

## NOTRE DAME ANNOUNCES BOARD CHANGES



From left, Mia Ambrose-Burbank, John W. Henke, Jr., Ph.D., Ann Stone and Noel Villajuan, J.D.

Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy announced in August that its board has added two new trustees and a new member of its strategic planning committee. In addition, the board appointed a new vice chair.

Mia Ambrose-Burbank, who is the mother of two alums and a 7th grader in Notre Dame's middle school, and John W. Henke, Jr., Ph.D., a 1958 alumnus of Notre Dame High School in Harper Woods, were named new trustees of NDPMA. Noel Villajuan, J.D., who is the father of two students in Notre Dame's lower school, has accepted a position on the board's strategic planning committee. Ann Stone, an alum parent and the mother of a 10th grader in Notre Dame's upper division, was named vice chair by the school's trustees, replacing board member Tim Knutson, whose term in that position had ended.

Notre Dame's board chair Steve Pangori is delighted with the latest changes.

"This school community has witnessed a tremendous amount of positive change over these past several years," he said. "With such an impressive group of trustees now in place, we look forward to an even more exciting future of growth for our school. Mia and John bring a wealth of experience and expertise to our board and Noel will be a definite asset to our strategic planning committee. I am also pleased that Ann Stone, one of Notre Dame's most tireless advocates, will be taking on an even greater responsibility on the board. I also want to thank Tim Knutson for serving as vice chair over the past several years and look forward to his continuing presence on the board."

## NOTRE DAME SEES ENROLLMENT GROWTH IN KEY AREAS; JUNIOR-K THROUGH 1ST SETS RECORD

Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy opened the 2018-19 school year with significant increases in enrollment at the main entry points of both its upper and lower divisions.

According to figures released by the school's registrar, this year's class of incoming freshmen in the upper school is 12 percent larger than last year's freshman class as of the first day of school and 36 percent larger when compared with 2016's 9th-grade class. In addition, the enrollment total for NDPMA's junior-kindergarten through first grade classes is the largest in school history. Notre Dame's incoming six-grade enrollment also showed an increase over last year.

Registration data for this year's freshman class for Notre Dame Prep also show students are coming from at least 30 different grade schools and middle schools in the area.

As for what could be behind these latest increases, Kathleen Offer, Notre Dame's dean of admissions, said her department hasn't particularly changed much of what they do when working with prospective students and parents.

"However, as always, we are super-focused on being as attentive as we can be, working hard to get students to visit, and making sure they have an authentic and welcoming experience while they're here," she said. "The school absolutely sells itself, especially when people see our dedication to our current students and to their development as Christians, citizens and scholars."

## NUMBER ONE AGAIN

Notre Dame Preparatory School was named the top Catholic high school in Michigan for 2019, marking the third time in four years the school has earned the ranking according to Niche, a national organization that annually ranks colleges and K-12 schools across the country.

Niche previously ranked NDP the state's #1 Catholic high school in 2016 and 2018.

Niche also rated Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy among the top five private K-12 schools in the state, religious or non-religious, on a list that included Cranbrook, Detroit Country Day and University Liggett.

According to Niche, the 2019 Best Catholic High Schools ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of the overall experience at a Catholic high school. The ranking takes into account key factors such as the strength of academics, school culture and diversity, as well as student and parent reviews, in an attempt to measure the overall excellence of the school.

## NDPMA NAMES DEVELOPMENT VETERAN TO LEAD SCHOOL ADVANCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Notre Dame named Mark Roberts to the newly created position of vice president for institutional advancement, effective August 20, 2018. The announcement was made by NDPMA Head of School Andy Guest, who said Roberts' responsibilities will include oversight of Notre Dame's admissions, alumni relations, fundraising and marketing activities, now combined into one department.

Guest also said that Roberts brings a wealth of experience to NDPMA.

"Mark has the tools to lead our advancement team into the future," he said. "He has nearly 20 years of professional advancement experience and even though our current campaigns that led to two new athletic fields and a new science, arts and technology addition are nearly complete, there are many more expansion plans ahead for us. I have every confidence that Mark can help strengthen an already very successful advancement department for an exciting future."

Roberts comes to NDPMA from the Detroit Regional Chamber Foundation, based in Detroit, where he was senior director, resource development. In that position, he was responsible for new membership revenue as well as new gifts and pledges from corporations and foundations. Prior to this, he was senior director of development from 2012 to 2016 at Wayne State University's College of Engineering where among other major development initiatives, he planned and executed a \$40-million capital campaign, introduced a leadership annual giving society and redesigned the school's alumni model that resulted in enhanced alumni volunteer activities and increased alumni-student interaction.

Before Wayne State University, Roberts served in development positions of increasing responsibilities at the University of Michigan, The Catholic University of America, George Washington University, both in Washington, DC, and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, Va., where he was the director of annual giving. He began his career as assistant development director at VCU's Massey Cancer Center.

Roberts graduated from The College of William and Mary in Virginia with a BA degree and also holds a master's degree in business administration from Wayne State University.



**Mark Roberts comes to NDPMA with extensive development experience.**

## NOTRE DAME STUDENT EARNS A PERFECT 36 SCORE ON HER ACT

Kathryn Kennedy, a rising senior at Notre Dame Preparatory School, has scored a perfect 36 on her ACT — the highest score available — and now the ninth Notre Dame student since 2009 to achieve such perfection.

*Please see IRISH News, page 16*

# Irish ace

Notre Dame alum recalls his time playing professional baseball with the likes of Tommy John, Luis Tiant and Norm Cash. Also talks about his 60th high-school reunion.

**O**f the roughly 500,000 kids who play high school baseball in the U.S. today, only 5.6 percent wind up playing on a collegiate team. Of those players, only 10 percent are drafted by a major league organization to play on their minor league teams. And of all minor leaguers, only about 10 percent will ever make it to the major leagues. All of which means the odds of making an MLB roster today are very long.

That also was the stark reality back in the late 50s and early 60s. Just ask Notre Dame alum George Denyer ('58), one of the best pitchers to ever play for the Irish. After a stellar career at Notre Dame High School, Denyer received scholarships to Michigan State University and the University of Detroit. He decided on U-D, but after one semester, received offers from both the Detroit Tigers and Cleveland Indians to join their organizations.

"I had the offer from Detroit, but I got a little more money from Cleveland, so I ended up signing with them," he said during a recent interview.

However, when you're talking baseball money back then — especially in the minors, according to Denyer, it wasn't even in the same solar system as today's baseball money. "The first year I played for Cleveland, which was on their Batavia Indians squad, I got \$50 a month," said Denyer, 78, a current Warren, Mich., resident. The last year I played for Cleveland, when we won the Eastern League championship with the Charleston Indians in AA ball, I was making \$550 a month."

But back then, he said, players didn't get paid for spring training, they didn't get paid during the off season, so they had to get a regular job when they weren't playing ball.

## PITCHING BASEBALLS AND INSURANCE

"For me, it was one year working for Household Finance, one year for Eaton Spring, then I worked two years for Thompson Products," he recalled. "And then, in 1963, after we won the Eastern League championship, I walked around downtown Detroit with a suit on looking for work and got a job offer from AAA insurance.

Denyer said that at that time he was married with two kids, and with AAA, he saw a possible future that didn't involve dragging his family all over the country, so he decided to hang up his spikes for good.

"Actually, I couldn't get a release from Cleveland (until I turned 30), so after leaving the organization, I was prevented from playing with anybody else if I decided to get back into it, which also kind of helped my final decision," he said. "I eventually retired from AAA insurance when I was 55, then went to work for another insurance company for seven more years. Unfortunately, I had a stroke when I was 62, so I decided it was time to fully retire from insurance as well."

Denyer's says he's had a good life so far even though he may have taken what he says is "the wrong fork in the road" when he decided on signing a professional baseball contract instead of finishing college at U-D or MSU. He and his wife, Carole, live comfortably

in Warren and he's got a lot of great memories of his nine years in professional baseball.

"I actually roomed for a bit with pitcher Tommy John and played with or against the likes of Luis Tiant, Gates Brown, Mickey Lolich and Jim Price to name a few," he said. "I remember Price hit a home run off of me in Burlington."

Denyer said he didn't play with Rocky Colavito, however, because Colavito left the Cleveland organization for Detroit before Denyer signed.

"Norm Cash also was with Cleveland for a while if I remember correctly, and I also remember Sam McDowell, who later was one of only two major leaguers to record a 300-strikeout season," he said.

## DEBUSSCHERE MATCHUPS

In his nine years in the Cleveland organization, Denyer compiled a 48-45 record. His 1960 season was his best when he went 16-4 and had an ERA under 2.

Denyer also recalls baseball at Notre Dame as well as sandlot ball when he played for the Lundquist Insurance team at the famed Northwestern Field, which was located at Grand River and Grand Boulevard in Detroit.

"I pitched against Dave DeBusschere many times at the Northwestern field and even going back to my time at St. Veronica (DeBusschere played for St. Clare of Monefalco), where I played for coach Tom Kelly, who also was my coach at NDHS," he said. "I actually beat DeBusschere and Austin High School once and he beat me once during my senior year at Notre Dame."

Denyer also has fond Notre Dame memories off the field: Fr. Champagne ("tough, but fair") and Fr. Ouellette, who taught him drafting.

He remembers that as a Notre Dame senior, it came down to a choice he had between making an afternoon baseball game and finishing up a couple of drawings for Fr. Ouellette that were due the same day.

"Father told me I wasn't going to pass the class if I didn't turn in my drawings," Denyer said. "I told him, sorry, Father, but I have to get to my game. Turns out, Father eventually let me make up the work and I ended up passing the class. He was a good guy."

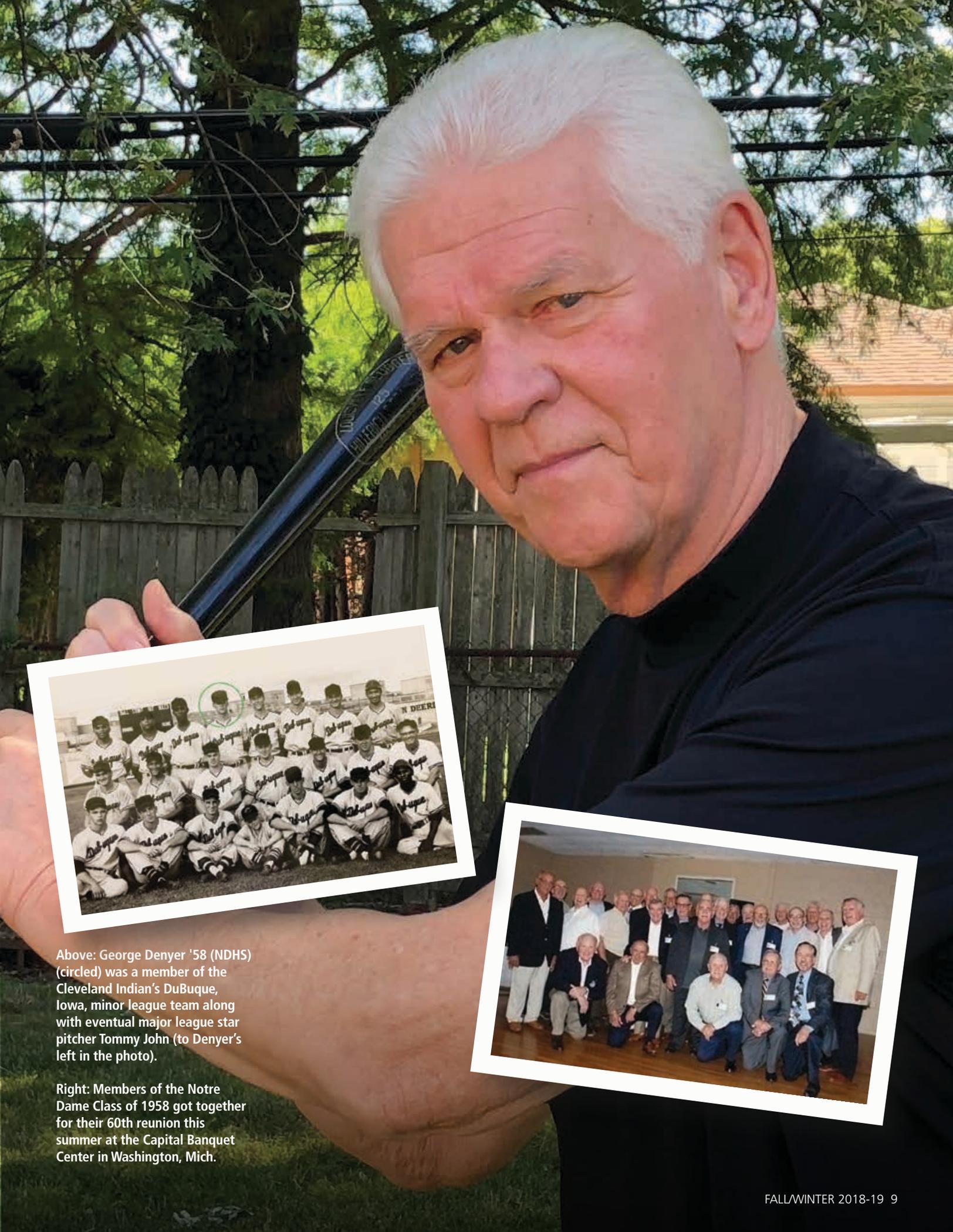
## 60TH REUNION

Denyer was able to trade that memory and many more with nearly 50 of his classmates last month when they got together for their 60th high school reunion at the Capital Banquet Center in Washington, Mich.

"We were the first graduating class at NDHS," he said. "Many of us remain pretty close after all these years. We had a good turnout and a good time at the reunion."

Denyer worked with a number of fellow '58 grads, such as Bob Bendzinski and Vic Battani, to make the reunion a success.

"We worked hard to make it happen," he said. "I would tell a lot of my classmates, 'you know what, we may not be around for the next reunion. So it might be a good idea to make this one!' That seemed to do the trick." ■



Above: George Denyer '58 (NDHS) (circled) was a member of the Cleveland Indian's DuBuque, Iowa, minor league team along with eventual major league star pitcher Tommy John (to Denyer's left in the photo).



Right: Members of the Notre Dame Class of 1958 got together for their 60th reunion this summer at the Capital Banquet Center in Washington, Mich.

# A new era opens

Notre Dame's new science, art and technology wing opens with a blessing and ribbon-cutting.



Atlanta Auxiliary Bishop Joel Konzen, s.m., and Pontiac Mayor Deirdre Waterman, center, help cut the ribbon and officially open Notre Dame's new science, art and technology wing.

**M**ore than 350 were on hand on August 17 when Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy hosted a special blessing and ribbon-cutting to officially open its stunning new science, art and technology wing. Dignitaries on hand for the event included school board members, Atlanta Auxiliary Bishop Joel Konzen, s.m., who conducted the blessing ceremony, and Pontiac Mayor Dr. Deirdre Waterman, who said she was delighted to be on campus for the event.

"It is a privilege to have this premier institution of learning right here in the City of Pontiac," Waterman said. "I congratulate all those who made the effort to make this beautiful facility a reality."

The ceremony opened with an address by NDPMA Head of School Andy Guest, who thanked those responsible for the hard work that went into getting the new wing completed in time for the fall semester. He also thanked the many benefactors who donated to the March On To Victory campaign that made the wing possible, including Bill Kozyra, alum parent, school trustee, former board chair and honorary chair of the MOTV capital campaign, who was present at the Friday ceremony.

"It's an exciting day for the school and I wanted to be here today to see this wonderful academic addition come to fruition," Kozyra said as he toured the new building. "It's been a vision of Fr. Leon's (Olszamowski) for decades and I'm glad he is seeing it come to life today. The education that our young people will experience now here in a more enhanced way around the areas of science, art, technology

and math is such an important part of their futures. I'm really proud and happy to be part of this process and I look forward to a lot of future professional scientists, engineers, artists, etc., coming from this wonderful facility."

## ARTS AND SCIENCES

The new facility, which totals about 26,000 square feet, includes a one-story science, technology and arts wing that has been added to the shared middle division and upper division building. The building houses science laboratory facilities, collaborative learning classrooms, a robotics lab, a specially designed greenhouse, and a fine arts studio.

The new fine arts studio is dedicated primarily to the visual arts and provides a setting that has been designed to encourage and foster the talent and imagination of Notre Dame students. Natural lighting, abundant wall and floor space, proper worktables, ample shelving and storage, a kiln room and more provide a setting that will help Notre Dame's aspiring young student-artists flourish. The space also includes a modern gallery to exhibit student artwork.

The new science labs have been designed to promote inquiry-based learning through design and functionality, according to the school. Work areas in the labs will accommodate small group collaboration and technology will be incorporated into the teacher demonstration station. Counters and chairs have been designed with students in mind and a prep room conveniently situated between each of the two science labs provides a safe and secure environment for the storage of equipment and any potentially hazardous chemicals that may be used in the new wing.

## HISTORY, TOO!

Matt DeAngelis, who is a junior at Notre Dame, has one class in the new wing, IB History, which is taught by longtime NDPMA teacher, Dave Osiecki.

"I'm really looking forward to increasing my knowledge of European history in Mr. Osiecki's new IB History classroom," said DeAngelis, who was at today's event. "And I'm looking to grow as a better overall student with all of the collaborative spaces in this new building."

Fellow junior Evan Wells also looks forward to the innovative new space.

"I think the new wing is very collaborative," he said. "It invites conversation and encourages communication between students and teachers, which is a good thing."

## OLD SCHOOL, NEW SCHOOL

A number of attendees at the blessing had a special appreciation for the continued growth of Notre Dame and its Marist roots. Jim Berch, who is a 1959 alum of Notre Dame in Harper Woods, said he was looking forward to seeing the new building.



The Mary Fountain anchors the courtyard in front of the new science, art and technology wing

"The word that comes to mind is 'fantastic,'" said Berch, who also taught at Harper Woods Notre Dame. "I talked with a couple of students here earlier and one, in fact, is going to have four classes in this new wing. I told them to make sure they take advantage of all this. It's got all the latest technology — quite a far cry from when I attended and taught at ND in Harper Woods."

Another former teacher from Harper Woods Notre Dame and Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, Ken Parent, also was on hand for the blessing and ribbon-cutting.

"I took a quick tour in June while the building was in construction, and I've seen the occasional drawing or concept sketch," said Parent, who retired from teaching a few years ago. "But now it looks even better than the concept sketches."

Another key component of the academic expansion is a 1,200 square-foot robotics lab and 850 square-foot adjoining classroom.

"Notre Dame's robotics program has grown to encompass world-ranked programs at its lower, middle and upper divisions," said Fr. Leon Olszowski, s.m., who is corporate president of NDPMA. "This new robotics center complements the space currently provided through our relationship with FIAT Chrysler, a sponsor of our robotics program since its inception."

Olszowski also said the robotics room provides dedicated education, construction, storage and training space; mobile work stations that allow for both computer-aided instruction and robot-building space as well as indoor and outdoor work space that is centrally located between the upper and middle divisions.

## 'BLOWN AWAY'

Fr. Stanley Ulman is a school trustee and pastor of St. Mary of the Hills Parish in Rochester Hills. He also heads up the Pontiac Area Vicariate. After the Aug. 17 blessing and ribbon-cutting, he, too, toured the new building and was especially impressed with not only the robotics lab, but he said the greenhouse and science labs hold a special importance for him.

"It's truly amazing," he said. "I've been seeing the sketches and architectural drawings, but this is the first time I'm in here and I'm blown away. What an opportunity for the kids. They definitely will want to come back to school with these kinds of facilities. I was in one of the new science labs and I thought, wow, I would have loved to have a classroom like that when I was in high school. I believe the kids will want to do even better because they've been given such wonderful tools."

Many teachers also commented on how much they appreciate teaching at a school with such innovative facilities.

Daniel Staniszewski, a math teacher at NDP and alum (2002), was effusive.

"Absolutely fantastic! Gorgeous," he said. "They've done such a great job fitting all the pieces together."

Kyle Lilek, who teaches English and the International Baccalaureate Theory of Knowledge class, said the new wing was beautiful.

"On top of it all, it's got exactly what teachers need to do their jobs well," he said.

## PROGRAMMING PLUS

Katrina Palushaj, who teaches computer science at NDPMA, is looking forward to her new classroom.

"I think it's one of the best facilities I've seen for students and teachers," she said. "We can now collaborate as teachers and students in one facility. All the furniture is new and modern and we've got four 3D machines now in my class to allow for even more 3D printing. We'll also be teaching AP Computer Science this year, a new class, so we'll be getting more into programming. Now we'll have not only the CAD



A VEX-IQ robotics practice space has been constructed in the robotics lab, part of the new science, art and technology wing.

kids here in the building, we'll have the programming kids, too. I'm really excited! The kids are going to be amazed when they see this next week."

What those "kids" will experience going forward was not lost on Pontiac mayor Waterman.

"It's a beautiful setting, a wonderful school and it's a real privilege for your students to receive such an education at Notre Dame," she said. "And I'm excited about the education this new building will bring for those students who have the honor to attend school here." ■

# Big dreams, bright future

2018 grad moved in last month at Syracuse University to study in one of the nation's top architecture programs.

**T**he Syracuse University School of Architecture's undergraduate program is ranked #3 in the United States. It's also the fourth oldest architecture school in the country. With such bona fides, it's not surprising that 2018 alum Destiney Sandle, one of

NDP's superstar artists, decided to enroll in the program.

"One of the reasons I'm in Syracuse University's architecture program is because of their ranking compared to other university programs," she said recently shortly after officially moving in on campus as a new freshman. "I also chose Syracuse in general because of its location in the same state as New York City. I believe I will be able to learn and grow even more based on this surrounding area."

That learning and growing at Syracuse actually began nearly two months ago for Sandle as she "unofficially" has been taking three classes at the university since June 30. And it's because of that head start that she's not so apprehensive about starting her college career so far from home.

"After taking the summer classes here, I feel very comfortable going into my freshman year," she said. "I'm also excited to start new friendships that could possibly last a lifetime and to grow even more into a mature, young lady. However, I must admit I'm a little nervous about tackling such a vigorous major. Architecture students have been known to get very little sleep. But I know the hard work will pay off."

And we're pretty sure Sandle will be able to handle such a workload. Just ask her high school art teacher.

"When I think of Destiney, the first few words that come to mind are determination and creativity," said Sandy LewAllen, upper-division art teacher and chair of the school's art department. "She has exhibited an exemplar work ethic throughout her four years at NDP and especially during her two years in IB Visual Art. She continually pushed herself and her boundaries to become the artist that she is today."

LewAllen added that while many think that art is mostly about natural talent, it's also at least equally about hard work.

"Destiney possesses both talent and great-big doses of focus and hard work," she said. "I know she has a very bright future

and I could not be more proud of her accomplishments and the person that she is."

Sandle graduated Notre Dame Prep last May with a portfolio full of accomplishments, awards and honors, including the Kirby R. Smith Art Award, which is presented annually to an NDP senior student-artist who exemplifies among many of the former art teacher's attributes his hard work and talent.

A year ago, Sandle also was chosen by the Canvas Pontiac program, which is sponsored by the Pontiac Downtown Business Association, as one of only 25 area artists to have their art reproduced and enlarged into eight-foot-by-10-foot canvases and placed around downtown Pontiac in 2017.

Last school year she was recognized as a regional and national Scholastic Art Award winner, and during her four years at NDP, she's received an additional and impressive array of Scholastic awards, including three Regional Gold Keys, one Regional Gold Key Portfolio, one Regional Silver Key, two National Gold Medals, one National Gold Silver, and one National Silver Medal for her portfolio titled, "Everything in Me." Plus, Sandle and fellow 2018 grad Maria Mora spent an exciting few days in New York City in June to accept their National Gold Medal awards at Scholastic's annual awards event.

Among the other awards Sandle's earned at NDP are the

President's Award for Educational Excellence, a Syracuse University Grant, an Architecture Portfolio Award and a Certificate of Excellence in Computer Science from Notre Dame Prep.

On top of all of that, Sandle actually found time to play three sports in each of her four years in Notre Dame's upper school — volleyball, basketball and track — earning her entry into the athletic department's esteemed "Dirty Dozen" club. She acknowledges that it wasn't just her own hard work and talent that resulted in such a busy and productive high school career.

"The opportunities to excel at Notre Dame are endless, but there also is plenty of help available from the teachers and counseling staff whenever you need it," she said. "I've had a few ups and downs during the past four years balancing being a three-sport athlete, my academics, and other activities, but when I finally found a rhythm, the Notre Dame experience became even



**2018 Notre Dame alum Destiney Sandle on the campus of Syracuse University last month. As an art student at Notre Dame Prep, she said she was never constricted in the creativity or the size of her ideas, but instead was encouraged to expand and further her creative thought processes.**



Sandle, far right, is with NDPMA art chair Sandy LewAllen and her fellow IB Visual Art class members, 17 in all, the largest IB Visual Art class in NDP history.

more enjoyable. Though the academics could be challenging at times, I learned many lessons of adversity that will help shape my future endeavors at college. I am so thankful to have been part of this Notre Dame community."

She is also thankful that NDP has such a progressive art curriculum and philosophy.

"Notre Dame's art program is amazing in the sense of the opportunities and help that is offered to each student in it," she said. "I was never constricted in the creativity or the size of my ideas, but instead I was encouraged to expand and further my thought process."

Sandle took art classes taught by both LewAllen and Ned Devine during her tenure at NDP and she said their impact on her art career allowed her to discover herself through several different mediums.

"With the help of Mrs. LewAllen, in particular, her guidance at Notre Dame has molded me into the artist and young lady that I am today," she said. "Overall, the program is like a family with a welcoming learning environment where it's very easy to express yourself."

But it wasn't just art class that energized Sandle's schedule at Notre Dame.

"While art is one of my passions, writing is another," she said. "Mrs. [Katrina] Sagert was also a major influence in me finding my voice as a writer. She

**One piece of Sandle's high school portfolio, right, displayed at the end of the school year was this portrait, created entirely out of human hair.**

encouraged me to open up within my writing, which allowed me to create a personal connection to the audience and ultimately become more comfortable as a writer. I also have to say another influential figure at NDP for me was Mrs. [Mary Jane] Pasko. She definitely was a caretaker and frequently served as a mother figure on campus to me and to many other students."

And to prove once again how Notre Dame students graduate with a deep understanding of the school mission and how it fits into their lives, Sandle's career goals are telling.

"Probably the biggest reason I decided to pursue architecture in college and for a career is because I've always had this drive to give back to people who are in unfortunate situations," she said. "By taking my artistic abilities and my passion for building my dream home, I wanted to give to others something that I was never fortunate to live in — a house. With a degree in architecture I want to build homes for people in poverty or work on revamping impoverished communities in countries such as those on the African continent."

She said, however, that this need is not limited to just people in third-world countries.

"The need for good, affordable housing also exists for those even in this country who may have lost their house in a natural disaster or just perhaps couldn't afford one." ■



# Pulitzer Prize-winning alum

Alum and journalist Lara Salahi, who earned a Pulitzer Prize in journalism, co-authors book about the 2014 Ebola crisis in Africa and what should be done to help improve the global response the next time an outbreak occurs.



**N**otre Dame alum Lara Salahi ('03) is an award-winning multimedia journalist and author. She's also an assistant professor of broadcast and digital journalism at Endicott College, which is located just north of Boston.

Salahi shoots, writes, and edits her own stories and currently works as an independent journalist focusing on public health, science and medicine. In 2014, she shared a Pulitzer Prize with the staff of *The Boston Globe* for its coverage of the bombings in 2013 that killed three people and wounded more than 260 others near the Boston Marathon finish line.

The holder of a dual undergraduate degree from Boston University in broadcast journalism and international relations with a concentration in Middle East and North African foreign policy and security studies, Salahi also is the founder of Salahi Media, a multi-platform media production company based in the Boston area.

While she was working toward a master's degree in health communication from Emerson College, she was field-producing stories in the New England region for ABC News shows, including *Good Morning America* and *World News* with David Muir, and she has previously worked with the ABC News' Medical Unit, where she produced digital and on-air health stories.

This year, in a book due to be released in November, Salahi teamed up with an award-winning genetic researcher, Pardis Sabeti,

who helped tame the 2014 Ebola epidemic in West Africa, to tell the story of what happened and what would have to change to prevent the next outbreak from spiraling out of control again.

Salahi said the book is a deep look into the broken system of global infectious disease outbreak response.

"More specifically, it's a narrative about the outbreak in West Africa and the lessons learned from the inadequate response," she said. "One story we follow in particular is that of a prominent physician in Sierra Leone who had treated hundreds of patients with Ebola only to succumb to Ebola himself. It's a tragedy because difficult decisions had to be made and arguably more could have been done to save his life."

Salahi, who is fluent in Armenian, Arabic and French, also said the book makes the case that the global community is not prepared for the next international infectious disease epidemic when it hits.

"Science tells us it's a matter of 'when,' not 'if,'" she said. "In the book, we lay out some guiding principles to hopefully help improve the world's culture of response when the next outbreak hits."

Salahi said her co-author, Sabeti, is the scientist who sequenced the genome of Ebola during the 2014 outbreak.

"We met in 2014 while I was covering the Ebola outbreak," she said. "And from there we collaborated on original research, which turned into this book." ■

# A 'family' four years for life

2018 grad says his four years at Notre Dame Prep included a new family of friends and a teaching staff that helped set him up for college, career and life.

At the May 20 Notre Dame Prep commencement, it was announced that Braeden Fromwiller had earned the school's "Outstanding Service Award," one that he shared with nine other classmates. According to NDP Principal Fr. Joe Hindelang, s.m., it's an annual honor for graduating seniors that's somewhat unheralded.

"Administrators and department leaders typically nominate students who have gone out of their way over the years to be of help to the school community or to other students," he said. "We then take a look at those who

have received the most nominations or had been the most helpful. Some are Student Council and some are just always ready to volunteer when something needs doing. However, most of their service goes unrewarded."

For Fromwiller, the service award fits a pattern, if you listen to his teachers. Jocelynn Yaroch is one of them.

"Braeden is truly an outstanding young man," said Yaroch, who teaches science in Notre Dame's upper school and is a co-chair of the science department. "He is generous, has a great sense of humor, and possesses a gentle spirit while exuding a

quiet confidence – unusual for an 18 year-old. I am privileged to have been part of his high school journey."

## CAREER IN RESEARCH

Fromwiller's journey after high school begins in the fall when he arrives in Ann Arbor to attend the University of Michigan. He is entering a five-year, joint-degree program at U-M that incorporates cellular and molecular biology with biomedical engineering, with an eye toward a career in medical study. But he's keeping his options open.

*Please see FROMWILLER, page 35*



According to test administrator ACT, Inc., only 0.136%, or 2,760 out of 2,030,038 test takers in the United States earned a perfect ACT score, an accomplishment so exceptional that even Bill Gates fell 10 points shy of that number when he was in high school.

As the leading college admissions test, the ACT measures what students learn in high school to determine their academic readiness for college with tests covering four skill areas: English, math, reading and science reasoning. Each area is scored on its own scale of 1 to 36. A student's composite test score is the average of those parts. The ACT is accepted by all major colleges and universities. Last year, the state average was 24.1 and nationally, it was 20.0.

In March of this year, Kennedy's classmate, Christopher VanDieren, also received notice that he had scored a perfect 36 on his ACT. In 2016, then-junior Ryan Flaherty, currently attending Hillsdale College, earned a perfect 36 on the ACT. In 2014, Michael Soisson, who went on to the University of Notre Dame, received a perfect 36 on the ACT.

In 2012, Notre Dame's Eric LaRose and Joe Soisson earned a perfect 36 on their ACT tests. In 2011, Matt Siatczynski scored a 36. In 2010, Jon Sheperd scored a 36, and Ryan McIntosh, who graduated from NDP in 2009, also achieved a 36 on his ACT.



Kathryn Kennedy

#### ALUM RETURNS TO NOTRE DAME TO COACH FOOTBALL

When NDP alum Dan Durkin got a chance to help with the Irish football program, there wasn't much hesitation, even after



Notre Dame alum Dan Durkin ('12) helped turn the Suttons Bay High School football team's 0-7 record in 2016 into a 7-4 record last year.

coaching staff," said Durkin, who turned a 0-7 season in 2016 at Suttons Bay into a 7-4 campaign last year. "It's been awesome to see the program grow since I graduated in 2012 and it's something I wanted to be a part of and to hopefully help the football program continue to grow."

Durkin takes over the head-coaching responsibilities for the Irish JV squad and is a key member of skipper Pat Fox's varsity coaching staff. He also accepted a position at Lake Orion High School teaching social studies and history.

In a June article in the Traverse City Record Eagle newspaper, Durkin said he couldn't pass up both opportunities.

"Everything just kind of aligned itself," Durkin said. "It wasn't something I really sought, but as soon as I got the Lake Orion job offer, I received the coaching offer at Notre Dame

Prep, and the stars aligned themselves just in a couple days span."

Durkin graduated from the University of Dayton in 2016 with a B.S. degree in education and health sciences and since August of 2016 taught social studies at St. Mary Catholic School in Lake Leelanau, which is located just west of Suttons Bay on Michigan's Leelanau Peninsula.

#### NOTRE DAME NAMED ONE OF ONLY 40 MICROSOFT SHOWCASE SCHOOLS IN THE U.S.

Notre Dame has been selected by Microsoft as a 2018-19 Microsoft Showcase School in recognition of its successes in integrating educational technology in the classroom to the benefit of both students and teachers. Only 40 schools nationwide were selected as showcase schools this year by the software giant.

"We continue to strive to improve the technology integration at NDPMA and are honored to be recognized by Microsoft for those efforts," said Eden Konja, director of information and academic technology for NDPMA. "Thank you to the school's leadership and to our community for the continued support of our technology enhancements."

Konja said Showcase Schools receive access to special resources and benefits from Microsoft and are regularly called upon to share their transformational educational practices with other schools. He said Notre Dame's continuing emphasis on technology was a contributing factor in earning the distinction from Microsoft. He noted that Notre Dame was chosen due to meeting or exceeding a number of specific criteria set forth by Microsoft.

#### NOTRE DAME STUDENT-ATHLETE GETS PLAYER-OF-THE-YEAR HONORS

Notre Dame senior Madeline Chinn, who was instrumental in Notre Dame's state championship in volleyball last season, has been named the 2018 U17 Club player of the year.



Chinn played for the Michigan Elite club team. The announcement of the award, which was posted to the "Prep Dig" website, included the following: "Maddy Chinn is our 2017 U17 Club Player of the Year and is also a potential front runner for the prestigious Miss Volleyball award given out by the high school volleyball coaches in Michigan. Chinn led Michigan Elite 17 Mizuno to a 13th-place finish in 17 Open. She constantly puts her teammates on her back and performs at an extremely high level against big-time competition. And that is the very reason Maddy is headed to Purdue in the fall of 2019."

#### NOTRE DAME RECEIVES GRANT FOR DIVERSITY INITIATIVE

Notre Dame received a grant this past summer from package-shipping giant UPS for its innovative diversity initiative, Stepping Stones.

The \$5,000 grant, which comes from The UPS Foundation, was made upon the recommendation of Renee Roberts, who is HR manager for the Great Lakes District of United Parcel Service.

Eduardo Martinez, president of The UPS Foundation, said that the funds will be used by NDPMA toward "providing a

*Please see IRISH News, page 22*

# The spirit moves

Iconic Detroit statue comes alive thanks to two Notre Dame alums.



**Bill Holland, from Notre Dame's Class of 2000, worked with classmate Melissa (Gerst) Ford on a project to animate the Spirit of Detroit statue to help promote the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum.**

When the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, which is located on the campus of Saginaw Valley State University just north of Saginaw, Mich., wanted to celebrate the 60th anniversary of arguably the City of Detroit's most iconic landmark, museum archivist Melissa (Gerst) Ford had an idea. During a staff brainstorming session, this 2000 ND Prep grad thought that one of her fellow grads could help out with a rather unique way to highlight the "Spirit of Detroit" statue, a signature Fredericks' creation located in downtown Detroit.

"As we prepared to celebrate this occasion, we began to think of ways in which we could engage the public and get them excited about this historic event," Ford said. "The museum kicked off our celebration with a gala event in downtown Detroit on May 12 at the One Woodward building overlooking The Spirit. As we were discussing other ideas to mark this occasion, one of my colleagues at the museum suggested we create a short animated film to better tie the sculpture to the museum that bears its creator's name. I knew that Bill Holland from my class at NDP did animation work, and I immediately suggested his name as a potential animator for this project."

She said their concept was that the Spirit statue would come to life and then decided to visit the museum up at SVSU in honor of his birthday.

"As the statue travels up Woodward Avenue and then I-75 to Saginaw, it visits several iconic landmarks, including Marshall Fredericks'

gravesite in Birmingham. After an enjoyable visit to the museum, he then returns to his rightful home sitting in front of the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center."

With a general idea of the animation in hand, Ford approached Holland, who now runs a video production and motion graphics company in Chicago,

about the museum's idea. He was immediately hooked.

In creating the nearly one and a half-minute animated video, Holland went for a representational interpretation of the sculpture and the various locations since his own work tends to be stylized. As part of his research for the film, Holland visited the Spirit in downtown Detroit, took photos from every possible angle, and recorded how the sun hit certain parts of the figure.



**Ford is an archivist at the Fredericks museum, which is located on the campus of Saginaw Valley State University.**

"When I measured the scale of the original sculpture, I realized the legs were far longer than the torso, so I had to create two master versions of the sculpture, one sitting and the other standing," he said. It must have been the right move because the resulting 2-D cut-out-style animation brought the Spirit and the world he inhabits to life.

"This animation pushed my ability to

translate reality into design," Holland said. "It had always been a dream of mine to be able to render some of the landscapes of my childhood as moving illustrations. I am grateful to the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum for giving me that opportunity."

According to Ford, the museum is promoting the animation both online via social media and its website ([www.marshallfredericks.org](http://www.marshallfredericks.org)) as well as sharing it with local media outlets and the City of Detroit.

"Our hope is that the film will encourage people to visit the museum," she said. "Many people are unaware that there is a museum dedicated to Marshall Fredericks's life and work on the campus of SVSU and we want to use this historic occasion to raise the visibility of the museum and encourage people to visit."

**Check out the animation at:**  
<https://goo.gl/zy2HBM>

Ford added that she was excited to be a part of this project because it allowed her to branch out from her normal day-to-day activities as the archivist for the museum.

"It was a great opportunity to enhance my skillset and learn about a medium that I did not have any prior experience working with," she said. "It was extremely interesting to see how an animated film comes together and all the different steps in the process."

When Ford suggested that the museum contact her former Notre Dame classmate about working on the project, she knew he would do a great job. She said she even remembered him working on film projects as a student at NDP.

"It was wonderful to reconnect with him and work together on this project," she said. "Sadly, due to the distance between SVSU and where Bill works in Chicago, all the work was done remotely via email and conference calls so we never actually got to meet up in person during the project." ■



**Holland runs his own studio in Chicago called Middlebranch Productions, Inc.**

## NOTRE DAME PREP ALUMNI

**Lexi Lawroski '17 (NDP)** Lexi chose to attend college at Seattle University in Seattle, WA. She is a strategic communication major, and is currently on track to graduate in 2020. In January of 2018, she was hired to work for a multi-million-dollar international corporation called The Davani Group. They are luxury natural stone imports (think marble, onyx, limestone, etc.) and are also the exclusive U.S. importers of Kreoo Marble designs, handcrafted in Vincenza, Italy. She was hired as an administrative assistant, which really had her working potential client outreach and market research, and now, as of August 2018, she is currently the marketing manager, the finance manager, the head of client follow-up, and currently being trained to become a customer experience manager.

**Matt Durkin '16 (NDP)** (while attending University of Dayton) made the PFL Academic Honor Roll.

**Victoria Bayliss '14 (NDP)** - Victoria was bestowed (on behalf of The University of Minnesota Crookston) with the NSIC Women's Honor Student-Athlete award. The Britton Scholar-Athlete Award for Academic Excellence, in its 34th year, recognizes the NSIC's top male student-athlete and the Kelly Scholar-Athlete Award, in its 33rd year, is presented to the NSIC's top female student-athlete.

**Erin Caton '14 (NDP)** was named a Captain of the women's Lacrosse team at HOPE College. She will graduate in May.

**James Durkin '14 (NDP)** Received Academic All-Big Ten Honors as representative of the MSU Track & Field Team

**Mara MacLean '14 (NDP)** was chosen as the Student Speaker for the University of Michigan Ross Commencement.

**Demi Outman '13 (NDP)** After graduating from NDP, Demi attended the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and graduated in 2017 with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering. During the summers in college, Demi had the opportunity to complete two internships with the Boeing Company in Seattle, WA. During her final summer in Seattle, she applied to Boeing's Engineering Career Foundations Program. She received an

# Alumni Notes & Info

Notre Dame Prep: **(NDP)**; Notre Dame High School: **(NDHS)**; Pontiac Catholic: **(PC)**; Oakland Catholic: **(OC)**; St. Frederick: **(SF)**; St. Michael: **(SM)**

offer to be in the program.

For the past year, she's been working in Charleston, South Carolina. Her first rotation was working in research and development of composite components. After 6 months, she moved into the factory to work as a stress liaison engineer supporting 787 production. She helped to analyze the structure of the aircraft whenever any production discrepancies occurred. While in South Carolina, she also had the opportunity to continue my involvement with STEM organizations. She was a volunteer at both VEX and FIRST Lego League competitions, while also being a mentor for both FIRST Lego League and FIRST Robotics teams.

About a month ago, she relocated to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to continue her work with Boeing on defense systems. She currently work as a Systems Engineer for the Chinook Helicopter program.

**Katie (Koterba) Pacynski '06 (NDP)** In January, Katie was named a shareholder of the Dobrusin Law Firm, an intellectual property firm in Pontiac, where she is a patent attorney. She was also named to the Oakland County Executive's Elite 40 Under 40 Class of 2018.

## NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI

**Keith Hodkinson '74 (NDHS)** Keith has been in radio for 42 years beginning his career in student radio at Eastern Michigan University. He has worked as an announcer in a number of stations in Michigan and Ohio. Currently he owns an on-line internet radio station in Tiffin, Ohio, and he is on air mornings 6 a.m.-10 a.m. on WBVI Mix 96.7 FM. In addition, he has been involved in Rotary for 34 years and was most recently named the district governor of Rotary District 6600 for 2020-2021 that covers over 4000 Rotarians and 65 clubs throughout Northwest and North Central Ohio.

**Jim Bieszki '71 (NDHS)** On November 25, 2017, St. Jude's class of 1967 had a 50-year class reunion. The theme was the Beatle's Sergeant Peppers album, which was 50 years

old. In 1967, it came out in the Summer of Love and it had the song "When I'm 64" on it, which the class were all 64 last year, very appropriate. Several alumni met at St. Jude's for Mass at 4 p.m., then headed to the Vintage House in Fraser, Mich. In 1967, there were 181 kids in the graduating class, three classes of 45 and one of 46. More than 70 people attended with spouses, but unfortunately, about 20 class members are deceased. However, the committee was able to connect with nearly 125 classmates thanks to the internet. We had a great evening of reminiscing about St. Jude, Notre Dame and Regina, and we're looking forward to the 50-year NDHS reunion in 2021.

**Richard DeLalla '66 (NDHS)** After six years of retirement in the Knoxville, Tenn., area, he has returned to Michigan to be closer with family and deal with some health issues. He still hopes not to be here in the winter. Richard is active in supporting Air Force veteran programs.

**Chet Roberts '60 (NDHS)** Chet is one of a handful of craftsmen around the globe that still make calibrated sundials. The sundials you see in stores and nurseries are basically for decoration only. For a sundial to tell the correct time it must be calibrated for a specific location by latitude and longitude. And because we no longer use solar time (local sun noon), but Time Zone time, it must be further compensated so the sundial will match

your clock or watch. And, since Chet must calibrate each sundial individually, he allows his buyers to choose their own inscription and background silhouette. Initially, Chet thought his main customer base would be gardeners, but that's not the case. His typical buyer wants to commission a sundial for a special person or for a special occasion. As you can imagine, some of the inscriptions are both personal and powerful. Chet's sundials are being used as "permanent" Hallmark cards that never get put into a drawer. They are always out for the recipient to see and appreciate. His sundials are currently in use in over half the U.S. and at least four countries around the globe, including New Zealand! (The New Zealand sundial was an interesting challenge for Chet because their sundials must be read counter-clockwise....) A further factoid: all of his equipment is handmade. That includes the calibration spreadsheet, the CNC router to cut the pattern, and the foundry furnace and accessories. You can check out his website, [www.ncrsundials.com](http://www.ncrsundials.com) for more info. ■

**We'd love to hear from you!** Send a note to let us know what you're up to: e-mail Beth Campbell at [bcampbell@ndpma.org](mailto:bcampbell@ndpma.org), or visit [ndpma.org/update](http://ndpma.org/update).

## Alumni slide show is in the works!

Send any photos you may have from your high school days and we'll compile them into a rotating slide show that will be on display in the alumni tent at homecoming, Friday, Oct. 12! Send photos via email to [ndalumniphotos@gmail.com](mailto:ndalumniphotos@gmail.com) before October 10 and we'll do our best to include them. Thank you!

The Notre Dame Alumni Association publishes prayer requests on its website for alumni and family members who are in need of prayer, including prayers for those who have died and those who are sick.

If you would like to request that someone be added to our prayer list, please email Beth Campbell at [bcampbell@ndpma.org](mailto:bcampbell@ndpma.org).

Please be certain that the person(s) for whom you are requesting prayers has approved that his/her name and prayer request be published. We strive to respect everyone's privacy and personal matters.



Notre Dame alum and Head of School Andy Guest says the school had a remarkable 2018 and looks forward to an even better 2019.

As we begin another terrific school year at Notre Dame, it is fun to recall a few of the great accomplishments from last year.

### ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Last spring, we graduated 195 seniors who were accepted to more than 140 colleges and universities across the country. We had 26 valedictorians with a GPA of 4.35 or greater. The average ACT of our graduating class was 27 (compared to the state average of 20) and we had 53 students with an ACT score of 30 or higher. We remain the only Catholic school in Michigan to offer the prestigious International Baccalaureate program from junior-kindergarten through 12th grade, and we were selected by NICHE as the top Catholic School in Michigan for the third time in four years.



### ATHLETICS

Notre Dame was ranked by MLIVE as having the third most successful athletic program of any school in Michigan, public or private, based on MHSSA postseason tournament success with Notre Dame teams scoring points in 17 different tournaments, including five district championships, seven regional championships and two state championships (volleyball and competitive cheer).

In addition, our football team went 8-3 with a playoff victory over Goodrich, plus, our baseball team won a record 27 games on our brand



new ASTROTURF field. In total, we had 135 different athletes recognized for postseason accomplishments.

### ARTS

Last year, we had three major theatrical performances at the school. In the upper division, our students performed Rodgers & Hammerstein's "Cinderella" (with a twist), the middle division, "Beauty and the Beast" and lower division, "Rumpelstiltskin, Private Eye."

Our visual arts students earned a record 50 awards, including 20 gold keys, 14 silver keys, 16 honorable mentions and one gold-key portfolio at the Scholastic Art and Writing Awards competition in southeast Michigan.



Our award-winning band and choir programs continue to earn first- and second-division level ratings at various festivals and competitions throughout the state. Larry Egan would be proud!

### SCIENCE, ART AND TECHNOLOGY WING

On August 15, the Feast of the Assumption, we held a blessing and ribbon-cutting ceremony in the new courtyard dedicated to our Blessed Mother. More than 350 attended the ceremony, including several NDPMA trustees, media, city council members, Pontiac Mayor Deirdre Waterman, Auxiliary Bishop Joel Konzen s.m. and Marist Provincial Fr. Paul Frechette s.m.



The new 26,000-square-foot addition includes eight classrooms, three science labs, two art studios, a robotics room and a greenhouse.

### AN INVITATION

Notre Dame's success is the direct result of hard work, dedication, philanthropy and stewardship from faculty, staff, students, alumni, parents, friends and grandparents who span St. Frederick, St. Michael, Pontiac Catholic, Oakland Catholic and Notre Dame High School.

I invite all alumni to become part of the Notre Dame success story and hope to see many of you at our Homecoming football game, pre-game tailgate or 5K Fun Run on October 12 and 13.

Sincerely,

*Andrew J. Guest*

Andrew J. Guest  
Head of School

# Painting the (Mo)Town

Alum and business owner is manufacturing paint and making waves in Detroit and environs.

**N**otre Dame alum Brian Eisbrenner ('99), who is the president of Motor City Paint-Shelby Paint & Decorating, earlier this year finished up a rather novel process for naming paint,

a typically daunting task given the literally millions of paint variations and names in the marketplace.

Eisbrenner conducted a contest in conjunction with the Detroit Historical Museum after he and his staff came up with 75 new colors based on a year-long study of many of the historical buildings, furniture, consumer products and cars that have helped define

Detroit for many years.

"The contest was so awesome," said Eisbrenner, who took over the 40-plus-year-old company from his father in 2008. "We ultimately came up with 75 total authentic Detroit historical colors and 25 of them were named by the public."

He said it was interesting to hear all the different name ideas from people from all over



Notre Dame alum Brian Eisbrenner ('99) was named one of Crain's Detroit Business "40 under 40" honorees in 2016. He is president of Motor City Paint-Shelby Paint and Decorating, with stores in Shelby Township, Grosse Pointe Woods and Rochester Hills. (Photo by Jacob Lewkow)

the area.

"It's wonderful to see what Detroit means to other people and it was difficult to narrow down the names," he added. "It was tough, but we picked the names that best describe each color and its Detroit link."

Winning paint names chosen for Motor City Paint's new line include White Stripes, Corktown Celedon, Black Bottom Blue, Pale Pewabic and Belle Isle Blue, all coming from hundreds of entries sent in from around the state.

## BY MICHIGAN, FOR MICHIGAN

Eisbrenner has been going through a gradual rebranding of his company, which currently has stores in Shelby Township, Grosse Pointe Woods and Rochester Hills, and will eventually be doing business solely as Motor City Paint.

"We have begun to deemphasize Shelby Paint & Decorating on our signage," he said. "However, it has some real sentimental value to myself and customers who purchased paint from my father. But it will most likely be completely phased out over the next two years."

According to Eisbrenner, Motor City Paint, with projected sales this year of \$1.5 million, is made by Michiganders and for Michiganders. He said that means they develop and test their paint like a Michigander would.

"We make sure that our paint won't crack or peel during the infamous freeze-thaw cycles in the winter in this state," he said. "We make sure that it can power through the heat and humidity of the summer. No matter what Michigan's climate throws at your home — rain, snow, sun or wind — Motor City Paint is rated #1 in washability and stain-blocking."

## RAFFLE TICKETS AND RESILIENCY

Eisbrenner's operational and marketing acumen has not gone without notice in southeast Michigan's business community. In 2016, he was named one of Crain's Detroit Business magazine's 40 under 40 awardee, an honor he shared with Brad Williams, vice president of the Detroit Regional Chamber, Marcus Collins, a senior vice president of Donor Advertising and Kellie Becker, a partner at Plante Moran.

But according to Eisbrenner, much of his success can be traced back to his time at Notre Dame High School in Harper Woods — and to raffle tickets.

"Notre Dame and the Marists helped grow my faith and lay a strong moral foundation," he said. "That has helped guide me through some tough decisions. Believe it or not, selling raffle tickets at ND to get days off was probably one of the best lessons in business. It taught me to be resilient and work hard."

Classroom time at NDHS also played an

outsized role in Eisbrenner's life.

"While I was at Notre Dame, I was fortunate enough to have had Conrad Vachon as an English teacher for two years," he said. "He was one of a kind. He kept pushing me to be a better creative writer. In many ways, I now use the creative writing skills that he taught me in marketing my company."

He also recalls some of the extracurriculars that kept him and his fellow Class of 1999 alums busy outside the classroom.

"Many of my classmates and I went with Fr. Kiselica on a great trip to Germany at the end of my senior year," he recalled. "It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I am very thankful for. Not only did Fr. K. have a fan-



**Eisbrenner conducted a contest in conjunction with the Detroit Historical Museum to name 25 of his 75 new paint colors inspired by the city of Detroit.**

tastic itinerary planned, but it was great bonding with friends. He must have been a saint to take twenty 18-year-olds halfway around the world."

The late Fr. John Bryson, s.m., also figured in Eisbrenner's NDHS experience.

"Everyday in the cafeteria, Fr. Bryson would play Frank Sinatra's 'Strangers in the Night' and 'Summer Wind' during lunch," he said. "Hearing those songs today brings back a flood of memories of Bryson — as well as him selling slushies 25¢ each or two for a quarter."

## EAST-SIDER

Getting into Notre Dame in the first place and paying tuition also provided Eisbrenner some hard lessons on hard work. He grew up in Saint Clair Shores, moved to Shelby Township and attended public schools through 8th grade.



**Eisbrenner took over the paint business from his father in 2008.**

"My father had played hockey for Detroit Austin High School [closed in 1978] and I wanted to follow in his footsteps and play hockey for Notre Dame," he said. "My father told me he would only pay half of the tuition and I had to pay the other half myself. So in order to do that, I had to work at the paint store in the summers to save for my future at Notre Dame. I worked hard and saved money before my freshman year, but I think my dad only wanted to make sure I was really committed because he never accepted my money. I actually didn't end up playing hockey at Notre Dame, but I am proud to have played lacrosse there."

Eisbrenner now lives in Grosse Pointe Woods with his wife, Joanna, who graduated from Regina High School, and their two boys, Connor, 6, and Henry, 3. They're parishioners at St. Joan of Arc in Saint Clair Shores and like many east-siders, it's hard for them not to run into fellow Notre Dame alums.

"We had a very small class at Notre Dame; I think there were 89 kids, but they were a great group of guys and many have become lifelong friends," he said. "A group of us still get together every year around Christmas. It is especially fun because it is a chance to see some of the guys that I don't normally see. Some people even fly in from out of town. It is truly amazing that it has been almost 20 years and we still keep in touch. Living and working on the east side, I am constantly running into Notre Dame graduates. I frequently see them while at work and at various business functions. It's an instant icebreaker when you meet a fellow Notre Dame grad. There's a common bond that keeps us together and that sometime opens many other doors."

And to reinforce the fact that Eisbrenner retains that Notre Dame and Marist mission to help those less fortunate, Motor City Paint has pledged to donate 10 percent of its profit from paint sales to charity, a commitment the company began in 2017. ■

pathway for under-represented, diverse, socioeconomically-challenged students seeking to attend a challenging school that fosters 100% graduates attending college.

"We are pleased that The UPS Foundation is able to make this grant to NDPMA," Martinez said, "and we extend our best wishes for your continued success in the future."

Notre Dame's Stepping Stones program is a six-week summer intensive "camp" followed by five mid-year check-in sessions designed to increase academic readiness and private school eligibility for rising 8th and 9th graders from the Pontiac community.

### AN IB NOTRE DAME RECORD

Notre Dame Preparatory School announced in July that 49 students successfully earned the International Baccalaureate diploma for the 2017-18 school year. It's the highest number of IB Diplomas ever earned in nine years of previous IB-DP graduating classes at Notre Dame Prep and for this year works out to a 74.2% success rate. In 2017, the global average was 69.8%.

Kim Anderson, who is the IB Diploma program coordinator at NDPMA and chair of the modern language department, said that the 2018 results were stellar. "I could not be more proud of this class," she said. "Not only have these kids proven once again that they are academic scholars, they are also artists, musicians, actors, singers — you name it!"

Anderson also noted that Notre Dame did not have a single student in its IB Diploma program fail the Theory of Knowledge course or the extended essay, a rare accomplishment for two very critical components of the program.

In 2018, more than 607,000 examination papers — the largest number since the introduction of the Diploma Program in 1968 — were processed in 75 languages, according to International Baccalaureate. As of February of this year, there were 3,182 schools offering the IB-DP in 153 different countries worldwide.

### PONTIAC PLAUDITS

Notre Dame Prep alums Daniel Castro ('15) and Justin Kreger ('17) were honored this past June at a ceremony recognizing those in the Pontiac Promise Zone college scholarship program who earned the highest grade point average during their respective years in the program.

The Pontiac Promise Zone provides financial assistance to students who live and attend school within the Pontiac School District to attend any college, university or trade school in Michigan. Students may receive up to \$3,000 each year for up to four (4) years. Students who live in Pontiac, Auburn Hills, Bloomfield Hills, Lake Orion, Rochester, Lake Angelus, Waterford and Sylvan Lake, and attend school within the Pontiac School District are eligible for assistance.

Students from the



Justin Kreger, left, graduated from ND Prep in 2017 and Daniel Castro graduated in 2015. Kreger attends Oakland University and Castro is at the University of Michigan.

following schools are eligible to apply for the scholarship: Arts and Technology Academy of Pontiac, Auburn Hills Christian, Baldwin Rd. Church Academy, Heritage Christian School, International Technology Academy, Life Skills Center of Pontiac, Notre Dame Preparatory School, Oakland Christian, Pontiac Academy for Excellence and Pontiac High School.

Currently, Castro attends the University of Michigan and Kreger attends Oakland University.

### NOTRE DAME COACH NAMED TO CCCAM HALL OF FAME

Longtime cheer coach and five-time Notre Dame state champion Beth Campbell has been named to the Competitive Cheer Coaches Association of Michigan's hall of fame.

According to CCCAM officials, Campbell, who also serves as Notre Dame's director of alumni relations, earned her honor by virtue of her outstanding contribution to the sport of competitive cheer, outstanding contribution to the CCCAM organization, outstanding achievement in the sport of competitive cheer, and competitive cheer coaching experience of at least 15 years.



In nominating Campbell for the hall of fame, Walled Lake Western High School cheer coach Amber Stocks said Campbell has not only been a mentor to her, but a mentor to many.

"Beth's helpful demeanor and her passion for the sport has inspired me and many others," Stocks said. "I don't think there is anyone better for this honor. When you think of all the great people in the cheer world, her name immediately comes to mind. Plus, her knowledge of this sport and the ideas and creativity she brings each year have, in my opinion, helped change the evolution of the sport."

Now into her 21st year of coaching, the seventh heading the Irish cheer program, Campbell spent 13 years as head coach of Troy High School's competitive cheer program. She was named district coach of the year in 2009, 2010, 2012, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, and regional coach of the year in 2009, 2014 and 2015. In 2018, Campbell earned state coach of the year honors after completing her fifth state championship season with Notre Dame (2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018).

### ALUM NAMED NOTRE DAME DANCE COACH



Notre Dame Preparatory School announced in June that it hired Angela Munaco as head varsity dance coach. Munaco, who graduated from Notre Dame Prep in 2012, replaced co-coaches Jennifer Angelo and Deanna Zawislak, who have accepted new positions elsewhere.

A graduate of Grand Valley State University with a psychology degree (emphasis child development), Munaco was a member of the Laker pom team and danced more than 16 years with the Adagio Dance Company, Deborah's Stage Door and Suzette's Masters of Dance competitive dance teams. At Notre Dame Prep, she was on the Irish dance team for four years, serving as captain her senior year.

Munaco currently works as a realtor at Simon Thomas Homes, a Keller Williams company based in Birmingham, Mich. Prior to this, she worked at Quicken Loans as a servicing coach. Previously, she worked as a child care provider at Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services, a behavioral health provider based in Grand Rapids, Mich., and was a program director at Black River Farm and Ranch, a summer camp facility for girls in Crosswell, Mich.

### NOTRE DAME PREP ANNOUNCES NEW HEAD COACH FOR GIRLS BASKETBALL

Notre Dame Preparatory School announced last spring that Tom Kocik '85 (PC) is taking over its girls basketball program. Kocik becomes head coach of the Irish varsity team and will



have overall responsibility for the entire girls program at the school. He replaced Kathleen Offer, who stepped aside to concentrate on her role as dean of admissions at Notre Dame.

Kocik said he is excited about his new role at Notre Dame and looks forward to next season.

"As a coach, I recognize the responsibility that has been placed in my hands," he said. The development of the athlete both physically, mentally and spiritually is foremost my primary concern. I believe that just as being a Christian is a tremendous privilege, so is being an athlete."

Currently working as program director—SAP practice at VisionIT, a global software development company with headquarters in Detroit, Kocik most recently was head varsity girls basketball coach at Parkway Christian School in Sterling Heights, Mich., a position he's held since 2015. Prior to that, he was head coach of Parkway Christian's girls JV team and assistant coach for girls varsity.

Kocik, who is a 1985 alum of Pontiac Catholic High School, also coached a number of Parkway Christian boys basketball teams, including junior varsity and 7th- and 8th-grade. In addition, he was pastor and building manager for the Waterford Christian Association and served as pastor, principal, athletic director and coach at Mt. Zion Christian School in Waterford, Mich.

### NDP SENIORS GRADUATE, LEAVING BEHIND AN IMPRESSIVE RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

One hundred ninety five seniors walked across the stage May 20, and received their diplomas after four years at Notre Dame's upper school. Not only did Notre Dame Prep's 24th graduating class leave behind a beautiful campus, a very proud faculty and staff, and the state's number-one Catholic high school, they are leaving behind a number of impressive statistics as a group.

According to figures released by Notre Dame Prep's counseling department, this year's class of graduating seniors earned more than \$16 million to date in academic merit scholarships from colleges and universities (this number will go up as graduates continue to receive scholarship offers in the days and weeks ahead). That total amount of dollars works out to more than an \$82,000 average for each member of the class.

In addition, the Class of 2018 averaged 26.9 on the ACT and includes 61 students who scored a 30 or above on the test. Also, Notre Dame's graduating seniors averaged 1346 on the



SAT finished the year with an overall grade-point-average (GPA) of 3.76, matching the 2016 class average.

Twenty-two graduates filled out this year's valedictory court for the class, which also featured 66 candidates for the prestigious International Baccalaureate diploma, a record for the school. In addition, many of the finest colleges and universities across the country have accepted graduates in the Class of 2018, including the University of Michigan, the University of Notre Dame and Cornell.

And finally, perhaps most important, each of this year's graduating seniors spent increasingly significant amounts of time on leadership-level projects as part of their service requirements — once again proving that besides turning out "academic scholars," Notre Dame continues to graduate "Christian people and upright citizens."

### Engagements/Weddings

**Madison Georgia '14 (NDP)** is engaged to **Erik Egner '13 (NDP)**.

**Mary Guest '12 (NDP)** married **Michael Kurowski '12 (NDP)** at St. Hugo of the Hills, Bloomfield Hills. September 15, 2018.

**Julie Page (Kherkher) '01 (NDP)** married Bryan Page in Riviera Maya, Mexico, February 6, 2018.

### Births

**Chad Spigner '00 (NDHS)** and wife, Carissa, welcomed their first child, Dominic Earlin Spigner, on August 31, 2018.

**Erin Strawbridge '00 (NDP)** and husband, Benjamin, welcomed daughter, Eleanor Spring Strawbridge, to the world on April 12, 2018.

**Katie (Koterba) Pacynski '06 (NDP)** and her husband welcomed their first child, Claire Ellen, on March 10, 2018.

### Alumni/staff/faculty rest in peace

**Jeff Romero '87 (PC)** Brother of Jay '85 (PC) 3-29-18

**Paul Sick '60 (NDHS)** 6-30-18

**Patricia Zuby** Mother of Matthew '01 (NDP) and Jessica '04 (NDP) 8-3-18

**Deacon Gary Krueger** Taught at Notre Dame High School; father of Steve '87 (NDHS) 7-23-18

**James Navetta '67 (NDHS)** Brother of Robert '64 (NDHS) 8-15-18

NOTE: For a complete list, see [ndpma.org/prayers](http://ndpma.org/prayers). May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen. ■

# Board continues to build alumni association

Notre Dame has one of the most vibrant high school alumni associations in southeast Michigan. One of the reasons for that is its alumni board, which is comprised of representatives from Notre Dame Prep as well as from Notre Dame High School, Pontiac Catholic and St. Frederick. Those Notre Dame Alumni Association board members were asked recently about their memories of high school. They also were asked about why it's important for them to take such an active role with NDPMA and their fellow alums. Read on!



## DEAN ALDO '76 (PC)

### Why do you think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum?

Continuity. Being part of the growth and evolution of the community of Notre Dame. The chance to reconnect with alumni and provide them with the opportunity to experience and be involved with

NDPMA. And history, understanding and honoring the roots of the school and the path taken to get to where we are today. Providing a type of bridge from my time as a student at PCHS to the transformation into NDPMA.

### What is your favorite memory of high school?

Academics, wearing a uniform, participating in various sports and the nuns. Having been educated in the Pontiac Public School system from kindergarten through eighth grade, the transfer to PCHS was dramatic, to say the least. Academically speaking, I was behind and had to catch up, which was initially quite demanding. The best part of wearing a uniform is that I learned how to tie a neck tie; half Windsor and overhand knots. Playing varsity baseball and golf emphasized team, working together and a special camaraderie. The most intimidating part of the high school were the nuns; especially Sisters Mercia and Margaret, who defined the zero-tolerance policy.



## MOLLY (COLDREN) CAMPBELL '08 (NDP)

### Why do you think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum?

Notre Dame Prep and Marist Academy prepared me for a successful college experience with the tools to succeed in the real world. I am forever grateful for the relationships formed during my time at

NDPMA and am proud to be an alumni. Staying a part of NDPMA is a big deal to me as I feel it is now my turn to give back to the people and the place that welcomed me back with open arms and even provided me with a job. As an alum and educator at NDPMA, my students and parents are able to witness this pride and passion towards the school firsthand, and hopefully will inspire them to feel the same pride and passion as they go through NDPMA.

### What is your favorite memory of high school?

My favorite memory at Notre Dame was winning the 2007 volleyball state championship. This accomplishment was the first volleyball state championship in Oakland County and the second state championship at the school! It was such an amazing accomplishment that my teammates and I still celebrate to this day.



## JANE DIKA '02 (NDP)

### Why do you think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum?

I believe that it is important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum because Notre Dame was a place where I felt I was embraced as one of the family and supported in a way that prepared me for

the challenges I would face in my life. It wasn't until I started college and then grad school where I realized how the skills and education I was provided at Notre Dame really went above and beyond what I needed to be successful. Every time that I go back to the school or participate in alumni activities, I am welcomed and feel as if I am not just wanted for how I can help the school but am a valued member of the NDPMA family.

### What is your favorite memory of high school?

Some of my most fond memories of high school revolve around band class and band activities. Whether it was pep band, marching band, parades, trips or pit orchestra it was always a fun time. Even when our fingers were freezing during a parade, getting rained on practicing on the hill, or being exhausted from prepping for the musicals for hours after school, it was always a fun time.



## BRIAN DOOLEY '85 (NDHS)

### Why do you think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum?

ND played a very large part of forming who I am today, and staying involved just seems like the natural thing to do. Educating our children and giving them the tools for success, can't be taken lightly. As a father of one alum and two current students, being

involved in the school's progress and success is truly one of the most satisfying things I can spend my time on.

### What is your favorite memory of high school?

Two favorites: The four years I spent on the varsity gymnastics team and Irish Week!



## BOBBIE (BIESZKI) HALL '00 (NDP)

### Why do you think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum?

I think it's important to stay involved for so many reasons: it sets a good tone for our current students to know that it is a good thing to come back here and be involved whether it be by giving time or

money in support of what goes on here; it shows that we appreciate the blessings we received (whether it be friends, faith, education, etc.) from going to this school and wanting to pay it forward to students and teachers that come after us; it helps us stay connected to our high school memories and friends; it allows us to see the school from a different perspective than when we attended and show appreciation for it from our new, adult perspective. My biggest reason for being here is that I've always seen this place as a home away from home, not just because of the crazy amount of hours I spent here as a student, but also the people that made my experience what it was. This place is special

and it's a part of who we are so it just makes sense to stay connected and give back what and when we can.

**What is your favorite memory of high school?**

My favorite high school memory is probably the friendships with classmates and teachers that were created then and are still a part of my life now. Of course I remember the big games we won or lost, and the outcome of Irish Week each year, but more importantly, between the classes, bus rides for sports, sports practices, Irish Week, school dances, etc., the people I shared those experiences with will stay with me forever.



**LISA (SYROWIK) HEALY '98 (NDP)**

**Why do you think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum?**

I believe it is so important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum because alumni are truly loved and respected by the administration. I get the unique opportunity to be able to be on the alumni

board. I hear at each meeting topics about how we can help our alum, thank them, reconnect with them, stay updated on their successes and accomplishments and connect them with our current high schoolers. As a current parent of two ND Marist elementary school students, it is very moving to see such pride from our administration for our alumni. As a graduate of NDP, it makes me want to give back to the school that doesn't just see me as some girl who graduated from the class of 1998, but as a family member that they truly have invested in.

**What is your favorite memory of high school?**

Favorite memory: Mrs. Connors' Spanish class junior and senior year. There are way too many stories and laughs from that class!



**MIKE KASTLER '75 (NDHS)**

**Why do you think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum?**

It's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum for a couple of reasons. One is to relive some of the best learning experiences of our lives.

Notre Dame really did shape my learning skills that have lasted me a lifetime! As a lifelong learner with three different college experiences over the years, I keep coming back to the Notre Dame study, work and ethics fundamentals. Secondly, I also think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame to give back to the current students and faculty. It's a pleasure to share life's experiences with others who are going through similar learning and growth that I had experienced back in the day.

**What is your favorite memory of high school?**

My favorite memories of Notre Dame carry a common theme: the camaraderie. It seemed that no matter what the event was, a football game or a class project, the dedication to teamwork and the ensuing camaraderie will always be remembered.



**PATTY (DEAN) PHILLIPS '52 (SF)**

**Why do you think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum?**

If you have shared four years with the same friends you will carry the same memories for the rest of your life. The alumni will always be a source to be able to touch those memories once again.

**What is your favorite memory of high school?**

After starting first grade with the same people at St. Frederick I shared high school memories with, it was an accumulation of years of memories. Outstanding was the warm and caring sense of community of my school family.



**MEREDITH (GIFFORD) SCOTT '02 (NDP)**

**Why do you think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum?**

Notre Dame gave me the confidence to pursue a career in the arts. Even when I was in college, I would get invited by Mr. Kotarski to help with auditions for shows and try to come back for performances.

I loved staying connected to a program that helped me grow so much. Years later, that led me being asked to direct a show which helped me make a big career change in educational theatre. I don't think I would be here today without the support and guidance of Notre Dame.

**What is your favorite memory of high school?**

My high school musical, "Guys n' Dolls," with my best friends. We work our tails off for three months, are exhausted, and then have a blast watching our friends and family see us on stage. I also loved the Beatles review we did in choir!



**DAN STANISZEWSKI '02 (NDP)**

**Why do you think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum?**

Notre Dame provided me with a great education and a chance to get into my #1 college after graduation. I want to stay involved with the students to make sure they get just as good if not a better education than I

received. Seeing the school grow in so many ways since I was a student and even since I started as a faculty member has been amazing. Notre Dame has blessed me and my family in many ways and I want to pay that blessing forward to others

**What is your favorite memory of high school?**

As freshmen on the football team, we went 0-9 and only had 14 players on the team. Through a great deal of hard work after going 2-7 and then 3-6 as sophomores and juniors, we went 5-4 and just barely missed out on the playoffs. Despite missing the playoffs, being able to see the hard work pay off and going through the struggle and fight with my team was an amazing memory and helped make me the man I am today.



**AMY TKAC '02 (NDP)**

**Why do you think it's important to stay involved with Notre Dame as an alum?**

I think it's important to stay involved because I can give back to Notre Dame in another way on top of a monetary gift. It also helps me to make life long connections.

**What is your favorite memory of high school?**

My favorite memories of NDP were the arts. I was involved in choir, theater and color guard. ■

Please join us at our next board meeting on Nov. 13, 6 p.m., at the Fr. Colin House, 1389 Giddings Road, Pontiac.

# Fashioning a career

Alum and college junior (and book author) is already well on her way to a dream career.

**C**hasing a dream to work in journalism within the fashion industry may seem like a common pursuit for some young men and women, and perhaps it is. But connecting that dream to reality usually takes a healthy dose of luck and lots of time for most.

But then you meet Notre Dame alum Katarina Kovac ('16). She's not only well on her way to attaining her dream, she's done it during her first two years at Oakland University.

"During my freshman year of college, I spent a lot of time going back and forth between various majors," she said. "I knew what I was passionate about, which was writing and journalism related to the fashion industry, but I initially also felt that I should pursue the economics or business route as a fallback."

However, after taking a few economics classes, she knew that her heart wasn't all in.

"I remembered something I was told about future careers during my high school years at Notre Dame: that one should take a look at what one does in his or her free time, and try to turn that into a career," she said.

And that's basically all it took.

"I stepped back and began to think about what it was that I did in my free time, and the fashion industry was at the forefront," she said. "I was reading all of the big glossy fashion magazines and I memorized every single masthead."

She said she'd rip out pages of the magazines and decorate her bedroom with them, her grey walls soon overtaken by Calvin Klein campaigns, Dolce & Gabbana ads and editorial stories that took place in seemingly exotic lands.

"I could figure out which designers worked at which labels, which labels people cared about the most, and what trends were informing everything from online retail strategy to fall denim," she said. "I also learned everything I could about the designers, including, in some cases, what their favorite ice cream was."

At OU, she would livestream New York Fashion Week during her lectures and wrote



**Notre Dame grad Katarina Kovac ('16) attended the 2018 Tony Awards, which were held June 10 at Radio City Music Hall in New York City.**

almost every single research paper she was assigned about designers. As this seemingly intense infatuation with the industry was absorbed into nearly every fiber of her being, she nonetheless began to understand that her interest was more cerebral than obsessive. So, she switched majors to Oakland's writing and rhetoric department, and at that point, decided that she was going to do everything she could to get a summer internship with a fashion brand in New York City after her first year of college.

## BOOK AUTHOR

"I called and emailed almost every single company or fashion house in New York," she said. "And I ended up accepting an internship with designer Rebecca Minkoff's company. I also began to grow my network base and started to get jobs working at New York Fashion Week runway shows for other designers."

Kovac even wrote a short book about her experiences as an intern in the fashion industry. Titled "The Life of a Fashion Intern in New York City: How I Did It," she published it on Amazon with the hope that it might inspire others who like her wanted to get into the business, but didn't necessar-

ily have the right connections yet.

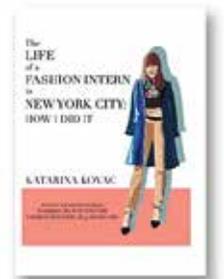
It was during her New York internship in the summer of 2017 that she went to a fashion event at The Metropolitan Museum of Art and ended up introducing herself to a Vogue editor who she'd admired for a long time. The editor brought her in the following week for an interview and, she said, her life changed from that moment on.

She kept in touch with the people at Vogue while she was back at OU for her sophomore year and they finally decided to bring her in to work with them for the 2018 Met Gala, which was held last month.

"At the gala, I found myself working for none other than Anna Wintour — yes, that Anna Wintour — and hanging out with the likes of George Clooney, Kendall Jenner and Blake Lively," she said. "Wow, only 12 months before, I was sitting in my room, studying for exams and watching red carpet events on my laptop. Never did I think that one year later, I would be a part of an amazing team and actually get to be a part of what seemed like the most far-off and glamorous event."

After the Met Gala, Vogue brought her on as a features coordinator. Now, as just a 20-year-old college kid, she's attending the Tony Awards, parties, dinners and galas in New York City with the likes of celebrities and designers (some of whom she said she's able to call friends), while writing for Vogue.com.

"I get to work with some of the most intelligent, world-renowned editors," she said. "It really is quite surreal to be doing what I'm doing now. For me, there was never a question of 'will this work?' or 'is this worth it?' There was simply no other option because I knew it was what I was destined to do."



**Kovac wrote a book, titled "The Life of a Fashion Intern in New York City: How I Did It," about her experiences as an intern in the fashion industry.**

# in journalism

## NOTRE DAME 'UNPARALLELED'

Reaching that 'destiny,' however, was not without hard work — and not without a big push from her Notre Dame Prep experience, something Kovac more than acknowledges.

"Attending Notre Dame helped me achieve my goals by teaching me to be independent, ambitious, and to think outside of the box," she said. "From the start of my freshman year at Notre Dame, the faculty encouraged me to be vocal about my opinions and to always ask questions to make sure I understood any problems."

She also said she began to be captivated by the possibilities of social transformation during her days at Notre Dame, when her studies in history, literature, current events and ethics began to shape her worldview.

"I feel I developed a social conscience at Notre Dame that I don't necessarily think I could have gained anywhere else," she said. "Plus, the rigorous curriculum at Notre Dame is unparalleled, and once I got to college, I began to receive 4.0s due to the fact that I was more than prepared with a Notre Dame education under my belt. College felt easy and my high school education certainly contributed to that."

Kovac's high school education also included a few lessons and a host of memories she holds very dear.

"From English class with Mr. Butorac to math with Mr. Stan, the faculty taught me that there is not just one correct way," she said. "A book can have many interpretations and a math problem can have many ways to get to a solution."

She said she's taken those lessons to heart when approaching hurdles in college as well as in her still-nascent fashion career.

"Instead of giving up, I always ask why, and then proceed to find a solution," she said. "Also, Notre Dame is truly special in the fact that students and faculty form a familial bond. "I really miss seeing Mrs. Pasko every morning, giving high fives to Brother Louis at our varsity soccer games, and joking around with Mr. Smith in forensic psychology." ■

**On June 11, 2018, Kovac, right, attended the TrevorLIVE New York fundraising event that raises awareness for suicide prevention resources and crisis intervention services offered by The Trevor Project.**





# Albion achiever

Notre Dame alum talks about what her high school alma mater meant to her college experience and to a possible future career.

**A**ngela Adams, a 2015 graduate of Notre Dame Prep, is now into her fourth year at Albion College in Albion, Mich. She also plays volleyball for the Britons, which, along with her time playing volleyball for the Irish, has helped, she said, make her college experience such a success so far.

"The entire student-athlete experience at Notre Dame was monumental in my transition to college and college athletics," she said. "The discipline, leadership, time management, and mental and emotional strength I gained from my experience in the volleyball program at NDP is the foundation I rely on and build off of as a student-athlete at Albion.

Adams said not only was her love for the game of volleyball sparked in high school, but her current competitive nature and drive came from her Irish teammates, the NDP coaching staff, and what she says was the endless positivity from the faculty at Notre Dame.

"All of this combined led me to my future at Albion," she said. "And for that, I am forever grateful."

We asked her about her past at Notre Dame Prep and her present at Albion, but we also wanted to hear about her future plans post-college. She was kind enough recently to spend a little time discussing all of this as well as whether or not her high school alma mater will continue to influence her future, a future that quite possibly might include a career in sports management.

## **Adams on how Notre Dame Prep got her ready for college (and life):**

Academically, I felt extremely prepared going into my freshman year at Albion College. In some cases, the classes I took freshman year

were easier than the classes I took in high school. I am thankful for the tough classes and rigorous workload that I experienced at NDP because without it, managing a full college class workload on top of volleyball practice, games, and travel would have been nearly an impossible task.

Finally, I believe that without NDP, I would not be the woman I am today. The people I shared that experience with became like family to me and it was the perfect stepping stone I needed to take me into college. I attribute a lot of my growth intellectually, spiritually and emotionally to Notre Dame. I am thankful to have such a wonderful alma mater.

## **On how she ended up pursuing a business-based college education:**

I am a rising senior at Albion College, majoring in economics and management and double minoring in business and communication studies. I began my time at Albion by becoming a member of the Carl A. Gerstacker Institute for Business and Management, which jump-started my transition into college and into the professional business world. The administrators of the institute are fabulous and continue to provide many opportunities for business students to learn about different fields and career options, grow as business professionals at networking events, and gain valuable work experience by completing internships for academic credit. After graduating from Notre Dame, I knew that I wanted to do something business-related. I had a passion for it and I was pretty good at it, too.

Over the past couple of years, I changed my major a few times; however, the changes were all in the business area. I wanted to gain a broader understanding of business as a whole through my classes and Albion does a great job of focusing in on each student's passions, goals, and aspirations, and strategically laying out their educational

path to maximize academic growth.

In the spring of my junior year, I spent the semester off campus in Philadelphia through a program called The Philadelphia Center. This program is managed by Albion College and draws students from small liberal-arts schools in the midwest and Pennsylvania and brings them to Philadelphia where they spend an entire semester living in and exploring the beautiful city of Philadelphia while taking two classes and completing a full-time internship — all for academic credit.

The classes are taught by the faculty at the center and adjunct professors from the city. For my internship, I worked for the Urban League of Philadelphia, a non-profit organization focused on social and economic empowerment for the underserved communities in Philadelphia. I worked closely with the chief financial officer as a financial associate for the organization. It truly was a one-of-a-kind experience!

#### **On what she's doing this summer:**

This summer, I am currently working at the Flagstar Bank headquarters in Troy, Mich. I am a business analyst intern on the Mortgage Delivery Services team in the information technology department. I work closely with the chief information officer as well as the business relationship managers. Although drastically different from what I was doing in Philly, I am excited to be learning new skills outside of my financial services background and knowledge base. I hope to return to campus after completing this second academic internship with an even clearer vision of my future after college.

#### **On her extracurriculars at Albion:**

On top of my academics, I am an active member of the Albion College volleyball team. This upcoming fall will be my final season. In addition, I am one of the student athletic advisory committee representatives for the volleyball team and I work closely with other representatives from all the other athletic teams to coordinate volunteer hours and sports clinics. Furthermore, I am a member of the Phi chapter of Alpha Xi Delta on campus. As a sorority, we are actively involved in raising awareness for autism by fundraising for our philanthropic organization, Autism Speaks. Finally, I am a member of the student marketing committee, which works closely with the marketing and communication departments on campus and assists in promoting Albion College to prospective students and alumni.

#### **On how she narrowed her career choices in business:**

Like I mentioned before, for the majority of my college experience up until now I was very indecisive as to which specific business-related field I wanted to go into after I graduate. I bounced back and forth between accounting, finance, marketing, etc. Again, I knew I loved business, but which specific field in business was still very unclear to me until very recently. At the end of May, I attended the 2018 NCAA Career in Sports forum. This was a conference where 240 selected student-athlete applicants from all three NCAA Divisions came together to learn about the possibilities of a career in sports. To apply to this forum, I had to be nominated by Albion's associate athletic director and senior women administrator, Melissa Walton. Once nominated, I could apply to attend this event. I was ecstatic when I found out I was accepted to the forum at the NCAA national office in downtown Indianapolis. It was a four-day conference where a variety of athletic administrators from around the country, NCAA employees, and interns and graduate assistants came to speak about their experiences in athletics, explain what their specific roles entail, and provide advice to 240 aspiring athletic administrators. This forum was quite literally life-changing for me. Hearing the personal stories and roles and responsibilities of the speakers as well as networking with fellow student

athletes turned a light bulb on in my head. I had an “aha” moment and everything came together as to what I want to pursue after graduation. A significant portion of the forum focused on “your why,” as in, why do you do what you do and why do you want to do what you do. This really helped me piece together my goals.

#### **On being a positive role model for other student-athletes:**

After graduation, I want to pursue a master's degree in sports administration and eventually work my way up to being a senior women's administrator (SWA) on a college campus. As I reflected on my experience in Indianapolis as well as my career in athletics, both at Notre Dame and Albion, I determined that my “why” is that I truly want to be that positive role-model to women and student-athletes just as the many athletic administrators I have experienced in my career were for me. From Coach Wroubel, Mrs. Carlson, Ryan Minarik, JR, and Lenny at Notre Dame, to the coaching, athletic training, and athletic administration staff at Albion, I have been blessed with working



In the spring of Adams' junior year, she spent a semester off campus in Philadelphia through a program called The Philadelphia Center, while taking classes and completing a full-time internship — all for academic credit.

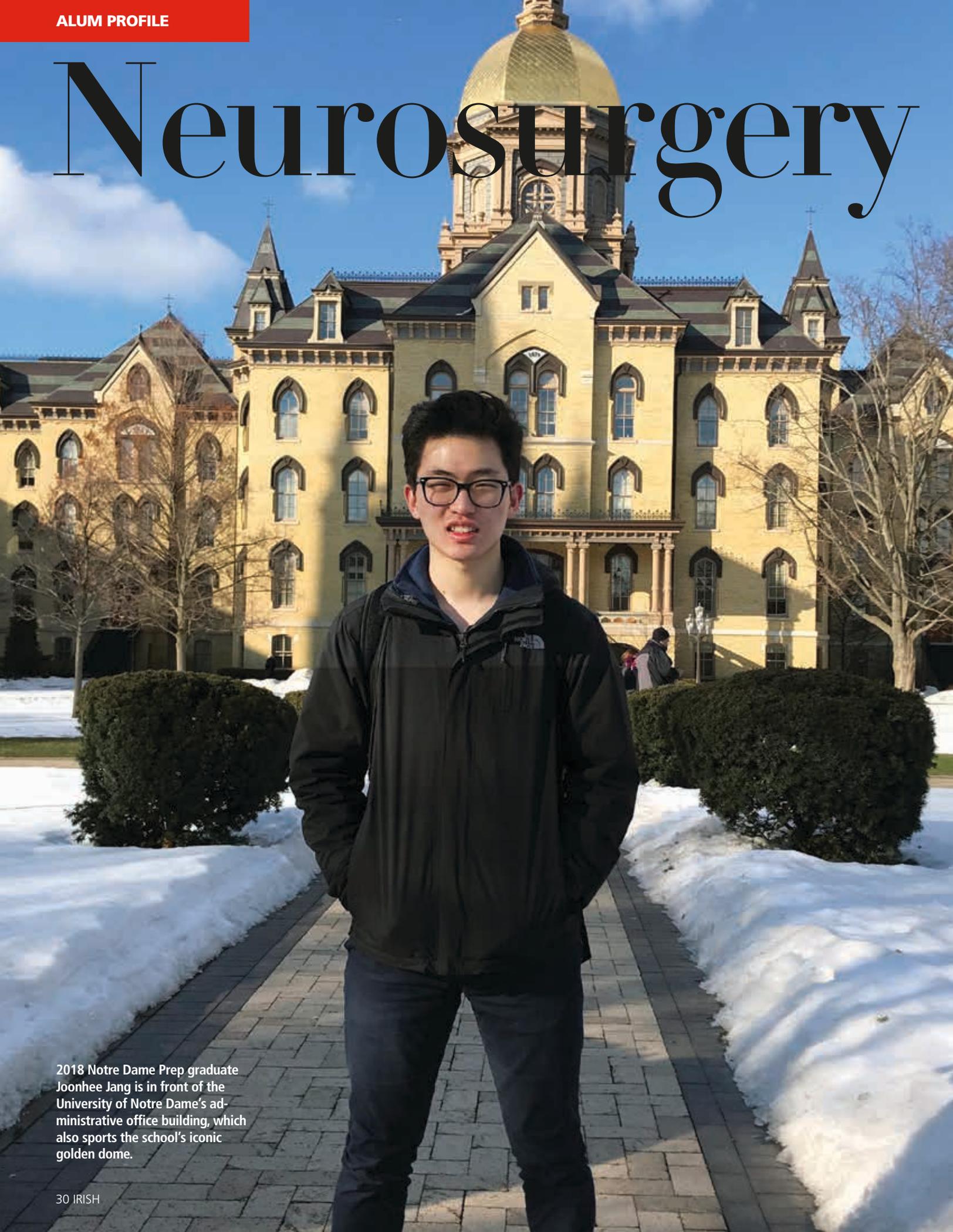
with some amazing individuals in athletics who have guided me and shaped me into the woman I am today. I want to be that positive role model and mentor for someone in the future. That is my why.

#### **On how her education at Notre Dame Prep and Albion is shaping her future career aspirations:**

I believe I am a logical and critical thinker, have the ability to strategically prioritize tasks and effectively manage my time, and I believe I'm mentally and emotionally tough. I also think I'm disciplined and work very well in a team setting. I have acquired all of these skills and strengths from the education I received at NDP and Albion and my continuous involvement in athletics. I am confident that these skills will help me throughout my future career in athletics. I am so excited to see where life takes me after graduation and beyond.

*Please see ADAMS, page 34*

# Neurosurgery



2018 Notre Dame Prep graduate Joonhee Jang is in front of the University of Notre Dame's administrative office building, which also sports the school's iconic golden dome.

# and the classics

Future doctor says studying Homer and Shakespeare was a huge fave in high school. Joonhee Jang also looks forward to his time at the University of Notre Dame.

**D**uring the summer of 2017, a paper detailing research completed at the University of Ulsan College of Medicine, Seoul, South Korea, was released in Elsevier Research Selection (ERS), a bi-weekly newsletter for (science) journalists who receive updates about published research.

Titled "Statins reduce TGF-beta2-modulation of the extracellular matrix in cultured astrocytes of the human optic nerve head," the paper discussed how statins that are cholesterol-lowering drugs have demonstrated beneficial effects on treating glaucoma.

Along with a number of researchers and students from the University of Ulsan, now-graduated (2018) Notre Dame Prep student and valedictorian Joonhee Jang was a co-author of the paper.

Now armed with a Notre Dame Prep diploma, Jang is currently a university student himself as he is at the University of Notre Dame. And medicine will continue to be a focus for him as his career plans include becoming a surgeon.

"I have always wanted to become a doctor, but throughout most of high school, I've narrowed it down to a neurosurgery specialty," he said. "At UND, I am majoring in pre-professional studies which is a pre-med major dedicated to helping students like me get into medical school. I am planning also to do something in business – probably a minor in business."

And just like virtually every alum from NDP, Jang headed to college ready for those academic challenges. But, he said, his high school also prepared him for more. Much more.

"I think NDP really does a good job preparing students for their future college education, which will in turn help us get good careers or get us into grad school," said Jang, who was a member of the National Honor Society and graduated high school with a 4.497 GPA. "But not only were we taught to become good scholars, we also were taught to continue living moral lives full of integrity and Christian values. In addition, I think that participating in sports, band, and the various clubs helped me find new friends and broaden my social circle. In fact, I found a second family in my student council peers, who are honestly some of the best kids I have ever worked alongside."

Jang also notes that while he's had a number of great classes during his four years at NDP, one in particular stands out.

"Mrs. [Julie] Carman's freshman honors comp class will forever be one of my favorite classes of all time," he said. "Learning about the Odyssey or Romeo and Juliet might seem boring to some people, and admittedly I've never been a huge reader to begin with, but I always

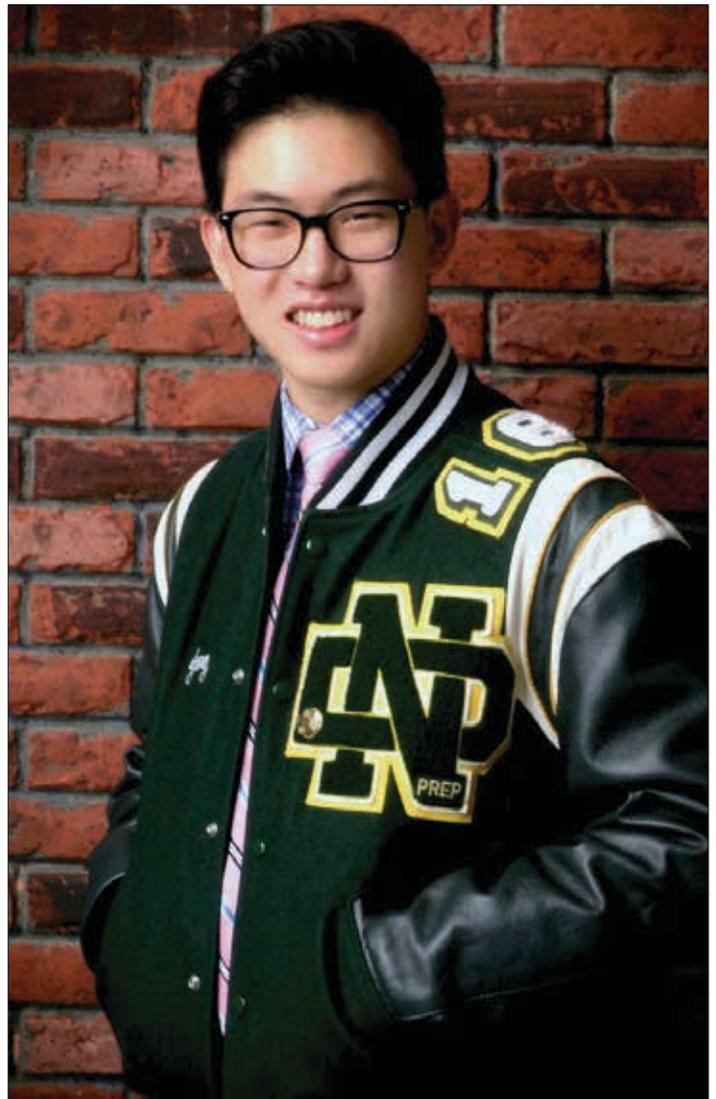
looked forward to that class. We always had some fun classroom activity to help us understand the works of literature or to help us write with more finesse. Plus, Mrs. Carman related with the students really well, so the teacher-student atmosphere was never a problem."

Jang said he also enjoyed the many conversations he had with a couple of other teachers on pop culture.

"I always enjoyed nerding out about Marvel/DC or Star Wars with Mr. Stan [Daniel Staniszewski] and Mr. [Kyle] Lilek," he said. "We would have casual conversations about new movies, TV shows or comic book timelines. I think this goes to show how the teachers at NDP are not only effective educators, but also people who students can comfortably talk to about non school-related topics." ■



**A longtime member of Notre Dame Prep's band program, Jang also is an accomplished cello player.**



**Jang played soccer and ran track as a student at Notre Dame Prep.**

# 40 years and counting

Longtime servant of God, Mary and to Notre Dame students celebrates 40 years as a priest.



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY NDPMA

Fr. Joe Hindelang, s.m., a 1968 Notre Dame alum, addresses graduates at the 2017 Notre Dame Prep commencement.

**O**n May 27, 2018, Notre Dame Prep Principal Fr. Joe Hindelang, s.m., celebrated his 40th anniversary as a Marist priest, joining fellow Marists serving at NDP-MA Fr. Leon Olszamowski, s.m., (48) and Br. Louis Plourde, s.m., (50) with at least 40 years in the Society of Mary.

A faithful servant for many years to God, Mary, his fellow Marists and to the faculty, staff and students of Notre Dame, Hindelang shows no sign of slowing down.

Mary Jane Pasko, who has worked in the Notre Dame Prep front office with Hindelang since October of 2003, said the longtime principal is probably the most Marist, Christian, wisest person she's ever met, with the possible exception of her own father. She helped organize a special celebration for Hindelang in May.

"Sometimes a sensitive situation arises in the office that I consult with him on and he always has the perfect solution," Pasko said. "He is an absolute gem to work for!"

Ordained to the priesthood on May 27, 1978, Hindelang is a 1968 alumnus of Notre Dame High School in Harper Woods. His four brothers also graduated from Notre Dame: Ron ('59), Tom ('61), Mike ('63) and Bob ('64). So for Fr. Joe, his Notre Dame and Marist roots go very deep.

By the time he took over as principal of Notre Dame Prep in 2002, succeeding NDPMA founder Olszamowski, Hindelang's curriculum vitae

already included a lengthy list of service to Catholic education and the Society of Mary.

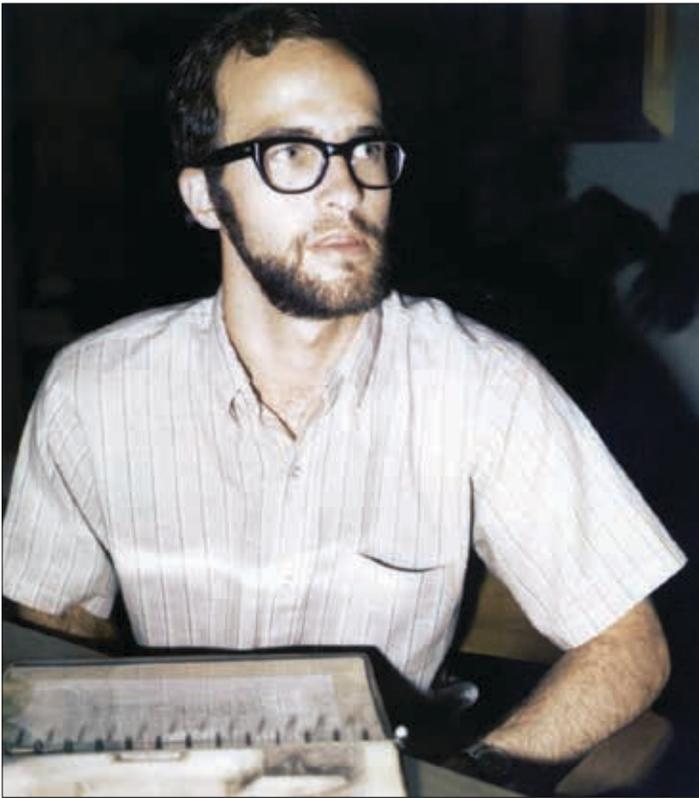
## MARIST SERVANT

In 1972, during his apostolic year as a seminarian, Hindelang taught religion and history at Bishop Grimes High School in Syracuse, New York, followed by a stint as a deacon at Holy Name parish in Detroit.

Immediately after his ordination, Hindelang became an associate at the parish of St. Joseph in Haverhill, Massachusetts, from 1978 to 1981 and soon thereafter was hired on at Notre Dame in Harper Woods to teach religion. In 1987, he was appointed vice principal at NDHS and superior of the Marist community on campus a year later, serving in that position until 1991.

From 1991 to 1998, Hindelang served as provincial of the Boston Province, Society of Mary, and in 1998, as chaplain to the Marist Brothers. He's also served as vicar-provincial for the Marists and is a member of the editorial board for "Today's Marist," a magazine published by the Marist Fathers and Brothers of the United States Province. When he first arrived on the Pontiac campus of Notre Dame Preparatory School in 1998, he joined the school's teaching staff, later becoming assistant principal until assuming the principal position in 2002.

Fr. Eric Fedewa, currently a pastor at St. Basil the Great Catholic Community in Eastpointe, Mich., and a 2000 alum of ND Prep, remem-



Hindelang is pictured in 1971 as a university student at Assumption College in Worcester, Mass.

bers Hindelang well.

"One of my favorite memories from NDP was when, at the beginning of Fr. Joe's church history class, he would inevitably have to say to Bill Holland and me, 'Eric and Bill. . .are you ready to begin class?!' That's because Bill and I would no doubt be absorbed in blabbing together about whatever topic mattered to us that day."

Fedewa said that to jump from that babbling high school student to now being a priest — where among other things he's listened to group confessions with the likes of Fr. Joe — is quite amazing to him. "Back in high school, I never would have thought that one day I would also serve as a priest!"

Lauren Neihsel, who graduated from NDP in May and who was honored with among many scholarships and awards the Donna M. Kotzan School Mission Award, said Hindelang was a true inspiration to her.



Hindelang, far left, is with a number of fellow Marists at Notre Dame High School in Harper Woods.

"For me, Fr. Joe truly embodies our school mission and has helped guide me on my faith journey especially through what he teaches in his homilies at morning mass," she said. "He is both a spiritual and academic support for all of us at the school."

### IMPRESSIVE ACADEMICS

Born on February 22, 1950, to parents John and Louise Van Tiem Hindelang, Fr. Joe Hindelang's own academic career is impressive. After graduation from NDHS in 1968, he studied at Framingham State College in Framingham, Mass., the Oblate School of Theology in San Antonio, Tex., and Assumption College in Worcester, Mass., where he received a B.A. in philosophy in 1972.

In 1977, Hindelang received a Master of Divinity (MDiv) degree from the Weston Jesuit School of Theology in Cambridge, Mass., and attended Boston College/St. John's Seminary, Harvard Divinity School and the Catholic University of America.

Over the course of Hindelang's lengthy service within the Society of Mary, he's also enrolled in a number of specialized programs, includ-



Hindelang, left, is with his parents and the Most Rev. George Hamilton Pearce, s.m., who at the time was archbishop of Suva in Fiji, at Hindelang's ordination on May 27, 1978.

ing spirituality studies at the University of Notre Dame and Marygrove College, and educational leadership studies from the University of Dayton and Boston College.

Among the many at Notre Dame Prep who were on hand in May at the surprise celebration of Hindelang's 40th was NDPMA Head of School Andy Guest.

"I have a great deal of admiration for Fr. Joe," said Guest, a 1984 NDHS alum. "He has dedicated his life to his order, the mission of Catholic education and to God, and is a role model for all of the lay faculty and staff at Notre Dame. He's also a great friend and I wish him all the best as he celebrates this significant milestone as a priest." ■

To see a directory of Notre Dame principals as well as a list of Marist fathers and brothers who have served at either Notre Dame High School or Notre Dame Prep, go to [ndpma.org/alumni/nd-marists-and-principals](http://ndpma.org/alumni/nd-marists-and-principals).

# A 'quiet genuineness'



**Notre Dame alum Joe Ciolino ('77), who died last November, was much loved by family and friends, including his high school classmates who will be honoring him with special donations for scholarships and financial aid at Notre Dame Prep.**

**J**oe Ciolino graduated from Notre Dame High School in 1977. Since then, he has lived life to the fullest, graduating from Eastern Michigan University, marrying the love of his life, Shelly, after which came two children and two beautiful grandchildren. He also was a partner and CFO at Birmingham, Mich.-based BELFOR Property Restoration, one of North America's largest companies specializing in integrated disaster recovery and property restoration services.

Unfortunately, that very full life came to an unexpected end in November when Ciolino, 59, suffered a massive heart attack at work and passed away, shocking all who knew him, including an extremely close group of fellow 1977 Notre Dame alums.

Among those alums was Brian Kelly, who had many memories of his friend to share.

"Several years ago, Joe thought it would be great to get some of us in the NDHS Class of '77 together to reminisce and stay in touch," Kelly said. "We are a close-knit group, but we're also spread out around the country. So in 2007 Joe set up a golf weekend at the Garland Lodge and Golf Resort up north in Lewiston for all of us. That first year, we maybe had eight of us in attendance. In the years that followed, the numbers grew to sometimes more than 20 alums. Guys came in from Texas, California, New York, North Carolina, Montana, as well from all over Michigan."

Kelly said that while they called those annual trips to Lewiston a "golf weekend", truth be told, he said, golf was secondary.

"Each year, we told the same stories, the same jokes, and each year, we laughed harder and smiled more broadly than the previous year," Kelly said. "Eating frozen pizzas, drinking too many beers and listening to Tom 'Kernal' Keenan's dramatic reading of the '77 yearbook were the real reasons for making the trip. Getting updates on each other's jobs, what meds we were taking, our kids and (yikes!) grandkids brought us

even closer."

And in the middle of it all, according to Kelly, was the "quiet genuineness" of Ciolino.

"The wide smile on his face as he shook his head at another of Dave Coulier's teacher imitations or unique hand noises let you know that Joe truly enjoyed being with his buddies," said Kelly, who is the athletic director and assistant principal at Cardinal Mooney High School in Marine City, Mich. "Dr. Bill 'Mole' Cirocco's stories of unique discoveries as a surgeon never got old, nor did watching Jimmy Saylor take over for our waiter while being less than fully clothed. I think this is what Joe wanted when he started the 'golf weekend' a dozen or so years ago for all of his NDHS friends."

Now, that close group of Notre Dame friends are getting together once again as a tribute to Ciolino and creating a special fund and giving day on August 28 in his memory to benefit students at Pontiac Notre Dame Prep.

Contributions to the fund in memory of Ciolino will be directed to the school's Notre Dame Fund through "Mary's Way," which provides financial support for scholarships to Notre Dame. More information on Mary's Way and The Notre Dame Fund is here.

Ciolino's Notre Dame classmate David Bologna is spearheading the effort, which already has seen an initial \$10,000 donation from Belfor's CEO Sheldon Yellen, noting that Ciolino is terribly missed by those who knew and loved him at his company.

"Joe Ciolino was a man who stood for all that is right in this world," said Yellen, who counted Ciolino as not only a partner in business but a close friend.

Bologna nearly echoed Yellen's sentiments.

"Joe was a kind-hearted man who supported so many — from inner-city kids seeking a better education to colleagues and friends," said Bologna, who is a Notre Dame Prep current and alum parent. "He started our golf outing weekend to help stay connected to his Class of 1977 friends and it was a weekend all of us cherished and that we will carry on in his



**In this photo from 2013, members of Notre Dame High School's Class of 1977 get together for their annual golf outing at Garland Lodge and Resort in Lewiston, Mich. Pictured in the back row (L to R): Dennis Lesnau, Brian Kelly, Bob Perry, Dave Bologna, Joe Ciolino, Ron Schypinski, Jim Saylor, Tony Locricchio, and Brian Gijsbers. Front row (L to R): Bill Cirocco, Dave Dufour, Kevin Popis, Tom Keenan, John Fiedler, Gerard Housey, Dave Coulier, Pat Adams, Mark Cendrowski, and Leo Studzinski.**

## Notre Dame alums from the Class of 1977 get together to honor much-loved classmate with donations to The Notre Dame Fund.

honor. I was very blessed to have him as a good friend."

In July, Bologna got the group together in Ciolino's memory for a golf outing, albeit in Troy this time at Pine Trace Golf Course followed by a BBQ at Bologna's home.

Another regular at the golf outings was 1977 alum Mark Cendrowski, who made the annual trek from California, where he works as director of The Big Bang Theory television show.

"Joe was always the quietest guy who made the loudest impact," he said. "Just the fact of his organizing the yearly outing without any fanfare or help says a lot. We had so many laughs up there and so many guys reconnected and it's all because of him. Those memories we will hold forever."



**At a BBQ after this year's golf outing held in August are, from left, Shelly Ciolino, Ryan Schmuck (Joe's son-in-law), John Miotto, Ron Schypinski, John Fiedler, Jim Saylor, Dave Bologna, Mike Fuqua, Brian Kelly, Dennis Lesnau, Dave Defour, Bob Perry, Anthony Ciolino (Joe's son), and Angie Schmuck (Joe Ciolino's daughter). Joe's brothers John ('79) and the late Anthony ('73) also graduated from Notre Dame.**

One of Ciolino's former teachers at Notre Dame High School also weighed in about the 1977 alum.

"I spoke to Joe at his father's wake, only months before his own passing," said Ken Parent, who taught and coached at NDHS from 1969 until 2005. "We reminisced about the 'old days' at Notre Dame. I could tell by our conversation that Notre Dame was a special time and place in Joe's life as a teenager. He also was very proud of his role in keeping so many of his classmates in touch with each other through their yearly gathering in Lewiston. He also talked about how especially proud of his daughter and son-in-law's (Ryan Schmuck '03 NDHS) newborn. Despite his business success, people — family and friends — meant everything to Joe. What a humble guy he was!"

Kelly said that while they lost Ciolino last November at such a young age, he's glad the group has decided to keep his legacy alive by continuing to get together for their annual weekend.

"It's also great that we are raising money to help fund tuition for a deserving student at NDP in Joe's name," he said.

"Joe was just a great guy who had a profound effect on his buddies. I can speak for the rest of the 'fellas' in saying that Joe made you want to be a better man when you were around him. He is missed terribly, but we are all lucky to have known him as our friend." ■

## MISSION CENTRAL

Two 2018 grads exemplify school mission at Notre Dame.



**E**ach year, during graduation and commencement, Notre Dame Prep confers special awards—named for two former teachers—to two seniors, a boy and a girl, who best exemplify the school's mission. For the girls, the award is called the Donna M. Kotzan School Mission Award and this year, Lauren Neiheisel was named its awardee. For the boys, it was Joseph DePillo who earned the school's Harold P. Rice School Mission Award.

Among many other deserving graduating seniors, Neiheisel and DePillo are students who embody the school mission in many ways. In fact, it might be near impossible to find two more deserving of such an honor. And even though both grads were a little surprised to learn of the honors, once they found out why they were chosen, they were both elated and proud.

"I was surprised and truly honored to be granted the Donna M. Kotzan School Mission Award," Neiheisel said. "To hear the origin of the award really touched me when I found out that I was the recipient of it."

For DePillo the award was an opportunity to express gratitude for what Notre Dame has meant to him.

"When I heard my name called I was very thankful for my parents, teachers, coaches, and everyone else who has influenced me and made me into the person I have become today," he said.

DePillo now is in his first year at Michigan State University, where he is studying business. But he knows it's because of his time at NDP that he'll be so prepared for this next level.

"Attending ND Prep has really allowed me to grow as a person as well as a student," DePillo, who also was an International Baccalaureate Diploma candidate. "I feel comfortable and confident going to college equipped with the right education and the right people skills to make an impact on something in the real world. Without Notre Dame, I wouldn't be able to be the person I am today."

Faith and academics at Notre Dame also were important for Neiheisel, who is attending Marquette University and studying nursing.

"Attending NDP has been very important to me because it has challenged me to work hard in and out of the classroom," she said. "I also have appreciated being able to practice my Catholic faith while being educated and to grow deeper in it." ■

# A blessing of the bats

Notre Dame dedicated renovated softball and baseball fields on April 12.



Members of Notre Dame's 1972 CHSL championship team were on hand at the April 12 event. From left, Mike Flannery ('72), Greg LeFevre ('73), Ron Mack ('72), Tim Flannery ('73), Ron Francek ('72) and Gary Cendrowski, ('72).

Less than eight months after Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy first announced that it will renovate its softball and baseball fields, the school hosted a special dedication on April 12 when students, athletes, alumni and school administration officials came together and celebrated the new facilities with a "Bless the Bats" ceremony.

The ceremony included a hospitality tent with food and refreshments; introductions of alumni, former coaches and administrators; remarks by school and athletic administrators; and a formal blessing of the new fields by

Notre Dame Corporate President Fr. Leon Olszamowski, s.m.

After the field dedication, Notre Dame's softball and baseball teams played home games vs. Marian and Royal Oak high schools, respectively.

Jason Gendreau, who began his inaugural season as head coach of the Irish baseball program, was excited about the ceremony and about the field itself.

"The field is a blessing to our program, not only for this season, but for many more to come," he said shortly after the ceremony. "It has already enhanced and increased valuable practice time!"

The work on the baseball and softball complex was made possible by a \$1 million gift from an anonymous donor. The donation represented the largest designated gift to the school in its nearly 24-year history.

According to school athletic director Betty Wroubel,

the gift facilitated the installation of AstroTurf brand field turf on both the infield and outfield of the softball and baseball fields, which are located on the northeast section of the Notre Dame campus in Pontiac. In addition, both backstops and the softball dugouts were completely replaced and a permanent press box was built at the baseball field.

Other projects in the renovation included completely new bullpens and batting cages for both softball and baseball, baseball dugout upgrades and an improved drainage system throughout the complex.

"This renovation now ensures that our softball and baseball complex will provide the best possible environment for our student-athlete ballplayers," said Wroubel, who also heads the Irish softball program. "Coupled with the recent upgrades to our stadium, we believe we now have one of the finest high school athletic facilities in southeast Michigan."

## READY FOR SOME BASEBALL/SOFTBALL

Gendreau said his baseball squad was ready for the regular season, which began for them March 26 with a home contest against Sterling Heights Stevenson.

"Our well-balanced schedule is booked



Olszamowski is with the NDP softball team after he blessed their new field.

with 35-plus games, he said. "We play a couple of the state's top programs as well as teams that are well-respected in the Oakland and Macomb areas. Each game will be a test for us, as the boys are acclimating to many new things in the program. Plus, our coaching staff is still learning about these awesome kids!"

Gendreau noted that the varsity team featured 16 boys, eight juniors and eight seniors, and the JV team had 15 student-athletes, comprised primarily of freshmen and sophomores.

"I believe that both teams will be very competitive throughout their seasons, regardless of who they play," he said. ■



NDPMA Corporate President Fr. Leon Olszamowski, s.m., speaks to the large crowd at the Blessing of the Bats event.

# Double major mastery

2014 alum says her Notre Dame education set her up perfectly for college success in the classroom and on the court.

When Sarah LewAllen ('14) graduates from Michigan Technological University next May, she will finish with a double major in medical laboratory science and exercise science. She's also wrapping up four years as member of the Huskies' women's basketball team. But while LewAllen readily admits that college was a lot of work, especially as a student-athlete, she said attending high school at Notre Dame Prep had her prepared for anything MTU threw her way.

"My transition to college was a breeze," she said. "As a collegiate student-athlete, my free time was limited, and we were often forced to miss weeks of class due to travel during our season. However, I was able to keep up with my coursework because of the knowledge and classroom skills I acquired during my time at Notre Dame."

She also said time management and diligent study habits developed at NDP were a big help as well.

"Notre Dame's rigorous academic curriculum really prepared me for college-level courses," she said. "The faculty at NDP is so good at developing their students to become critical thinkers and the opportunity to take AP and IB courses in high school helped me not only earn college credits before I got to Michigan Tech, it also was a good preview for the level and workload of college classes."



LewAllen played four seasons on the Michigan Tech women's basketball team.

As a basketball player at Michigan Tech, LewAllen said that her experience playing sports for the Fighting Irish also laid a great foundation for college athletics.

"The numerous opportunities to participate in sports at Notre Dame helped shape me into a better athlete and person," said LewAllen, who also will be pursuing a master of science degree next year at Michigan Tech. "Having the

chance to be a captain of the basketball team at NDP gave me the experience to become a stronger team player, motivator and leader, which prepared me well for the challenges of collegiate sports."

## KEEPING HER COMMUNITY SAFE

Before heading back to MTU in Houghton, Michigan, this fall, LewAllen was hoping to be able to relax a bit — but only for a bit — because an internship with Oakland County's Health Division this past summer kept her very much occupied.

"This summer I had an internship with OCHD and my primary focus was on environmental public health," she said. "We were in charge of preparing and running all of the county water samples, including drinking water and water in all of the public pools and beaches. Primarily, we look for E. coli by culturing samples and using a qPCR (quantitative polymerase chain reaction) technique so that we can quickly close pools and beaches when necessary and keep our community safe."

She said the internship was great experience for her as she looks to a future career. Her NDP experience also seems to figure in those career aspirations.

"The confidence, knowledge and curiosity that I initially developed during my time at Notre Dame continues to drive my academic and future career aspirations," she said. "I hope to eventually become a laboratory director in a

clinical or forensic lab, and conduct research to make clinical lab tests more efficient and accurate. I think my love for learning as well as perseverance in setting and achieving goals also stem from NDP, and I'm excited for any upcoming opportunities that will come my way as a result."

## SENIOR SEASON BASKETBALL MEMORIES

It appears that LewAllen is well-prepared for just about anything the future tosses her way. But regardless of what, when and where that future will take her, thoughts of Notre Dame Prep will not be far behind.

"A favorite memory from NDP was definitely my senior season of basketball," she said. "We had a pretty successful season and the camaraderie and closeness our team shared was unparalleled. In fact, our team still keeps in touch and we often reminisce about how much fun we had and how much we miss it! Also, the opportunity to be a team captain is something I personally will always cherish."



LewAllen worked at Oakland County's Health Division this summer to test drinking water quality as well as recreational-use water throughout the county.

She also holds dear the many teachers from Notre Dame who had a lasting impact on her, but one in particular made an especially strong impression.

"I think Ms. [Jocelynn] Yaroeh really fostered my love for biology and medical sciences," she said. "Her classes are taught like most college classes I've had, and she demands excellence from her students. Academically, I couldn't have been better prepared. In addition, Ms. [Bobbie] Hall and Ms. [Kathleen] Offer were role models for me as they also were successful college student-

athletes. I'm grateful for how they pushed me to become a better athlete and stronger leader, plus, for all of their great advice on how to succeed as a student-athlete at the college level."

## GIVING BACK

LewAllen also said that Notre Dame presented her with so many more opportunities than she would have received at other schools.

"I had exceptional teachers and mentors, ample opportunity for participation in school activities, the chance to grow in my faith, and challenging coursework that prepared me for college," she said. "The memories and friendships I made along the way are some that I will cherish forever. I also think it's imperative that alumni like us should eventually give back to the school that gave us so much. It's a great way to ensure that others can have the same incredible experience we had." ■



Notre Dame Prep alum Sarah LewAllen ('14) is graduating from Michigan Technological University with a double major in medical laboratory science and exercise science.

### On what she misses about high school, including her teachers at NDP and a very special retreat:

Although it was probably the hardest class I took at NDP, I really do miss AP calculus with Mr. McCaskey. He was a phenomenal teacher for me. He always knew how to simplify the material in a way that was easy for me to understand. Photography with Mr. Devine was also one of my favorites! He introduced me to photography and I was immediately hooked. It is my creative outlet and I love it. I am thankful for him for being such a great teacher and mentor. Also, photography class is where I met one of my best friends to this day, Olivia Juliani.

One of my favorite highlights from Notre Dame is my time in the athletic department as a part of the Irish volleyball program. Although winning states my junior year was an experience I'll never forget, the friendships I made along the way with my teammates are one of the best take-aways from Notre Dame. I am still very close with the girls I played with and I'm forever grateful to the program for bringing us all together. Those girls have become like family to me. We are almost four years out and we still get together on breaks and holidays. It makes my heart happy that I met such a group of

wonderful women. By far, my favorite memory!

Lastly, I really miss Kairos. This was a once-in-a-lifetime experience and I am so thankful that I got to do it at ND. For me, Kairos helped me grow in my faith and spirituality in ways that I did not know were possible. My eyes were opened to the immense love of God. Kairos really puts life into perspective. I wish that everyone could experience Kairos first-hand. A big thank you to NDP faculty and student leaders for making that experience happen.

### On giving back to her high school alma mater:

I believe that staying in touch and giving back to any organization that I was once a part of is extremely important. I will forever be proud to have attended such a wonderful school. It has provided me with countless memories and close relationships as well as an unparalleled education. I believe that it is my honor to give back in any way that I can throughout my life. I appreciate everyone and everything about NDP. In the future I will continue to give back in the ways that I can because I want the current and future students and families at NDP to have what I had: the best and most well-rounded high school experience possible. ■

## Notre Dame grad gets rare honor from international science fair

Malini Mukherji, who graduated from Notre Dame Prep last May, received a third-place award at the 2018 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF), a program hosted by the Society for Science & the Public (the Society), the world's largest international pre-college science competition. The event was held at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Her project, entitled "Increasing Hydropower Flow Rate Using a Non-Linear Penstock," garnered the honor in the "Energy: Physical" category. She earned \$1,000 as a result of her finish, which was announced last week by Intel ISEF.

(Her project summary is at right.)

Mukherji's award came against more than 1,800 high school students from more than 75 countries, regions, and territories who were given the opportunity to showcase their independent research and compete for on average \$4 million in total prizes.

She earned entry in the international fair (her third year in a row at ISEF) because her project won one of only two Grand Awards at the 24th Michigan Science & Engineering Fair, which was held at Kettering University in Flint last month.

Mukherji, one of Notre Dame Prep's 22 valedictorians, will be attending the University of Michigan to study engineering in the fall.

Third year in a row that Malini Mukherji earned entry to the prestigious Intel International Science and Engineering Fair.

### PROJECT TITLE: INCREASING HYDROPOWER FLOW RATE USING A NON-LINEAR PENSTOCK

Abstract: The Brachistochrone Problem ponders the shape of the curve down which a bead sliding from rest and accelerated by gravity will slip, without friction, from one point to another in the shortest amount of time. The Brachistochrone curve has many applications in sports engineering, including downhill skiing, surfing, skateboarding and rollercoasters. After exploring the solution of the Brachistochrone Problem — a cycloid — I wanted to see how I could apply the Brachistochrone curve to something important that I was interested in: energy. As I looked at hydropower systems, regular and pumped storage, I realized that the penstocks (water pipes that lead the water from the reservoirs to the turbines) were all straight lines or L-shaped. Instead of the penstocks being straight lines or L-shaped curves, I thought replacing them with Brachistochrone curves (cycloids or parts of cycloids) would lead to more efficient resource use and higher power generation from the hydropower plants. I got results that showed not only a large increase in power generation from my newly shaped penstocks but also a reduction in production costs. In addition, different types of drainage systems like those in our homes, process plants and farms can benefit from the change from straight line and L-shaped curves to cycloids. This is a novel idea because I have found no work that has considered changing the shape of pipes like this with experimentation with water in the Brachistochrone Problem. ■



"I would like to get involved in research," said Fromwiller, who was one of 22 valedictorians for NDP this year. "But



**A member of NDP's lacrosse team, Fromwiller said he learned a lot in the classroom, but he also found ways to learn outside of the classroom through teachers, coaches and through other activities.**

I so enjoyed my AP/IB macroeconomics class with Mr. [David] Osiecki that maybe something in business also is a possibility."

Other aspects of Notre Dame Prep life do not go without acknowledgement from Fromwiller.

"I've had a great experience at Notre Dame," he said. "Everything that I was a part of benefited me in some way and gave me an opportunity to grow as an individual. Obviously, I learned a lot in the classroom, but I also found ways to learn outside of the classroom through teachers, coaches and through other activities."

Lacrosse was a large part of his high school experience and he was lucky enough to be part of a Fighting Irish team that won the 2017 MHSAA regional championship. "Also, I will definitely miss the summer lacrosse tournaments in Traverse City," Fromwiller said. "But overall, just being a part of sports at school gave me an opportunity to make great friends and to learn a lot from coaches and teammates."

He said student council also offered him a chance to get involved in other school events, as well as to form a kind of a family that he could have fun with for four years and beyond.

Fromwiller said playing JV football was

an interesting experience for him as he got to learn a lot about the game under Coach Daniel Staniszewski as well as from all of his new teammates. "But little did I know that I would have Coach Stan for

HL (Higher Level) Math my senior year, and knowing him from football made it that much easier to learn and communicate with him in the classroom."

### **EXCELLING AND IMPRESSING**

Excelling in that classroom and in others led to a number of awards and acknowledgements as Fromwiller wrapped up his senior year at Notre Dame. In addition to being a member of NDP's valedictory court, Fromwiller also was a member of the

National Honor Society and is an International Baccalaureate Diploma Program candidate. He earned a President's Award for Educational Excellence, a University of Michigan Regents Merit Scholarship, and Certificate of Excellence awards in English, Religious Studies, Spanish, Visual Arts and Social Studies.

And it wasn't just Fromwiller's teachers who noticed his propensity for excellence.

"I think Braeden is as impressive as they get as far as high school students are concerned," said NDP counselor Jason Whalen. "I would describe him as mature beyond his years. He has an intellectual curiosity that is extraordinarily rare and he genuinely wants to know and understand things beyond the surface level — truly a deep thinker. He's very multitalented — from math and science to music and sports — I believe his

talent is beyond exceptional."

At the risk of sounding like a mutual admiration society, exceptional also is a word that Fromwiller uses to describe his time at NDP and the teachers he encountered.

"I believe the teachers, coaches and faculty at Notre Dame definitely take a personal interest in their students," he said. "Some of the people I would like to thank for guiding me are Mrs. [Bobbie] Hall, Mrs. [Jocelynn] Yaroch, Coach Stan, Mr. Whalen, Sra. [Lauren] Raleigh, Mrs. [Heidi] Newby, Mr. [Nicholas] Kator and Mr. [Kyle] Lilek.

"Also, a big shoutout to Mrs. [Julie] Carman, for sponsoring my Make-it-Matter Day service project; Mr. [Anthony] Butorac, for teaching me how to be an organic and fluid writer and especially through his love of Hemingway's *Old Man and the Sea*, instilled a deep appreciation for literature," he said. "Also, to Mr. [Ned] Devine, who passed on his experience and passion for photography to me — I thank him for always having an open door, not only for classwork, but to talk about life and everything in between."

Lastly, Fromwiller wanted to thank his social studies teacher. "I am exceptionally grateful to Mr. [David] Osiecki for mentoring me on my IB extended essay, and making the writing of a 4,000-word essay seem enjoyable," he said. All of my NDP teachers have contributed to making me the person I am today and I have learned so much from each of them. I am indebted to them for their guidance and support in preparing me not only for college, but for whatever lies ahead for me." ■



**Fromwiller played on a lacrosse team that won the 2017 MHSAA regional championship.**

# Milestone year on tap

Founder of NDPMA reflects on 25 years of history as well as the next 25.



On May 20, seniors in the 24th class graduated from Notre Dame Preparatory School and received their diplomas in a moving ceremony in the school's gymnasium. These 195 young men and women headed out to college armed with arguably the finest all-around educational experience available in Michigan.

Now, as the school looks ahead to a new school year for the rest of NDPMA students, administrators also are keeping a keen eye on the immediate future for the school as it nears its 25th graduating class. According to Fr. Leon Olszamowski, s.m., '65 (NDHS) Notre Dame's corporate president and founder of the school, he and other school officials are considering a number of ways to help celebrate its 25-year milestone.

"I have several ideas for the 25th celebration, but Andy [Head of School Andy Guest] and others in our administration will need to review these as well," said Olszamowski, who will also be celebrating his 25th anniversary with NDPMA in 2019. "I'm hoping to have a big celebration to open the 25th year and then one to end it, perhaps. One in the fall and one in the late spring. I'm also hoping that such celebrations can also raise the status of the school in the minds of both our internal and external constituencies."

Olszamowski said that the school's new science, art and technology wing, which was completed in August, opened at a perfect time for such a celebration. Notre Dame broke ground for the \$7 million-plus facility in June of last year.

The new building consists of a one-story science, technology and arts wing that is connected to the existing middle division and upper division wings. The wing houses science-laboratory facilities, collaborative-learning classrooms, a robotics lab, a specially designed greenhouse, and a fine arts studio.



The Mary Fountain is in front of the new science, art and technology wing, which opened at Notre Dame last month.

## A ROOKIE NO MORE

"Now, at 25 years of age, we will now be considered a 'seasoned' school, not just a 'rookie' school," Olszamowski said.

He also emphasized that he and the school's administration, faculty and staff remain laser-focused on staying critically aware of the mind, hearts — and especially the faith — of today and tomorrow's students and their parents.

"Our Marist mission at NDPMA is a great one," Olszamowski said, "but in terms of the academic part of it, I would have to say that it's comparatively simple to create a great academic curriculum," Olszamowski



**A VEX-IQ robotics practice space has been installed in the robotics lab, part of the new science, art and technology wing**

said. "But it is a somewhat harder task to help people be good citizens of country, family, school and workplace. And within our modern context, it is also extremely difficult to raise good Christian persons, which is a matter of captivating the very soul of a person and helping them to live a clean, moral, just, merciful and loving life."

He said that with the many headwinds in our society today, NDPMA should long remain an accessible institution for parents looking to enroll their children in a good, quality school.

## MARIST SCHOOLS UNIQUE

"I believe there really needs to be a Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy in our area to help develop those good people," he said. "Looking at graduates of Marist schools historically around the world to this point, I think we as a religious order have done a pretty good job of that over the last 175-plus years. I see the same kind of results here as I saw at Notre Dame in Harper Woods, and I have seen the same kind of Marist results elsewhere around the world. As an example, whenever our kids get together with students from our Marist School in Atlanta, there just seems to be an immediate bonding among all of them. It truly is inspirational to see."

Olszamowski said that if the NDPMA institution can keep such a faith focus, and continue to share it with others, the school will survive well into the future. As to how he feels about Notre Dame completing its first quarter of a century, he is quite circumspect.

"In 1994, quite honestly, I thought the school had a 50-50 chance of survival," he said. "I wanted it to succeed, but there was also just as much a chance of failure. Back then, we had enough foresight to hire a psychiatrist from Boston, Russell Surveyer, to help us get a line on the staff and students here and to conduct our first faculty sessions. He was a tremendous help and gave us insights into the then-life of the school and its people."

Olszamowski said most of what Surveyer predicted about people came true and noted that Surveyer also advised him to surround himself with people who carried the strengths that he did not have.

"I've always followed that advice and believe we had hired — with God's grace — a very good faculty, even to this day," he said. "Jesus and Mary have certainly shone a very favorable eye toward us. Also, I've always heard the words, 'location, location, location' is vital for a school's success. But Pontiac?! We now have a very good school; however, as noted author Jim Collins says, 'Good is the enemy of great,' so we have some growing yet to do to arrive at greatness."

## A 'MIRACLE SCHOOL'

Olszamowski said that even as Catholic schools become rarer and rarer, they will continue to be a great source — perhaps the only source — for great Catholic leadership.

"It's one of the reasons I have really pushed our staff to become a truly great school," he added. "If Catholics are true believers, they will want schools of excellence for their children, and even 25 years from now, I believe they will find one here. At the same time, we cannot afford to water down our faith or its practice. The church has always been about doing the right thing in terms of belief, praying, and moral practice. We do all three of those very well here. The Marists are working hard to help the staff and students 'catch and unleash the gospel' in the Marist Fathers and Brothers charismatic style — it's all about mercy, forgiveness and ardent love of neighbor."

With his trademark wry wit sprinkled with a bit of reflection, Olszamowski said he is delighted to have lived long enough to see the school hit 25 years.

"This truly has been a miracle school — Cardinal Adam Maida's words, not mine," he said. "I can see the hand of Jesus and Mary at work over these 25 years. I have many stories of how people and things that we've needed over the years seemingly have dropped into our laps at just the right times. At first, you might think it's coincidence, but after a few times, you see these events as responses to prayer and our devotion to Mary, our kids and to our mission."



**A specially designed greenhouse, left, in the concept rendering and right, under construction, make Notre Dame unique when compared with peer schools in the area.**

Olszamowski noted that he's very glad that Andy Guest is doing so well in his role as head of school.

"He is bright and talented, and he has a wonderful way with people — a much better fit for us at this time than at any other time in the school's history," he said. "I am a mechanical organizer by nature. I love to start things, see them on their way and turn them over to competent people to carry them on."

For myself, it is time to move on. I have done my work and I look forward to continuing my ministry as a priest in quieter setting. In fact, if I had my druthers, I would retire in Wellington, New Zealand, which I love dearly. But short of that, I will likely retire to our Marist condo in St. Pete Beach, Fla., where I can be happy and at peace." ■

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Mr. Gary R. Hamel  
Mr. John W. Parthum, Jr.  
Mr. Francis J. Ward

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Mr. Robert L. Hindelang  
Mr. Stephen F. Yuhase  
Mr. Marvin Zmudczynski

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Mr. Donald A. Polsinelli  
Mr. Michael G. Ricci

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Mr. Gordon D. Hirina  
Mr. Richard Lentine  
Dr. Richard J. Semenik  
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Mr. John J. Ewald  
Mr. Dennis A. Joy

#### **CLASS OF 1968**

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Mr. Richard J. Corteville  
Rev. Joseph C. Hindelang, s.m.  
Mr. Daniel J. Hollenkamp, Sr.  
Mr. Paul E. LaRiviere  
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Mr. Donald A. Renkert  
Mr. Mark J. Rossman

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Anonymous  
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Mr. Frank J. Guastella  
Mr. Joseph M. Kotzan  
Mr. Michael A. Locricchio, JD, CPA  
Mr. Dennis J. Maraone

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Mr. Terrence J. Buda

Mr. William J. Dillon  
Dr. Peter S. Palka, Jr.

#### **CLASS OF 1972**

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Mr. Dennis J. Gmerek  
Mr. Michael E. LaCharite  
Mr. Michael R. Lesnau  
Mr. Thomas M. Roehl

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Mr. Michael J. Kelly  
Mr. Brian J. Roehl  
Mr. Scott L. Spicuzzi

#### **CLASS OF 1974**

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Mr. Christopher S. Madej

#### **CLASS OF 1975**

Mr. Henry R. Bender  
Mr. Timothy J. Cummins  
Mr. Matthew F. Gonzales  
Mr. Dominic A. Jenaway  
Mr. Michael T. Kastler  
Mr. Robert M. Kocis  
Mr. Sean H. Maloney  
Mr. Kristopher F. Powell  
Mr. Joseph P. Vicari

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Mr. Philip J. Jeszke  
Mr. Matthew R. Kapcia  
Mr. Johann F. Kolling  
Dr. David L. Manzo  
Rev. Dr. William J. Promesso  
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#### **CLASS OF 1977**

Mr. David S. Bologna  
Mr. Douglas R. Dascenzo  
Dr. Gerard M. Housey  
Mr. Robert L. Majkowski

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Mr. Ronald J. Yanik

#### **CLASS OF 1979**

Mr. David A. Brazier

#### **CLASS OF 1980**

Mr. Anthony J. Block  
Mr. Stanley J. Guest  
Mr. Russell F. Ortisi

#### **CLASS OF 1981**

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Mr. Alan J. Guest  
Mr. Patrick Haddad  
Mr. David G. Rice

#### **CLASS OF 1982**

Anonymous  
Mr. Timothy P. Hopman  
Mr. Thomas M. Manney, Sr.  
Mr. William T. Panella  
Mr. Peter M. Sullivan  
Mr. Daniel J. Zerafa  
Dr. Christopher Zingas

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Mr. Thomas W. Barr  
Dr. Mark A. Gaynor, DDS  
Mr. David J. Jaworski  
Mr. Leonard Jenaway, Jr.  
Mr. David A. Van Gelder  
Dr. Norman G. Zavela

#### **CLASS OF 1984**

Mr. Andrew J. Guest  
Mr. David J. Magreta  
Mr. Jeffrey V. Tranchida

#### **CLASS OF 1985**

Anonymous

#### **CLASS OF 1986**

Mr. William D. Hannon  
Mr. John J. Kaminski, Jr.  
Mr. James R. McCullen, Esq.  
Mr. John C. Micallef

#### **CLASS OF 1987**

Mr. Nathan J. Edmonds

#### **CLASS OF 1988**

Mr. Paul D. Barker  
Mr. Paul E. Housey

#### **CLASS OF 1989**

Anonymous (2)  
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Mr. Craig R. Bubka  
Mr. Andre Daher  
Mr. David Disser  
Dr. Fabian L. Fregoli  
Mr. John G. Gaynor  
Mr. Leo H. Gemelli, Jr.  
Mr. Anthony J. Jaboro  
Mr. Edgar J. Lorenz  
Mr. Gregory P. Simon  
Mr. Eric Stanczak, Jr.  
Mr. Scott C. Titus

#### **CLASS OF 1990**

Mr. Steven P. Cavender  
Dr. Kurt A. Ludwig  
Mr. Dennis M. Spensley

#### **CLASS OF 1991**

#### **CLASS OF 1992**

#### **CLASS OF 1993**

Mr. R. Mark Krankel

#### **CLASS OF 1994**

Mr. Albert J. Gelles

#### **CLASS OF 1995**

Mr. Christopher A. Manczuk  
Mr. Joseph M. Sobota

#### **CLASS OF 1996**

#### **CLASS OF 1997**

Mr. Paul L. Calandra  
Mr. Phillip V. Carr, Jr.

**The following alumni from our heritage schools supported The Notre Dame Fund.**

#### **PONTIAC CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI**

##### **CLASS OF 1973**

Mrs. Carol H. (Drake) Cole  
Mrs. Denise L. (Charlebois) Denis

##### **CLASS OF 1979**

Mr. Edward A. Chenhalls

##### **CLASS OF 1980**

Ms. Mary Lewis

##### **CLASS OF 1982**

Mrs. Ann M. (Ryder) Schulte

##### **CLASS OF 1985**

Mrs. Melissa M. Nachazel

#### **ST. FREDERICK HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI**

Mrs. Roberta (Cahill) Saling '46  
Mrs. Phyllis M. (Pfeffer) Gaffney '48  
Mr. James Brown '53  
Mrs. Jane (Webster) Rogers '54  
Ms. Bridget Scully '66

#### **ST. MICHAEL HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI**

All School Reunion—Classes of  
1938 to 1967  
Mr. Basil Gaffney '48  
Mrs. Rosemary (Bentham) Brown '53  
Mr. James R. Zimmerman '55  
Mrs. Dorothy (Allen) Landry '57

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list which includes gifts received between July 1, 2017, and June 30, 2018. Please report omissions and errors to Joan Kopytek, advancement ccoordinator, at 248-373-2171, ext. 2, or jkopytek@ndpma.org.

# CLASS REUNIONS

## INTERESTED IN PLANNING A CLASS REUNION?

Contact **Beth Campbell, Director of Alumni Relations**, at [alumni@ndpma.org](mailto:alumni@ndpma.org) or (248) 373-2171 Ext. 3.

A reunion planning informational packet is available to you, and the alumni office can offer you help in getting started and throughout your planning process. We can provide you a class list with classmates' contact information, and can print and mail your invitations, covering the postage.

### NOTRE DAME PREPARATORY SCHOOL

#### Class of 1998

Join us on Friday, November 23, at The Meeting House, 301 S Main St, Rochester, MI 48307. RSVP online at [www.ndpma.org/ND98](http://www.ndpma.org/ND98). For more information, contact: Beth Campbell, [bcampbell@ndpma.org](mailto:bcampbell@ndpma.org)

#### Class of 2013

Join us on the night before Thanksgiving, Wednesday, November 21, 2018, 7:30 p.m. at Red Ox Tavern of Auburn Hills (across from Oakland University). Cost is \$10 per person. More details to follow. Please RSVP by responding to the google form <https://goo.gl/forms/GZ23SHp17KJuZb9F2>. If you have any questions, please contact Francesco Munaco at 248-495-8955 or [munacof@gmail.com](mailto:munacof@gmail.com).

### NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL

#### Class of 1969

50-year reunion will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2019, at Andiamo's on 6676 Telegraph Rd, Bloomfield Twp MI 48301. Please contact Paul McGrath to update contact information or to join the planning committee: [cfomeister@gmail.com](mailto:cfomeister@gmail.com), or 734-417-5614.

#### Class of 1979

Plans are underway for the 40-year reunion! Details coming soon. For more information, please contact Marty Rosenau at [marty@xfiregroup.com](mailto:marty@xfiregroup.com).

#### Class of 1983

35-year reunion will be held 7 p.m. on Friday, October 5, 2018, at Hamlin Pub, located at 25 Mile Rd. and Van Dyke in Shelby Township. The cost will be \$20.00 per person. Please contact Tom Salerno at [tsalerno@powdercoteii.com](mailto:tsalerno@powdercoteii.com) to reserve your tickets or RSVP online at [www.ndpma.org/ND83](http://www.ndpma.org/ND83).

#### Class of 1988

Plans are in the works for a 30-year reunion Thanksgiving weekend. If you are interested in joining the planning committee or for more information, please contact Paul Barker at 313-587-8960 or [czarofsoul@aol.com](mailto:czarofsoul@aol.com).

#### Class of 1993

Save the date: 7 p.m. Saturday, November 24, 2018, at Fishbones of St. Clair Shores. Plans are underway for the Class of '93 25-year reunion. If you are interested in joining the planning committee or would like more information, please contact Paul Nahra at [paul.nahra@gmail.com](mailto:paul.nahra@gmail.com).

### PONTIAC CATHOLIC

#### Class of 1969

50th reunion on Friday, September 21, 2019, at the Lafayette Grande in Pontiac, MI. Contact Jerry Ball for more information at 248-229-5687.

# NOTRE DAME UPCOMING EVENTS

## OKTOBERFEST Saturday, October 6

Free tickets for the first 20 alums! Email Alumni Director Beth Campbell at [bcampbell@ndpma.org](mailto:bcampbell@ndpma.org) by September 28 if you are interested in attending. Join us for a fun evening of dinner, dancing, cocktails and many door prizes! Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. and the drawing for the annual school raffle will be at 9 p.m. For more information, click on upcoming events on our website: [www.ndpma.org](http://www.ndpma.org).

## HOMECOMING 2018 Friday, October 12

Alumni pregame tailgate at the Fr. Colin House starting at 5 p.m. with cocktails and appetizers for alumni and their families. Enjoy VIP alumni parking at the lower division (easy exit!) and then a short walk over to the alumni tent.

Alumni tent celebration begins at 6:30 p.m. BBQ buffet served at 7:00 p.m.

Varsity football game— 7 p.m. William Kozyra Alumni Field, Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy. FREE ADMISSION FOR ALL ALUMNI.

All alumni and guests are invited to join in this momentous event, as we celebrate our rich history of Catholic education.

## 5TH ANNUAL NOTRE DAME FUN RUN Saturday, October 13, 9 a.m.

(Brought to you by the Notre Dame Alumni Association)

The Notre Dame Alumni Association (NDAA) is excited for Homecoming weekend activities to continue on Saturday morning with the Notre Dame Fun Run. This 5k run/walk will take place on the beautiful campus of NDPMA. Pre-registration is available at [ndpma.org/nd5k](http://ndpma.org/nd5k) as well as walk up registration on Saturday morning. Cost is \$20 per person and kids under age 10 are free. Registration begins at 8 a.m. and the event will begin at 9 a.m.

This is a wonderful opportunity for ALL alumni to come back, or if you have never been to campus to see it firsthand. Please join us for this wonderful event.

## ALUMNI THEATRE NIGHT Friday, November 19, 7 p.m.

The Notre Dame Alumni Association (NDAA) is excited to host alumni night at this year's high school musical, Footloose. We are offering complimentary tickets to the first 20 alumni interested in attending. Additional tickets for alumni will be offered at a discounted rate. If you are interested in reserving your seats, please email [bcampbell@ndpma.org](mailto:bcampbell@ndpma.org).



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