

The Leprechaun

A Publication of the Notre Dame Alumni Association
www.friendsofnotredame.com - www.notredame-hw.com

Keeping the Spirit of the Fightin' Irish Alive Since 2005!

APRIL 2011 EDITION

*2011 Alumni
Basketball
Tournament
Results*

Plus...

An Article by Jim Mandl '66



2011 Alumni Basketball Final Four



Back-to-back alumni basketball tournament champions - Class of 2003



Alumni basketball tournament runners-up - Class of 1991



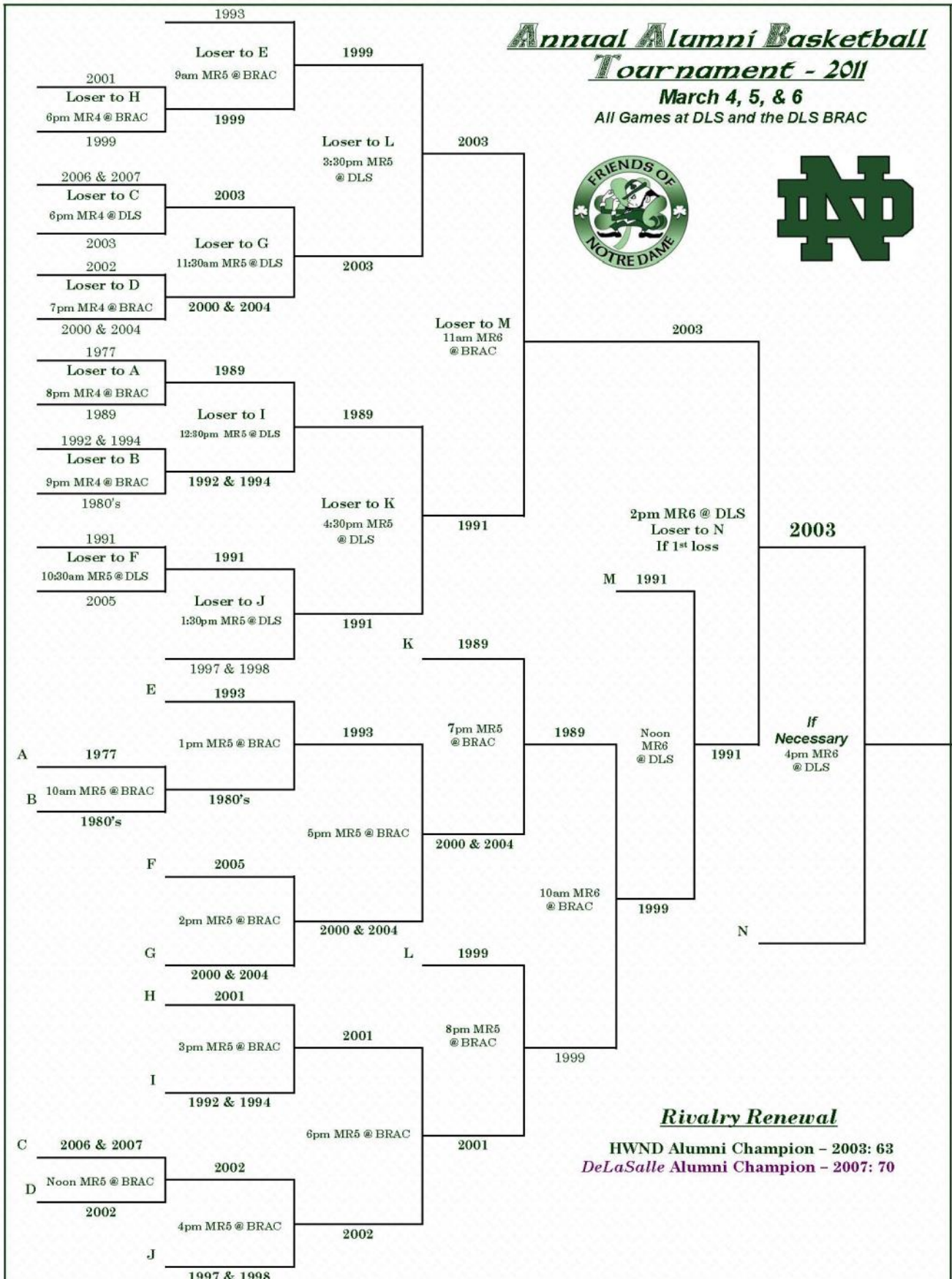
Alumni basketball tournament 4th place - Class of 1989



Alumni basketball tournament 3rd place - Class of 1999

Annual Alumni Basketball Tournament - 2011

March 4, 5, & 6
All Games at DLS and the DLS BRAC



Rivalry Renewal

HWND Alumni Champion - 2003: 63
DeLaSalle Alumni Champion - 2007: 70

From the Desk of the V.P.

ATTENTION CLASS OF 1961

Paul Baeckeroot of the class of 1961 contacted us. He needs your help. He has taken over organizing your 50th anniversary class reunion, but needs a committee to get things rolling. Paul can be reached by phone at 586-484-0370 or e-mail at ptbaeckeroot@comcast.net

50 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

This month marks the 50th anniversary of Notre Dame's only regional championship in basketball. Coached by Hal Henderson, the team went 20 and 3, losing only to Catholic Central, Grosse Pointe St. Paul, and Highland Park. The CC loss determined the Central Division title, the St. Paul loss was in the catholic league playoffs and the Highland Park loss was in the state quarter finals. Members of the team were: Tom Recor, Terry Templin, Tom Korbutt, Dan DiNunzio, Gary Lytle, Richard Wanicke, Joe Przybycki, Dave Bonior, John Goff, Jerry Bultinck, Bob Rae, John Carlin, and John Trinkwalder. Lytle earned All-Catholic and All-City honors. Although the team never cracked the Top 10 rankings in Class A, they were named in the Honorable Mention section numerous times.

ANDY DOLD

Congratulations to Andy Dold '98! Andy is the head basketball coach at Dearborn Divine Child. He led the boys basketball team to district and regional titles this month.

SOME SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to thank Pat O'Keefe '72 for the generous donation to the Friends of Notre Dame that he made at the Alumni basketball tournament.

We would like to thank Frank Guastella '70 for his generous donation to the Friends of Notre Dame which was mailed to us.

We would like to thank Ricky Winowicki '04, owner of the Ann Arbor T-Shirt Company, for his generous donation to the Friends of Notre Dame. All sales of Notre Dame Alumni apparel sold between November 2010 and March 2011 were donated by him to the Friends of Notre Dame.

PAUL VAN DAM

Former HWND football coach, Paul Van Dam, passed away last month. At the time, we were only able to include the obituary because the March issue of the Leprechaun had already been formatted.

Van Dam, was head football coach at HWND from the 1966 through the 1972 seasons. In 1966, his team, led by All-American Bob Black, went 7-0 in the Central Division. They lost 6-0 to St. Ambrose in the Soup Bowl (Catholic League Championship Game), denying HWND a third trip to Tiger Stadium for the Goodfellows Game. No team scored more than 14 points against them. In 1967, the team went 5-1, tying Brother Rice for first place in the Central. 1968 saw the team going 5-1, finishing second to UofD in the Central. The 1969 team went 6-1-1, losing to Brother Rice and tying DeLaSalle. Unfortunately, the 1971 yearbook has no narrative or records for the 1970 season. According to what I could piece together from microfilm files at the Mt. Clemens Library, the team went 6-1, finishing second to Brother Rice. His last team went 6-2 in 1971.

JOE SPADA

Our condolences to Joe Spada (HWND teacher, coach, and athletic director) on the loss of his brother, Anthony Joseph Spada who passed away on December 10, 2010. A memorial service was held at Joe's alma mater, St. Ambrose, on February 21st.

COLLEGE HUNKS HAULING JUNK OPENING DAY CHARITY TAILGATE

Pat Lipa '02 and Danny Ryan '01 of College Hunks Hauling Junk are sponsoring a tailgate for the Detroit Tigers home opener on Friday April 8, 2011. It begins at 10:30am at the corner of Brush and Gratiot in Detroit. Look for the orange and green College Hunks truck. They will provide food, refreshments, music and a good time free of charge. Here is the catch: They are asking all who stop by the tailgate to bring some school supplies with them to donate. All school supplies collected that day will be given to Art Road Nonprofit - the only 501c3 Nonprofit in Michigan actively bringing art class back into schools. Here is a list of just a few of the items they are looking for: glue sticks, all colors of construction paper, children's scissors, crayons, pencils, colored pencils, white erasers, drawing/sketch paper, notebooks, backpacks, etc. If you'll be in the area for the Tigers home opener, stop by, say hello, have something to eat and help out a good cause.

Continued on page 5...

Continued from page 4...

ALUMNI BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

Congratulations to the class of 2003 on their second straight HWND Alumni Basketball Tournament championship. We apologize for neglecting to include their photograph in the Leprechaun last year. Playing this year were: Dave Drwencke, Marvin Listenbee, Andy Kwietniewski, Mike Melnyk, Brad Michaels, John Pelak, and Phil Simon. They made their way through the Winners Bracket to defeat the Class of '91 in the tournament finals. Unfortunately, John Pelak sprained his ankle on Saturday and was unable to play in the semi-finals and finals on Sunday.

This year's tournament was able to be completed in one weekend instead of two as we've done in the past. DeLaSalle purchased the YMCA on Common Road, between Van Dyke and Hoover, this year. This facility is called the Brother Robert Activity Center (BRAC). This allowed us to play two games simultaneously – one at DeLaSalle and one at the BRAC. The negative part of this format is that I missed some of the teams and players that played while I was at the other facility.

There was talk of the possibility of moving the tournament to Harper Woods Notre Dame. We will look into the logistical and economic possibilities of this in the near future. Keep in mind that if the tournament was moved there, it would be played at Chandler Park Academy, not Notre Dame. When we toured the school in September, it was great to see that the facility had been renovated, but when we walked into the gymnasium and saw a blue theme instead of a green theme, it hit us that this was no longer Notre Dame. It was really harder on some of us 'older' alums who worked so hard raising funds for the construction of the gymnasium. I can still remember the first game played in it. I was fortunate enough to attend the very first basketball game in the gym and the very last basketball game at the gym.

RENEW THE RIVALRY

Congratulations to the Class of 2003 for their valiant effort against the Class of 2007 from DeLaSalle in the 4th Annual 'Renew the Rivalry' game. Unfortunately, they lost 70-63 in a hard fought game.

In 2009, DLS contacted us for information on how to operate an alumni basketball tournament. Their principal, Pat Adams and athletic director and assistant principal, Brian Kelly, are 1977 HWND graduates. Assistant basketball coach Jeff Becker coached at HWND for many years in the 1990s. In the discussions, they offered their gym as a home for our tournament and the idea of having the two schools' tournament winners face each other. While we won the first game, they have won the last three.

Unfortunately, we are at a disadvantage versus DeLaSalle in this tournament for two reasons. First, our tournament has 14 teams, which means our champion has to play 7 or 8 games throughout the weekend, depending on whether the team comes from the winners or the Losers Bracket. DeLaSalle has had only six teams in their tournament, which means they only have to play three games. Second, we are no longer graduating classes, so we have older players going against younger players. Three players from their 2007 team just completed their college basketball careers.

All in all, it is always a very fun event!

ON A PERSONAL NOTE

On behalf of my son Jim '90 and me '66, we would like to thank all the Alumni tournament players who took the time to thank us for our time and efforts in organizing the tournament. Your gratitude is appreciated.

A lot of time goes into the planning of the event before monkey wrenches are thrown at us at the last minute. This year, after the bracket times were set, the DLS basketball coach decided to change his practice times which altered our schedule. Then Fraser High School notified DLS that their team could not practice there on Friday for the state district tournament because of a power outage. That meant that at 4:30pm on Friday, 90 minutes before the start of the tournament, the bracket times had to be changed again. We thank all of the participants for their understanding as this is beyond our control.

This year Jim and I had a break during some of the games. Historically, we both scored the games and ran the clock for most of the tournament. DLS offered students' services for scoring and running the clock so their students could earn community service hours. Their basketball program would benefit from a per-game fee which we gladly donated.

We have enjoyed operating the Notre Dame Alumni Association for the past six years. Unfortunately, a few

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Continued from page 5...

incidents occurred at this year's basketball tournament that we did not appreciate. An insinuation was made, following an injury during the tournament, that we personally are making money at the expense of the Alumni. While it is true that we have organized some events which showed a profit, most have run at a loss. This includes the basketball tournament, the hockey tournament, the softball tournament, and the chili cook-off we held a few years ago. We do not have a school to fall back on for any fund shortages. There are costs involved in hosting all of the events - facilities, referees, equipment, etc. We have to make sure that the fees for an event come close to covering the costs. There are also costs involved in operating your alumni website, creating the Leprechaun, and other miscellaneous administrative costs.

That insinuation, and a few other accusations, is the reason for a rather short Leprechaun this month. My son, Jim '90 produces the Leprechaun each month with help only from a proof-reader the day before he releases it. I am compiling this issue. Jim '90 had said that he is taking a break this month. I talked him into taking a break for a while. He puts an incredible number of hours into running the Notre Dame Alumni Association. He was very hurt by the insinuations and accusations and for the first time, started to feel the effort involved may not be worth the trouble. Please understand and remember that **NO** compensation is received by either of us for our time and efforts in keeping the spirit and traditions of Notre Dame alive. That also includes those that help us run the website and help us run other events. Everything we do is on a volunteer basis.



Thank you,

Jim Mandl '66
Vice President - Notre Dame Alumni Association
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Catholic League Shows its Stuff

Most expected the teams in the Detroit Catholic League to be good this season, certainly better than last. The reason was experience.

Birmingham Brother Rice returned four starters from a team that won a Class A district title. U-D Jesuit returned three starters. Warren DeLaSalle returned six of its top seven players. Nearly every Class A and B team in the league was expected to be better.

But few saw this coming. All eight teams that competed in the A-B Division playoffs won district titles on Friday. U-D won its first title since 2004. For Detroit Catholic Central and Pontiac Notre Dame Prep, it's their third title in the last four years. This is the fifth title in the last six years for Orchard Lake St. Mary's. Ann Arbor Gabriel Richard has won four of five and Birmingham Brother Rice has won two straight.

"The competition level is obviously high," C.C. coach Bill Dyer said. "The coaching is great and the kids compete hard every Tuesday and Friday. Now they've kept it going."

For DeLaSalle and Dearborn Divine Child, one streak continues while another ended. DeLaSalle won its 13th consecutive title on Friday and Divine Child stopped a dry spell with its first title since 1995.

It was a special week at Divine Child. The school hosted tournament games all week. The boys won a district title and the girls won their second regional title in the last three years.

Andy Dold '98 is in his fourth season as boys coach at Divine Child. He said his first year was tough. Divine Child had the talent to win a district title but just didn't get the job done. Last year, his team finished 8-13.

"It helps tremendously playing the competition we see in the league," he said. "We get to see a lot of different teams to prepare us for the tournament."

Source: The Detroit News

Marrocco Looks for Candidates for Detroit Water Board

Macomb County Public Works Commissioner **Anthony Marrocco '66** has posted the "help wanted" sign. Rather than quickly make an appointment to the new Detroit water board based on recommendations from colleagues, Marrocco is inviting those who are "qualified and motivated" to apply for the job. The public works commissioner has the authority to choose one Macomb County representative on the revamped board.

"I'm looking for an enthusiastic county resident with the required credentials to be a strong voice for Macomb County on the board and to keep us informed of water department activities", Marrocco said.

Board members must have a minimum of seven years of experience working in engineering, law, finance, or for a regulated industry such as a public utility. Members cannot be an elected official or ranking administrator from a community that contracts with Detroit for water or sewer service. Marrocco and his deputies are prohibited from serving.

Several names have been floated for the position but Marrocco said he wanted to open up the process to include all county residents.

Under a court-approved agreement reached last month by Detroit Mayor Dave Bing and tri-county leaders, the three suburban counties will each appoint their representative to the board that oversees the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department. In the past, the Detroit mayor made all appointments to the DWSD board.

The new seven-member board that will be seated on April 1 will consist of four Detroit representatives, giving the city a majority. But it will take a supermajority of five to approve new water rates or to launch an infrastructure project. That means at least one representative from Wayne, Oakland or Macomb would have to lend their support.

The federal court order that endorsed the new DWSD procedures provides that water board members will receive a salary of \$10,000 a year, plus \$250 per board meeting. Maximum compensation will be \$20,000 a year.

Marrocco said board members can expect to attend three to four board meetings per month, in addition to devoting time for research and discussion of issues.

Most of the meetings will be held during daytime business hours. Terms of office are four years. The deal reached by the regional leaders also provides the board with an in-house staff consisting of an attorney, a finance officer, and a technical expert with experience in engineering, water operations or sewer services. The staff will conduct research, investigate issues, make recommendations and monitor activities of the DWSD.

Source: The Macomb Daily

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Upcoming Events

2011 Alumni Softball Tournament

September 17, 2011

Double Elimination Format

At Total Sports in Harrison Township, MI

\$30 per player

2011 Alumni Special Fall Event

Details to follow...

 **Obituaries**

Our condolences to Ken Roncelli '67 whose wife Robyn passed away in November.

Robyn A. Roncelli (Nee Richardson)

Died November 20, 2010. Age 55. Beloved wife of Kenneth. Loving mother of Jason Kolb and Michael Kolb. Loving step-mother of Kristi (Kit) Roncelli Mastroberto. Proud grandmother of Will Kolb and Dominic Mastroberto. Loving daughter of Barbara and the late William Richardson. Dearest sister of Jim Richardson and Kim (Susie) Richardson. Robyn was a teacher at Macomb Community College where she was the program coordinator of the Health Information Technology curriculum. She also spent many years at various Detroit area hospitals including St. John Riverview, St. Joseph Detroit, Sinai-Grace and Samaritan. She is a past President of the Southeastern Michigan Chapter of AHIMA (American Health Information Management Association). She loved to golf and play cards with her family and friends.

Joseph M. Foxa - Class of 1976

Age 52, died unexpectedly on August 25, 2010 at his home in St. Clair Shores. Joe was born on February 7, 1958 in Southfield, Michigan. Joe was carpenter and owned his own company called Creations and Restorations. He was known as a perfectionist in his trade and was a true artisan. Joe was a personable man, had a heart of gold and was willing to help anyone with anything. Early in his career that spanned 27 years, he was affectionately known as Formica Joe because the laminate was a popular choice for counter tops when remodeling a kitchen. That moniker followed him when he created his email address. He wasn't much of a tech guy, but the name fit the man. On August 17, 1984 Joe married Cynthia Bullion at Mariner's Church in downtown Detroit. Joe built their first home and has completely gutted and remodeled their current home. He loved boating, motorcycles (especially Ducati's), airplanes and trains. He enjoyed watching Tiger baseball. Joe was a former member of the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club and the Lakewood Shores Golf Resort in Oscoda. He devoted time and resources to the Detroit Equestrian Center at the Michigan State Fairgrounds. Joe is survived by his wife of 26 years, Cindy; their daughters, Nicole and Gabi; his sister, Catherine Kroll; his mother Lillian; his nephew Alex and nieces Lindsay, Jamie, Jessica and Lauren; and his Goddaughter Lauren. He was predeceased by his father Joseph A. Foxa. Memorials may be made to the Special Olympics, 1133 19th Street NW, 12th Floor, Washington, DC 20036 Special Olympics Donor site or The Smile Train (an organization supporting children with cleft palate deformities), PO Box 96231; Washington, D.C. 20090-6231.

Michael S. Kolodge - Class of 1963

Michael was born on September 17, 1942 and passed away on Saturday, August 7, 2010. Michael lived in Algonac, Michigan. He was employed by Chrysler Corporation. He is survived by his wife, Joanna Shirley, and two sons, Sean Michael and Dustin Michael. Memorials may be made to: Wounded Warriors.

Gary M. Canu - Class of 1972

Age 56 of Rochester Hills. Died February 28, 2011. Loving son of Nancy and the late John. Dear brother of Jim Canu, Cathy (Jon) Katz, Dr. Joe, Sal, and Tony Canu. Favorite uncle of Renee, Little Sal, Joey, Giancarlo, and Michael. Interment at Guardian Angel Cemetery. Suggested memorials to St. Jude Children's Hospital. Online guestbook www.modetzfuneralhomes.com

Thomas H. Barrett - Class of 1965

A long time resident of St. Clair Shores and a summer resident at Otter Lake, died December 26, 2010 after a brief illness. He was born February 10, 1947 in Weymouth, Mass. He was formerly employed with A&C Electric. Thomas was a 1965 graduate of Notre Dame High School and a U.S. Army veteran. Brother to Susan and Sharon (Woody Gmyrek); fun-loving uncle to Kathleen; and a good friend to many.

Upcoming Reunions

Reunions in 2011

The following classes are due to celebrate reunion years in 2011:



2006 - 5 Years
 2001 - 10 Years
 1996 - 15 Years
 1991 - 20 Years
 1986 - 25 Years



1981 - 30 Years
 1976 - 35 Years
 1971 - 40 Years
 1966 - 45 Years
 1961 - 50 Years



Interested in forming a reunion committee for your class?
 E-mail Jim Mandl '90 at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com.

We are your *only* source for the most up-to-date alumni contact information!

Celebrating 25 Years Class of 1986

Please contact John Kaminski or Dan O'Brien at:

John Kaminski: jkaminski1700@yahoo.com

H:(612) 822-4759 C: (952) 261-5546

Dan O'Brien: dobrien734@comcast.net

(248) 840-8391

Celebrating 45 Years Class of 1965

Asking all classmates of '65 to plan ahead...
 will be here before we know it.

1. Please make sure you or classmates are still in contact with or get on the Friends of Notre Dame mailing list.
 2. Not too soon to be suggesting when, where and events.
- GO IRISH! Dennis Berger '65.
dennisaberger@aol.com
 909-223-4483

Celebrating 20 Years - Class of 1991

Date: September 10, 2011

Location: Comerica Park Suite - Detroit vs. Minnesota

Time: 4 pm * Cost: \$100

Contacts: Ron Stempin 313-642-5267, Eric Woodhouse 248-925-4357, Rick Nowicki 586-295-1338

Details: Spouses/Sig Others Welcome. First 60 paid people are in.

Get money to one of the above contacts or send payments to:

Ron Stempin

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Celebrating 50 Years - Class of 1961

Paul Baeckeroot of the class of 1961 contacted us. He needs your help organizing your 50th anniversary class reunion. Paul can be reached by phone at 586-484-0370 or e-mail at ptbaeckeroot@comcast.net

Notre Dame Class of 1971



40

1971-2011

Save the Date!

Class of 1971 40th Reunion
 Saturday, November 5, 2011
 Club Venetian, Madison Heights

Details to follow.
 We could use your help! Please contact
 Mike Scharl at
notredame71@att.net

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