

# BLARNEY

stone

SUMMER 2022



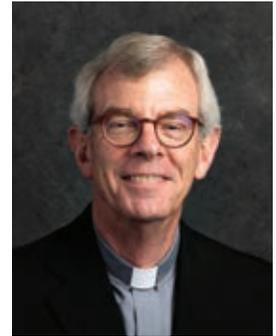
#IrishForever



NOTRE  
DAME

HIGH SCHOOL - CHATTANOOGA

# From *our* LEADERSHIP



*To our NDHS families and friends –*

**H**aving just completed 6 weeks at Notre Dame, I was very excited to tell you about my experiences. As I started to write and describe how great this school is...I realized that the best ones to relay their true feeling are the students. So, I asked the seniors to tell me what they love about their time here at Notre Dame. Here are a few of their remarks:

- How thoroughly invested the teachers and staff are to our lives, in and out of school
- How we are a strong family that supports one another in everything we do
- Our support system of teachers, faculty, and alumni is like no other. A place I'll call home forever
- How everyone can find their own niche at Notre Dame, no matter who they are
- Notre Dame has taught me how to love everyone, no matter what

What a privilege I have had this last month. Standing at the door in the morning with a cup of coffee greeting students, spending time in the cafeteria visiting, sitting and talking to students, seeing soccer, baseball, track and tennis matches. Attending a play, meeting with parents of incoming students, talking with potential students and their parents visiting, serving at weekly all school masses, all great experiences for this non-educator.

What I have witnessed first hand, is the impact this school makes on young adults. In a time of global unrest, polarization and post pandemic times, our students are finding their niches, finding a place they call home, learning to love others, and having a family atmosphere that supports one another. A business person would call this success!

And then last week, graduation. What a privilege to see 90 young adults receive awards, graduate and prepare to make their mark on the world, all the while knowing we had some hand in that journey.

This is Notre Dame, this is what we do, and do well.

Be proud, you all make this possible.

Blessings,

Deacon Hicks Armor  
*Interim, Head of School*

**On the Cover:** #ForeverIrish: (clockwise from top-left) Class of '72, page 12; Kareem Orr '15, page 7; Quinn '18 and Gage '15 Miller, page 6; Class of '22, page 15

*Dear Alumni and Friends –*

Another school year has come to a close and we have welcomed 90 new individuals to our alumni community! During Senior Transition Day, I talked with the senior class about the 5,000 plus NDHS alumni located all over the country. This is a wonderful network of individuals in all walks of life who share one thing in common – they walked the halls of Notre Dame.

Speaking of a network, Irish Connect is a new initiative at the school. The purpose is twofold. One, to create an online directory of businesses owned by alumni and friends of Notre Dame. Secondly, to develop a job shadow program for our students. I encourage you to consider being part of this project.

Our fiscal year is winding down but there have been many advancement highlights. The Green & Gold Gala surpassed expectations and was enjoyed by many. The Shamrock Society was created to highlight those donors who give to Notre Dame on a recurring basis. We greatly appreciate the more than 400 donors who have elected to share their bounty with Notre Dame this past fiscal year. We are blessed!

My final comments to the class on Senior Transition Day was to continue their service work within whatever community they reside and to remember to help the next one in line! I encouraged them to come back and visit... an invitation I extend to all alums!



Hope to see you Alumni Weekend -  
Kathy A. Martin  
*Director of Advancement  
and Alumni Affairs*

## IRISH CONNECT

A new initiative at Notre Dame called IRISH CONNECT is in the works! This project will entail the creation of a business directory and student job shadow program. The directory will feature alumni, parent, past parent, and grandparent owned businesses. It will be featured on the school website.

IRISH CONNECT will also connect students with individuals working in a career/business/trade that is of interest to them. The program will provide job shadow/internship opportunities for our current students, as well as networking opportunities for our college alums. We are excited about this program and the opportunity to highlight the many businesses and professionals that are part of the ND family.

To participate, visit the Notre Dame website at [myndhs.com>alumni>irish connect](http://myndhs.com>alumni>irish connect).

## Join the Shamrock Society!

By electing to become a recurring donor, your monthly donation provides reliable financial support for Notre Dame. A monthly gift ensures we have the

resources to share the Catholic faith and foster spiritual growth and academic excellence.

For more information visit the website at [myndhs.com>support](http://myndhs.com>support) or scan the QR code.



# GREEN & GOLD

# Gala




Gala Chair Family (l to r) Kristy '87 & Greg Higgins, Kari '89 & Andy '82 Ingle, Mandy '93 & Mike '92 Mroz, Ken '68 & Kathy '68 Mara

The 3rd annual Green & Gold Gala was held at Stratton Hall on February 26th. Over 250 guests attended the Mardi Gras themed party and enjoyed the authentic Cajun buffet prepared by Double Portion Catering and danced to the sounds provided by DJ Mark.

Coach Charles Fant emceed the event and welcomed the Gala Chair family to the stage to kick off the night. Marc Gravitt got the crowd excited while auctioning trips to the beach, Predators hockey game, and the NCAA National Championship basketball game. The spirit and love of the NDHS family was evident as George Valadie called on attendees to Raise Their Paddle to fund new entrance signage for the school campus. A record \$100,000 was raised!

Many thanks to all who supported the Gala, but especially our presenting sponsors, Mike & Martha '80 Leiper and Fillauer Industries. Also thanks to Trey White '80 with Athens Distributing and David Strozak with Empire Distributors for their generous contributions.

## SPONSORS

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- George Valadie & Family

# ALUMNI AFFAIRS NEWS

Dear Alumni Community –

**D**uring this graduation season, do you think back to your graduation? Whether it was 5, 10, 20, or many more years ago, what are your memories? I remember how sad I was to be graduating. Most of my friends were excited and could not wait to leave for college. Not me. I was sad to be leaving Notre Dame. I loved every minute of my years walking those halls and it was scary to be leaving there and heading into the great unknown.

It has been 32 years since I graduated, and this year, my son joined us as a graduate of Notre Dame. My daughter graduated in 2019. Having my children attend Notre Dame has been such an honor. They were able to experience all that Notre Dame has now and has had for so many years. Their teachers were wonderful, their experiences were fantastic, the education that they received was amazing, and like so many of us before them, the friendships that they made are going to be lifelong friends!

Do you see your high school friends much? All the time? Not often? Hardly ever? This summer, I would like to challenge you to gather your lifelong friends from your ND days and make plans to attend the fun events of Alumni Weekend. You do not have to have an individual reunion during the weekend to be part of the fun. The Every Class Bash on Friday night or the Mattress Police party on Saturday are the perfect events to meet up with your group. These events are attended by many people from many different classes. Bring your group of friends and have fun visiting together or come on your own and meet some new friends. Either way, it will be fun!



I look forward to seeing many of you this summer! As always, Go Irish!

Kari Ingle '89  
*Alumni Council President*  
#irishforever

**THE MATTRESS POLICE**

**SATURDAY  
JULY 23RD  
7:00PM**

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR THE ARTS AT **SPECIAL GUEST THE BAND KEATS**

**NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL**

Sponsored by:  
Jay Hudson  
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**The Honest Pint**  
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Tickets available:  
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Presented by Jack Berry

## TRADITION NEVER GRADUATES



### FRIDAY, JULY 22

37th Annual Irish Classic Golf Tournament  
& Every Class Bash

### SATURDAY, JULY 23

All Alumni Mass, Golden Graduates Brunch,  
and ND Reunions for the classes of  
1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992,  
1997, 2002, 2007,  
and 2012.

For more information and to RSVP to events,  
visit [www.myndhs.com](http://www.myndhs.com) > Alumni, or contact  
the Alumni Office at (423) 624-4618 ext.1020  
or [martink@myndhs.com](mailto:martink@myndhs.com).



# All in the Family

**D**iagnosed with Wegener's disease, a rare form of vasculitis at the age of 12, Quinn Miller '18 was no stranger to doctor offices and hospital visits. Unfortunately, after several years of remission, her disease presented itself again and she went into kidney failure. While undergoing dialysis, she was moved to the kidney transplant list at Vanderbilt Hospital. Normally the wait for a kidney is between four to eight years, but it was determined that her older brother, Gage '15 was a perfect match!

While at Notre Dame, Gage and Quinn had a variety of student interests. Gage (Mr. Notre Dame 2015) played baseball, ran cross country, and played football his senior year. Quinn was a Green & Gold Ambassador, office aide, and manager of the wrestling team. Neither of them could have imagined that life would take them on this journey.

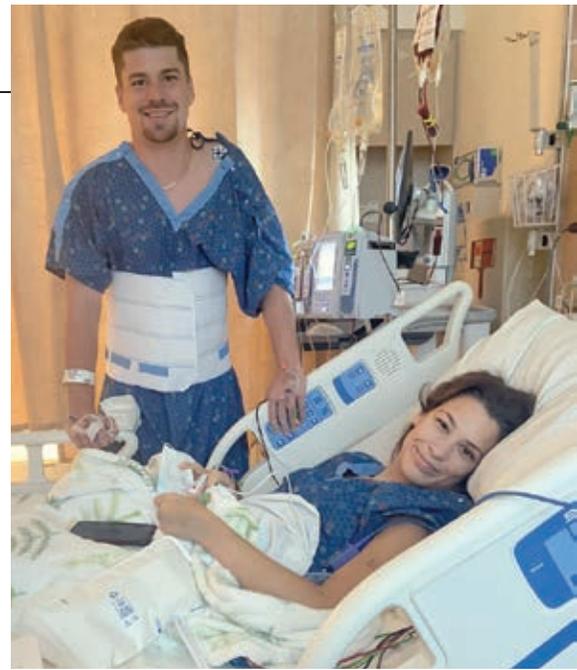
**ND** – *What was the process in getting a kidney transplant?*

**Quinn** – Once I was placed on the list at Vanderbilt, my brother Gage made a post on Facebook regarding my need for a kidney. The goal was to find a living donor if possible as the wait for a deceased donor could be lengthy. We were overwhelmed at the response. The team at Vanderbilt had to put a hold on applications because they received so many. It was breathtaking and a blessing. I was speechless! Gage kept telling me, "I know I'm a match. It's me."

**Gage** – I became an organ donor when I got my driver's license at sixteen. I really didn't know what it meant at the time other than I got a "heart" sticker on my license! I didn't really give it much thought until Quinn became sick and the doctors said family members would have the best chance to become a match. I did not want my parents or younger sister to go through the process so I made the decision to get tested.

**ND** – *How was your time at Vanderbilt during the process?*

**Quinn** – The process for a transplant is long, overwhelming, stressful and exhausting. I was worried about so many things but mainly how my brother was going to handle all the tests and appointments while working a full-time job. The staff at Vanderbilt was wonderful and after a four-hour surgery, I



woke up to see my brother in post-op with me. It was so calming to see him! Gage was discharged two days post-surgery; I developed a hematoma around my kidney which required some additional surgery. The best news, though, was that my new kidney was functioning!

After Gage left the hospital he continued supporting me with encouraging texts like "it's time to make more progress today," "move forward," and "get after it today." The medical team has been very pleased with my progress and how well my new kidney is functioning.

**Gage** – I began the process in April 2021 and had many tests, including fitness, bloodwork and other various lab work. The staff at Vanderbilt are the best of the best! With that being said, the process for my entire family was stressful and exhausting. Once the match was determined, the surgery was scheduled for June 2021 but, due to COVID, got pushed all the way to December 2021.

On December 7th, the transplant was performed. My recovery was pretty straight forward. Two days of post-op and a liquid diet! No more jello for me!

**ND** – How did the community help you during this process?

**Q & G** – The support we received from Notre Dame was wonderful. Not only do we have life-long friends from our time as a students at Notre Dame, we had the support and prayers from teachers, coaches, alumni and others. From sharing our story on social media for a possible kidney match to providing our family with meals and encouraging messages, we felt the outpouring of love from everyone. It was such a blessing! We can share our story because the power of prayer was so strong from the community.

**ND** – What message would you like to send regarding organ donation?

**Quinn** – The need and importance of organ donation is crucial. Prior to my needing a kidney, I wasn't really aware of the importance of donation or the number of people waiting for a match. My life is so much better because of the support from family and friends. I'm alive and well today because my brother was willing to be an organ donor.

**Gage** – The reason I donated my kidney was simple: my sister needed one and I felt it was my responsibility to help her. It was a hard process and can be different for everyone.

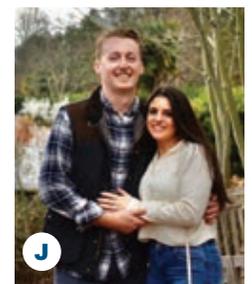
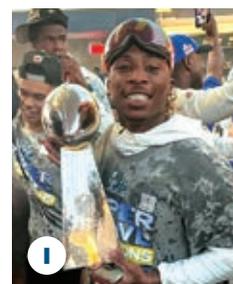
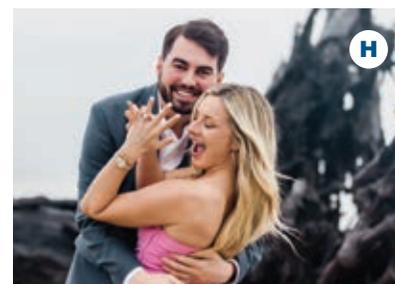
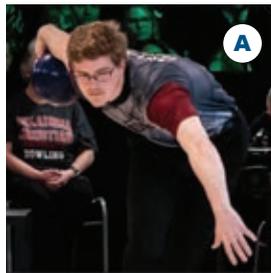
**Quinn** – I am so grateful to my brother and the sacrifice he made for me. It was a struggle for me to watch my brother give up his time and his kidney, but it saved my life. It is a priceless gift that I will cherish forever. He truly is the best big brother!

*There are over 105,000 men, women and children on the national transplant waiting list. For more information on organ donation, please visit [www.organdonor.gov](http://www.organdonor.gov). *

# ALUMNI UPDATES

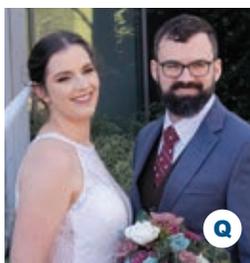
**Keep us in the loop!** Send your Alumni News to [martink@myndhs.com](mailto:martink@myndhs.com)

- A** **CJ Petrin '21 placed** 4th in the country at the 2022 Intercollegiate Singles Bowling Championships. He currently attends Oklahoma Christian.
- B** **Jack Mahn '19** was recently elected to SGA Vice-President at Hartwick College. He has also received the John Christopher Hartwick Scholarship for academic achievement, leadership and character.
- C** **Molly McNamara '19** was inducted into the University of Alabama Mortar Board Honor Society.
- D** **Pamela Avendano-Rubi '18** was recently featured in the *ETSU TODAY* publication. Pamela is majoring in biology with a concentration in biochemistry and minor in physics and graduated in May 2022.
- E** **Niamh Cahill '16** received her White Coat during the University Of South Carolina Greenville School Of Medicine White Coat Ceremony held in April.
- F** **Liz Ciabattone '15** received her J.D. from Belmont University College of Law.
- G** **Eliza Del Carmen '15** has been elected as President of the Emory APALSA (Asian Pacific American Law Students Association) and was chosen to serve as the Deans Teaching Fellow for Morningside House at Emory University School of Law.
- H** **Joe Enos '15** and **Jessica Leath '15** are engaged and planning a September 2023 wedding.
- I** **Kareem Orr '15** won Super Bowl LVI with the LA Rams.
- J** **Shane Etherton '14** and Aliza Laine are engaged and planning a March 2023 wedding in New Orleans.



# ALUMNI UPDATES

Keep us in the loop! Send your Alumni News to [martink@myndhs.com](mailto:martink@myndhs.com)



**K** **Dr. Ellen Sawyer '13** and Alex Kirschling are engaged and planning an October 2022 wedding in Chattanooga.

**L** **Lauren Simpson '13** and David Hall were married on October 23rd in Chattanooga.

**M** **Sydney Hamon '12** was recognized as "Elite Under 30" by The Epilepsy Foundation of Southeast Tennessee.

**N** **Lauren Kennedy '12**, founder of Coastal Consulting, was recently interviewed by Medium.com. The article was titled "Five Things I learned as a Twenty-Something Founder."

**O** **Maggie McGuire '12** and Austin Haug got engaged this past January.

**P** **Dillon May '10** was recognized as "Elite Under 30" by The Epilepsy Foundation of Southeast Tennessee.

**Q** **Grace McGuire '10** and Charles Wilson were married this past March in Birmingham, Alabama.

**R** **Kate Linehart Trundle '10**, husband Michael and big brother Thomas, welcomed Henry David on December 1, 2021.

**S** **Leslie Burns Dye '09** and husband Cliff welcomed Connor Scott in April.

**T** **Vince Carroll '08** and Rachel Windmueller were married on April 29th at St. Ann Catholic Church in Nashville.

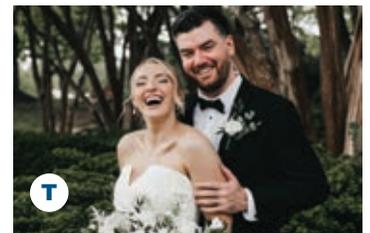
**U** **Caitlin Robbins Maxwell '08**, husband Ben and big sister Annie welcomed baby Charlotte on December 7th.

**V** **Ross Hixon '07** and Diana Molina are engaged and planning a July 2022 wedding at the Basilica of Sts. Peter & Paul.

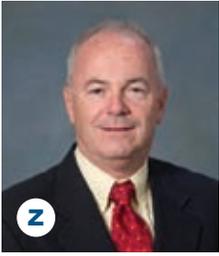
**W** Nora Katherine was born September 3rd to **Kyle '04** and **Emily Franklin Farnsley '06**. She was welcomed by big brothers Neyland and Nolan.

**X** **Kristy Mara Higgins '87** has retired after 27 years with Unum and has joined Allstate as an Exclusive Agent on June 1st.

**Y** **Greg Dennis '81** achieved his 1,000th win while coach of the Chattanooga State Community College baseball team.



**Moving?** Be sure to let the Alumni Office know your new address! Send to [martink@myndhs.com](mailto:martink@myndhs.com)



## REMEMBERING

The faculty, staff and students of Notre Dame offer our most sincere condolences to all those families who have lost loved ones. We remember them and all our dearly beloved in our daily prayers and Masses.

Donald S. Benton '67

Marjorie Burkart Borchers '71

Nick Callegari '00

Jeffrey Eugene Ford '81

Craig Patrick Gearing '96

Sister Mary Jane Herlick, OP  
*former NDHS teacher*

Margaret Buck Hicks '51

Mary Katherine Cornelius Ketterer '74

James "Jim" Lynch '52

Shirley Lynn Royal Malone '79

David W. Moon '81

Marsha Conway Salter '64

Martha Schmidt Skelly '64

Patrick Smith '71

Michael "Mike" Bryan Wells '78

Richard D. Varner '71

Ronald Varner '66

**Z Arch Willingham '80** has been elected to serve on the Board of Directors as the Treasurer for the Associated General Contractors of East Tennessee.

**AA Mike '74 & Judy '74 St. Charles** were honored by United Way of Greater Chattanooga with the 2021 Tocqueville Society Philanthropy Award. Mike & Judy were honored for their extensive service to various organizations including United Way, Signal Centers, Chambliss Center of Children, and Northside Neighborhood House.

**BB** Congratulations to **Patty Gribben Marsh '73** on her retirement from Cigna after 44 years of employment.

**CC Mary Sparr '71** was inducted into the Chattanooga Hall of Fame for Track & Field. Brainerd High School has named their field "The Mary Sparr Track & Field" in honor of her impact on generations of students.

**DD George Valadie '71** was inducted into the inaugural 2021 Hall of Fame at St. Benedict at Auburndale High School.

**EE Tim Hennen '67** and wife Corinne received the Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Philanthropy from Chattanooga State Community College.

**FF Estelle Ford-Williamson '62** has published her second book, *Rising Fawn*, a story about a successful professional life coach who experiences her own financial setbacks.

## STAY CONNECTED!



[www.myndhs.com](http://www.myndhs.com) > Alumni



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# You've got a FRIEND

By Hayden Seay '12

Whether those words bring out your 1970s Carole King groove, or your mid-90s inner child, friendships hold our heartstrings. At Notre Dame, countless students and alum form life-long friendships with their classmates, while others rekindle lost bonds years after graduation.



## Class of 1966

When Susan Kimbrough meets her friends at a restaurant or a friend's home, the conversation at their table never ends. "We usually sit there at least two hours talking and catching up, we never quit talking" says Susan. "If we're lucky, we're positioned in a way we can all hear everybody, but there will be small groups between us talking."

Kimbrough has met regularly with ten or so of her friends over the last 20 years. "It's a group that means a lot to us... They come because it's that important to them."

Although new members attend meetings from time to time, most of the group has known one another since the first grade at OLPH. Throughout their time at Notre Dame, these friends attended the school's sports games, clubs outside of class, and sleepovers. "Basically, we stay connected, we bond, we watch out for each other, we support each other during hard times," says Kimbrough. "It's just a great connection that's gone on."

## Class of 1971

Fifty years after graduating from Notre Dame, Theresa Hughes posted a signup sheet at her class reunion. The ask? Gathering for lunch and catching up with both old and new friends. Covid had other plans: "... we didn't get together for the first time until January," says Hughes. "I just had a list of people that signed up."

Hughes and her friends periodically reunited at their class reunions, but in between these times, a lot of them didn't see one another. "Those who live in Chattanooga, you're bound to run into from time to time," says Hughes. "But in the meantime, we haven't really communicated that much except probably through Facebook or different social media."

While some members of the Class of '71 have remained friends since high school, others come from entirely different friend groups. "I always found Notre Dame to be a very welcoming environment," says Hughes. "I wasn't the most popular girl but I just always felt welcomed and comfortable there."





As for Hughes' favorite memory at Notre Dame, a specific P.E. class came to mind. Her teacher, Miss Keough, ran a strict class and sometimes asked her students to run the section of Missionary Ridge behind the school. "Me, Debbie Massari Red and Melanie Mayo Autry decided that we didn't want to run that day," recalls Hughes. "So, we hid in the woods." Once class ended, the trio pretended they ran with everyone else, but Miss Keough knew the truth. "Well, we didn't get away with it," Hughes says with a laugh.



### Class of 1982

In Beth Wrinkle's circle of friends, everyone is interconnected in one way or another.

"Probably more than half of the group all went to Catholic elementary school," says Wrinkle, who attended Saints Peter and Paul School and later All Saints Academy. "I knew some of them through either summer swimming or my parents knew their parents."

After meeting at a joint band concert in the eighth grade, Wrinkle and Nancy Eberle Howard became friends. Once at Notre Dame, she became acquainted with Howard's friends and the group grew. By the time of their 30th reunion, they rekindled their old friendships and decided to take a weekend trip together. "Our kids were older and we just kind of started reconnecting," says Wrinkle. "We started talking and saying 'hey, we need to start seeing each other more [and] let's get together.'"

For their first meeting, one of the girls found a house at Lake Nantahala in North Carolina. Says Wrinkle: "We all pick up like we left off, even if someone hasn't been there for several years."

While at the lake house, the group hikes, play games, and relax and enjoy a break from the hustle and bustle of life. Once the dust settled from their weekend, they began planning on meeting for at least one long weekend every year. "Ever since then, we've tried to have a big long weekend every year," says Wrinkle.

Out of her favorite memories with her group, Wrinkle recalls renting a pontoon boat, sitting around the fire, talking about memories in their yearbooks, and hiking on the Appalachian Trail. "It's so sweet to have friends that share a lifetime of history and it is great to know you have a tribe of fierce friends that have your back," says Brendie Keane, whose favorite experience is visiting a lake and ending up in a mud fight.

## Class of 1994

Since her first year at Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Amber Hagen has always stuck with her friends. “Out of the six, four of us have been together since the first grade at OLPH,” says Hagen. The other two members enrolled in Notre Dame from Ooltewah and St. Jude and became friends after meeting through soccer and cheerleading.

“Several of us were soccer players and that’s how we met Krista Kaspar Gerhlein; Jennifer Rodgers was a cheerleader and that’s how they met Angela Jezewski Lowe,” says Hagen.



After graduation, several members of the group attended the same college, but the rest dispersed around the country. Despite this distance, they always made a

conscious effort to meet and attend each other’s weddings, baby showers, and other life events. “The six of us who get together regularly, we just become closer because we have made that effort to stay in touch with each other,” says Hagen.

Whether they are going out to eat or simply hanging out at a house with drinks, several of these friends in Chattanooga aim to meet a few times a month. With the larger group, the girls try to meet for a weekend trip in June and November to either one of two places: a lake house in Winchester, Tennessee and Blue Ridge, Georgia.

“My in-laws have a lake house in Winchester, we’ve gone up there, we’ve gone to Blue Ridge and just gotten a cabin and hung out and shopped,” Hagen says.



## Class of 1972

For ‘72 graduates, their appreciation for old friends grows greater as each year passes.

“As we are now Golden Grads we want and need to see our childhood friends again, to reconnect as if we never left,” says Joe Coleman. “Older, hopefully wiser, we’ve changed physically but look closely and you will still see that young friend you remember.”

While at OLPH, Coleman met many of his future friends from other Catholic schools through sports, concerts, boy scouts, and dancing. “[We] had a feeling of excitement to gain new friends and experience that magic part of life together,” says Coleman. “We all had highs and lows but I think we all felt safe and loved.”

As for other members, here are some of their thoughts:

“Our class is all the same kind of crazy and we have love and respect for each other!” says Sarah Haddock, who usually meets with twelve to fifteen of her classmates for lunch.

Nancy Nolan says the class has spirit, both in energy and faith. Her ‘lunch bunch’ meets once a month, and the group embraces their age.

Jeff Campbell believes the Class of 1972 is somewhat separated from other groups in that they missed the Vietnam draft yet knew many who were drafted or had family members drafted. We share many of the cultural and social phenomena of the day.

“We appreciate each other and the fact of how blessed we were to graduate from Notre Dame together,” says Ann Thomas.

## Class of 1975

When Pam Hudson reflects on her friends, she fondly remembers the spontaneous slumber parties. “We did not slumber much,” says Hudson. “We always woke up to Carole King’s “Beautiful” blaring on the stereo.”



“Today, Hudson and her friends foster the same fun and caring attitudes from their high school days. “We are always happy to see each other, whether meeting for dinner and drinks or seeing each other at parties or going on a trip,” says Hudson.

After Hudson retired in 2009, the girls planned a trip in the Western United States: New Mexico, Colorado, and the Great Sand Dunes National Park. “We had such a great time, we decided we should plan more girls’ trips,” says Hudson.

In 2017, the trio decided to take a trip to Memphis to see Beautiful: The Carole King Musical. While in town, they stayed with Lisa’s daughter and fellow alum, Jenny Rosen.

During their class reunion weekend, Neuhoff and her husband, Pat, host a gathering at their lake home. Last year, the group began honoring their classmates who have passed away.

## Class of 2011/2012/2013

Spanning across multiple classes, Mary Cabell Kelly McCutcheon ‘11 still meets with over twenty of her high school friends. “We still do cookouts where we all bring our

dogs and grill out and play games,” says McCutcheon, who’s also watched some of her friends get married and have kids. “It’s really amazing and I give Notre Dame a lot of credit for fostering such an amazing environment that allowed us to create this group of friends.”

At her wedding with fellow alum Michael McCutcheon ‘11, many of the couple’s friends and fellow alumni participated. “These friends mean everything to me,” says McCutcheon. “They are my actual best friends, still!”

Mary Colleen Reuter ‘12 feels the same about her friends. “Friendships that span over a decade are just a different breed of friendship,” says Reuter. “I am lucky enough to call a group of people that I met at Notre Dame High School thirteen years ago some of my closest friends still today.”

Although their friends moved all across the country and even Japan after graduation, the group still remains tight-knit. “I know that as the years continue to pass by, I will always have these people to celebrate the milestones of life with and am forever grateful that Notre Dame brought this irreplaceable group of friends together,” says Reuter. 🍀



# SCHOOL NEWS

## Prom

Students celebrated the Prom this past April at the Church on Main. The theme was “Enchanted Evening” and students enjoyed the music from Sound Force. Tim Vaughn and Victoria Pomposiello were named 2022 Prom King & Queen.



## May Crowning

May Crowning was held on the Seniors last official day of school. Mr. & Miss Notre Dame Samantha Crisp and Andy McGann were crowned prior to All-School Mass.



## Black History Month

Students celebrated Black History Month with various activities including the design of a mural depicting “Heroes of Black History.” Local community leaders were invited to a panel discussion and talked about the Civil Rights movement and the lynching of Ed Johnson.



## Godspell

The NDHS Theater Department, under the direction of Rachel Craig, presented Godspell this past April. The audience was entertained by wonderful choreography and singing by the talented cast of theater students.



(l to r) Savannah Carroll, Donivan Brown, John Edwards, Elijah Cameron, Vicky Pomposiello

## Community Service

Students continued to serve our community here and globally through several projects. Thirty-two beds were delivered to needy children by members of the baseball team in conjunction with Sleep in Heavenly Peace.



The NDHS Weekend Warriors made over 500 sandwiches to be distributed to the homeless camps in the area. Earrings and lapel ribbons were made by the student body as a fundraiser to help a parish in Poland start a preschool for Ukrainian refugee children. Over \$2,000 was raised for the preschool!



## Mock Trial

The NDHS Mock Trial team competed this past February with other Chattanooga area schools. Vicky Pomposiello won "Best Attorney" and Cara Steinmentz was named "Best Witness."



## Graduation

The Class of 2022 was a group of resilient, kind, and accomplished students. They were accepted to 114 different colleges and universities in 30 states and one foreign country. They enrolled in 41 different schools (40 colleges and one apprenticeship) in 15 states!



Andy McGann



Levi Brown



Anna Young



Noah Morais



Andy McGann was Valedictorian and will attend the University of Tennessee majoring in Biomedical Engineering. Levi Brown, Noah Morais, and Anna Young were co-Salutatorians. Levi will attend the University of Georgia majoring in Chemistry with a minor in Jazz. Anna will attend East Tennessee State University majoring in Health Sciences, and Noah will attend Franciscan University of Steubenville, majoring in Engineering and Music.



Congratulations to all our sports teams for representing Notre Dame so well. Irish Proud!

Matthew Walker '08  
*Athletic Director*

## Boys Basketball

The Boys Basketball team finished the 21-22 regular season with a 26-9 record. The Irish had a great season that saw them claim a District Championship and advance to the State tournament before falling in the State Quarterfinals. DJ Brown, Tim Vaughn, Cole McCormick and Ty Wilkerson received All-District honors and Coach Jonathan Adams was named District Coach of the Year.



## Girls Basketball

The Girls Basketball team finished the season 24-11 and qualified for the State Tournament. The season saw the Irish claim the District Championship for the 1st time in several years. 5 members of the team were recognized on the All-District team, including Kenzie Campbell as the District MVP. Coach Jason Hill was named the District Coach of the Year! Kenzie also reached the 1,000 point milestone this year to finish off a great career at Notre Dame!



## Bowling

The 2021-22 season was a rebuilding year for the boys' bowling team. Because of the leadership of seniors Tucker LeSar and Ryan Eiselstein and the emergence of freshman Cooper Jones, we were still able to finish second in the region. The team almost qualified for the state tournament, barely losing to McCallie in the region tournament.



## Baseball

The Irish Baseball team were led by a strong senior class this year and finished the season 2nd in the district. The Irish advanced to the state tournament before falling in the 1st round. Alec Bouchard pitched a no-hitter vs Boyd Buchanan, throwing 7 innings and recording 10 strikeouts!

## Swimming

The Irish Swim team had a strong season. Notre Dame had 11 swimmers qualify for the State Meet and finished second. Irish Swimmers also set new school records! Davina Sharma set a new record in the 200 IM (2:17.04) and Henry Flasch set new school records in the 500 freestyle (4:57.77) and the 100 backstroke (54.44).



## Boys Soccer

The Boys Soccer team was a young team with only 3 seniors on the varsity team. The team worked hard and were able to finish 2nd in the district and qualify for the State Tournament. The Irish return a lot of experience for next year and are excited for the future!



## Softball

The Irish Softball team started the year off with a bang, scoring 31 total runs in a double header vs Knoxville Catholic to start the season. The team improved their win total from the previous season and looks to continue to improve next year.

## Tennis

The Irish tennis teams competed well this season. The girls team finished 2nd in the District and advanced to the State Tournament. Individually, Patrick Osborne finished as the District Runner up in the Individual Singles Tournament and advanced to the Region Semifinals. The Irish had only 1 senior between the two teams, so will return a lot of experience into the 2023 season!



## Wrestling

The Notre Dame Wrestling Team had two top two finishes at tournaments this season as well as a state placer in Luke Braman (3rd).



## Track

The 2022 track season was a successful one for the Irish. Throughout the year, the kids constantly improved their times with each meet. The Boys finished as the 3rd place team in the Region and the Girls were 4th. The Irish sent 8 athletes to the State Meet; Nitia Howard (shot, discus), Ty Wilkerson (TJ, LJ, 110m Hurdles, 4x100m Relay), Andrew Fillauer (4x100m and 4x200m Relay), Jaydon Kelley (4x100m and 4x200m Relay), Olivia Mroz (High Jump), Sophie Welch (3200m), Kenny Hammond (TJ, 4x200m Relay), and Rickey Maples (200m, 4x100m and 4x200m Relay). Nitia Howard finished in 3rd place in the discus, breaking her own school record with a throw of 95' 9"! Olivia Mroz claimed 1st place in the High Jump with a jump of 5' 2"!

## Lacrosse

The Boys' Lacrosse team competed in their first varsity season since 2010. The team improved each game and capped off a 1-9 record with a 17-0 win against Pigeon Forge High School in the final game of the season. Junior Isha Davis finished 15th in the state across all divisions in save percentage (.607). The offense was paced by Junior Chance Mahon with 12 goals and 5 assists. Seniors Andy McGann (3 g + 1 a) and Alex Osbourne (2 g + 2 a) led the midfield on both sides of the ball. In addition to Davis at goalie, the defense was anchored by Junior Kelley Murphy and Freshman Ian Gregory who led the team in caused turnovers and ground balls.



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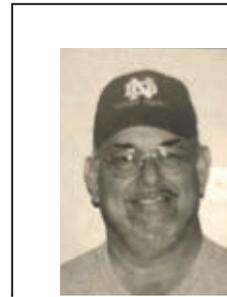
# School's Out

As the school year came to a close, so has the time at Notre Dame for four valued members of our faculty and staff. These individuals influenced countless numbers of students and Notre Dame is the better for it. Each one contributed to the success of many, and will always be part of the NDHS family. Retirement only means it is time for a new adventure!

**Linda Farnsley** came to NDHS in 1999 and taught Biology and Physical Science. Over the years she has also taught Anatomy, Conceptual Physics, Microbiology and Medical Terminology. As a teacher, she loved teaching students two, three, even four years in a row. "Sounds corny but seeing how students change, thrive and develop their love of science here at NDHS makes my heart swell." Mrs. Farnsley said she will miss laughing with coworkers and catching up with everyone on the first day of in-service. "I loved coming back and catching up on what had been happening in my friends' lives and meeting the new staff. Everyone was so excited and full of energy."



Mrs. Farnsley is looking forward to taking care of her granddaughter, Nora Kate. She anticipates many play days at the park and story time at the local library. Traveling, reading and evening relaxation are also in her future!



Our beloved **Paul McGregor** will retire after sixteen years at Notre Dame. He and wife Rosa kept the school clean and in good repair. During the summer many students would work with Paul doing maintenance and custodial work. Michael McCutcheon '11 (now at teacher at NDHS) was one of those students and remarked how Paul was loved by all the students for his great disposition and sense of humor. Paul was known for making jokes, especially at the expense of John Mullin! Recently, the yearbook staff surprised Paul and Rosa with a dedication in the 2021-22 Irish Echoes. Paul plans on hanging up his tool belt and grabbing his fishing pole in retirement.

# FOREVER

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**Jeff McIntosh** has served as the Band Director and Fine Arts Chair for 23 years. Under his direction, the band became the premier performing group on campus. Whether it was the Pep Band at football games or the concert band performing at the Christmas and Spring Concerts, Mr. McIntosh was directing students. During Covid, he could often be found playing with an impromptu group of musicians providing some music for the students and faculty in the mornings.

His favorite accomplishment is seeing former students become successful musicians and music teachers. While he will no longer teach at NDHS, Jeff will continue to play and teach music in retirement.



**Bonnie Townsend** will say “Au revoir” after 30 years. When she started teaching in 1992, there was one computer in the front office, and all grades were kept manually in green and white spiral notebooks. Those gradebooks contained many inkblots, erasures, and a few tears tains, according to Mrs. Townsend. Over the course of her career she has taught French to many students, and was instrumental in the House System. One of her greatest joys while teaching is laughing with her students...to the point that she cried! She and Linda Farnsely became great friends while teaching at NDHS and are planning to take an Alaskan cruise together.



Bonnie considered it a blessing to “go to school” with her son Evan. “He probably wasn’t always thrilled, but it was a treat for me as a Mom. The Notre Dame family was always a source of comfort and support during the happy and sad times in my life.” Bonnie plans to relax and travel out west to visit with her son



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# Congrats!

## Class of 2022



**Our grads  
are headed  
to 41 schools &  
universities in the fall!**

