



The Leprechaun



A Publication of the Harper Woods Notre Dame Alumni Association
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Keeping the Spirit of the Fightin' Irish Alive Since 2005!
MAY 2008 EDITION

Band Honored as Best in Detroit

After a top 10 finish on Fox Television's *Search for the Next Great American Band*, honors are beginning to be bestowed upon the Muggs. The 2008 Detroit Music Awards were held Friday April 25th at the Fillmore Detroit. The Muggs, Matt Rost, **Danny Methric '90**, and **Tony DeNardo '90**, performed for the sold out crowd and were then honored as *Most Outstanding Rock Artist/Group*. Long regarded as one of the best guitar players in Detroit, **Danny Methric '90** also took home the award for *Most Outstanding Rock/pop Instrumentalist*. **Congratulations, guys!**

The Muggs have put the finishing touches on their 2nd full length album and will be celebrating its release Friday May 9, 2008 at the Magic Bag Theater in Ferndale, MI. Tickets for the CD release concert are \$10 and can be purchased at any ticketmaster location or at the Magic Bag box office. Warming up the stage for The Muggs will be Tres Bien, also a *Search for the Next Great American Band* top ten finalist.



The Muggs
Matt Rost, **Danny Methric '90**, and **Tony DeNardo '90**



What's Inside?

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2009 Alumni Directory Update

The information gathering and research phase is underway! Harris Connect will be doing research with our alumni database. They will make every feasible attempt to contact all of our living alumni by e-mail, U.S. mail, or phone. You will receive contact from them, and if you hear of someone who may not have, please let us know. We want to make sure no one is left out of the new directory. The directory will be sorted into easy-to-use sections. To make networking easy with other alumni, we will be including residence and business information, as well as e-mail addresses. When contacted, please take a few moments to update your information. The alumni directory will be available in regular edition, deluxe edition, and on CD. Combo-pricing will also be available if you are interested in purchasing both a print and electronic version of the directory. Please consider purchasing an alumni directory -- a great reunion planning resource!



Visit our eBay Store!
<http://stores.ebay.com/Friends-of-Notre-Dame>



Jim '00, Joe '04 and
Jeff '06 Riehl



Dave Bourgeois '89 - Owner

Alumnus Honored as Teacher of the Year

By Jim Mandl '66

Jim Mandl '90 is in his fifth year teaching at the Warren Consolidated Schools Career Preparation Center (CPC) in Sterling Heights, Michigan. In his classroom, students are required to participate in a number of design competitions as part of the CAD curriculum at CPC. One of them is the annual design competition sponsored by the American Society of Body Engineers (ASBE), an arm of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE). This competition gives students an opportunity to have their design skills judged by automotive industry engineers.

On April 10th, the ASBE held its 54th annual design competition awards banquet at the Center campus of Macomb County Community College. **Jim Mandl '90** was honored by the organization as their Teacher of the Year. From over 100 drawings submitted to the ASBE, 22 of Jim's students were chosen as top 30 finalists.

Student drawings were judged in two categories – Mechanical Drawing and Computer-Aided Design (CAD). In the Mechanical Drawing competition, his students swept the top three places; in the CAD competition, he had 19 students place in the top 24, including 2nd and 3rd places.

Success always comes from various avenues of support. Jim gives credit for his professional success to his parents, wife, and the other CAD teachers he's developed friendships with, but mainly to his former teachers.

"In many ways, my high school career was better preparation for life than college was," said Mandl. He has difficulty remembering the names of his college instructors, but "will never forget the impact teachers like Fr. John Kiselica, Mr. Bob "Pops" Kelly, Dr. Steven Konopacki, Mr. Ken Parent, and Mr. Anthony Borton" had on his life. "Looking back, I'm touched by the way these teachers dedicated their lives to helping students succeed," Mandl said. "I want to do the same for my students."



Chrysler Vice President of Jeep/Truck Ralph Gilles, Jim Mandl '90, and CPC Principal Frank Antonucci at the ASBE Awards Banquet.

Grad Founds Nondenominational Wilderness Retreat in U.P.

The Companions of Christ the Lamb Retreat Center (CCL) offers wilderness retreats on over 1,000 acres in the Eastern Upper Peninsula. On most days the only sounds heard at the CCL are the wind singing through pines and the babble of a small stream, but it wasn't always like that for Father **Jack Fabian '59**. In 1995 he heard a voice while visiting the 960 acres near Paradise, Mich. that were to become his future home. It said, "This is the place I've prepared for you," Father Fabian said. "It was undeniable, and it was the voice of Mary."

Such events are not uncommon for Father Fabian and members of the CCL, the public association of the faithful he formed in 1989. CCL members were looking for property on which to begin their ministry of wilderness retreats and outdoor living skills when Father Fabian and others found the section of Upper Peninsula forest. "There is something very special about our place, it is very quiet and holy ground," Father Fabian writes in his book detailing the history of CCL.

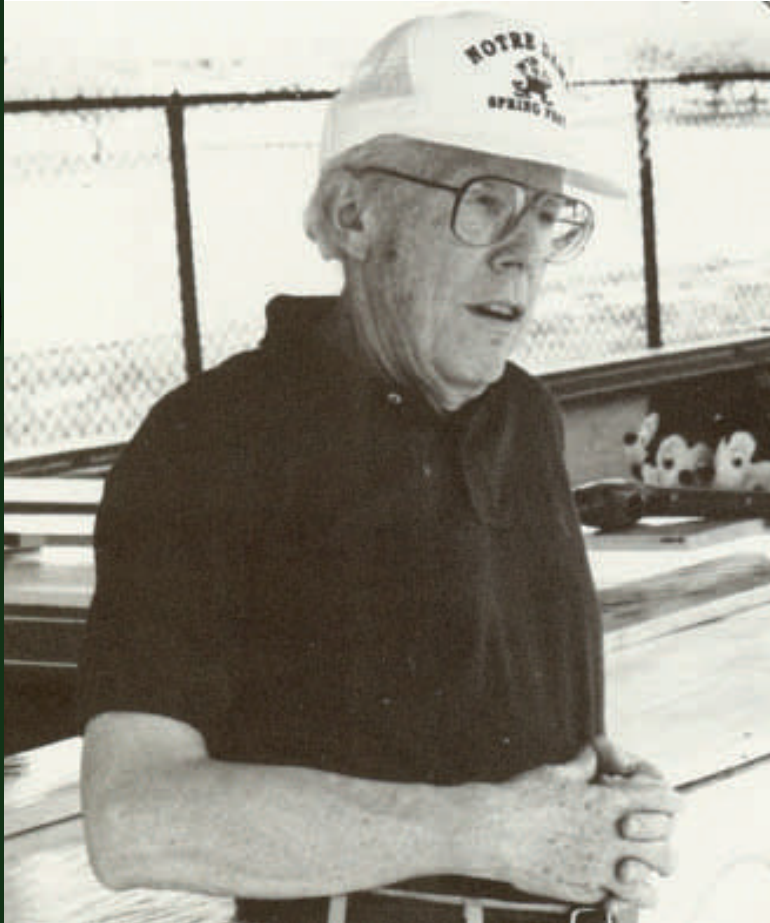
The retreat center is located in Chippewa County, off M-123 between Newberry and Paradise. The CCL center is reached by driving relatively good dirt roads about eight miles north of M-123 and following homemade signs with the letters "CCL." Mass is celebrated at noon each weekday. On Sunday, Mass is at 10 a.m. The pews are hewn from cedar logs and are hard, there are no kneelers but worshippers kneel on the floor as they give thanks and praise for the blessings of a simple lifestyle.

CCL's ministry is to provide wilderness retreats. They draw upon the history of such retreats found in sacred scripture, including the examples of John the Baptist, Moses and especially Christ going into the wilderness to find silence and let God speak to their hearts. In that tradition, CCL now offers the ability to camp at a number of retreat sites or use one of several log hermitages on the property to do retreats of varying lengths. The hermitages are small cabins that feature a bed, a woodstove and an indoor minimum flush toilet. There is no electricity on the property. Most of the cabins are single units, although there are also larger cabins that can house a group of retreatants. In his book, Father **Jack Fabian '59** remarks that never in a thousand years would he have guessed that he would be called to start a religious community, but that the way it has turned out could not be more pleasing for him. "I loved parish life, but was always looking out the window, wondering when I'd be able to be outdoors next," he said.

For more information on CCL retreats write to: P.O. Box 12/Paradise, MI 49768 or call Chuck Roelant at (906) 492-3815.

In Loving Memory of Mr. Robert "Pops" Kelly

October 13, 1927 - March 29, 2008



An Old Irish Blessing

**May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back,
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
and rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand.**

I graduated from Notre Dame High School in 1981. Mr. Kelly was one of my favorite teachers. I still have the book of short stories in my bookcase here at home probably because of how excited he got when talking about each story in it. He will be truly missed and my condolences go out to the entire family.

-Michael Potocki '81

I want to send my condolences on the passing of your father. "Pops" Kelly was one of my favorite teachers at Notre Dame. He taught me how to write. He lives on, as every time I compose a letter, brief or story, I think of his admonishment to be concise. The world has lost someone that really did make a difference. Thank you for the opportunity to share the thought.

-Michael J. Garzoni '75

I had the pleasure of taking two English classes with Mr. Kelly. He is one of only a few teachers that I clearly remember because of his pleasant demeanor and his outstanding teaching ability. I admired him greatly.

-Dave Weir '76

Mr. Kelly helped broaden my educational experience by introducing me to the world of Forensics. I was assigned the task of orally presenting the now infamous - "Friends, Romans, countrymen..." from Julius Ceasar in Honors Literature. At the conclusion, Mr. Kelly urged me to compete in Forensics. He told me my voice was undeniable and would garner immediate attention. I was very reluctant at the thought of speaking in front of such a large audience, but Mr. Kelly "leaned" on me yet once again. He taught me the fine art of using fear as fuel for success. I joined the team and began to rack up numerous awards in the Oral Interpretation category. To this day, I have no problem with public speaking, whether large or small groups. I have to give numerous speeches throughout the year, to wide ranging audiences - all of which result in many compliments & commendations. I owe all the credit to Mr. Kelly for seeing something in me as a teen, that I didn't even see myself. My heart goes out to the Kelly family, as he will surely be missed.

-Dr. James "Moe" Morgan '91

I too will miss him. I had him for Senior English, but more importantly was that he headed up the Chess club back in 63,64,65,66 and a bunch of us (sometimes 5) all crammed in his little VW bug and travel to schools all over Detroit to play chess. Cass Tech, Northwestern, Catholic Central, Denby, Osborn, etc, etc. Try that today! I will definitely set aside some special prayers for him.

-Ron Hier '66

He was an amazing man and a fantastic teacher. He inspired my passion for reading. I'm still reading a novel a week, at least.

-Mike Bilicki '90

Mr. Kelly was a good man - his life and teaching are yet another tribute to what NDHS was.

-Fr. John Kiselica

I have such fond memories of Mr. Kelly, as fine a gentleman as you could meet. I will forever treasure the love of books and reading that he taught, and feel very fortunate that he was my English teacher. What a life he led, and what an example to all!

-Mike Balow '90

Mr. Kelly was one of my favorite teachers at Notre Dame. He had a great teaching style and a terrific sense of humor. He was nice enough to attend our 30th reunion back in 2001. My condolences to the family.

-Mike Scharl '71

I am so sorry to hear of Mr. Kelly's death. His encouragement and guidance and the confidence he showed in me during my time at Notre Dame started me on a writing career that continues to this day. Please know that his influences continue.

-Michael Graczyk '67

Reunion News

The class of 1988 has formed a reunion committee and is seeking classmate information. If interested, email Jim Pettyes '88 at james.pettyes@sbcglobal.net.

A 50 year reunion for the class of 1958 from St. Veronica is being planned. Please contact Tom Nagle HWND '62 at corvette61@verizon.net

A 50 year reunion for the class of 1958 from Notre Dame is being planned. Details to come.

The class of 1989 is beginning to gather information for their 20 year reunion. Members of the class of 1989 who are interested in assisting with the planning or who would like to update their contact information are asked to contact Dave Bourgeois '89 at db10101@aol.com

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



In Memoriam

- ♣ Mr. Robert "Pops" Kelly - Teacher
- ♣ Moore, Ronald - Class of 1965
- ♣ Angie Vitali - ND Kitchen Staff



Thanks to all who continue to keep us updated on alumni passings. It is important to honor their memory.

In Need of Our Thoughts and Prayers...



Don Renkert, class of 1969, suffered a serious brain injury in a fall on ice this winter. Don has been Jeep design team manager at Chrysler for over 30 years. If you use his name to do a google search, you will find several stories about his work. Don, his wife, Lynn, daughters Emily and Julia all need our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

Sports

Brian Kelly '77 has led the DeLaSalle Varsity baseball team to an impressive 14-5 start to the 2008 season. Wins include double-header sweeps of Catholic Central and Pontiac Notre Dame Prep.

Upcoming Events

1st Annual Friends of Notre Dame Golf Outing

Friday, June 6, 2008
(Details on page 6 of newsletter)

Harper Woods Notre Dame Alumni Night @ Comerica Park

Monday, August 25, 2008
(Details on last page of newsletter)



Marge Mandl (Regina '66), Paws, John McCabe '63, and Jim Mandl '66 all say: "Join us for ND Alumni night at Comerica Park!"

Interested in hosting a Notre Dame Alumni night at your establishment?

E-mail Jim Mandl '90 at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com

Memorial Day Tribute...

Remembering Those Who Made the Ultimate Sacrifice

- '58 Frederic N. Ball (Marines)
- '63 Vincent F. Murphy (Army)
- '65 Kenneth S. Gniewek (Army)
- '66 Joseph Wiar (Marines)
- '66 Douglas B. Ray (Army)
- '67 Paul D. Mannerow (Marines)
- '67 Brian E. McCarthy (Army)
- '67 John Pizzuti (Army)
- '67 Daniel M. Richards (Army)



Special thanks to **Kevin Flaherty '89** for helping to compile this list. If you know of someone else who should be mentioned, please send their name, year of graduation, and branch of service to us.



— Be Friendly — Adopt a Pet!



For any of our friends that may be interested, our Warren Chrysler Jeep store is sponsoring a pet rescue fair on May 10. We hope to find many pets their forever homes and raise some money for rescue groups. Catering will be provided by Andiamo. Hope to see you there!

- Janet & Jim Riehl

— Be Friendly —
Adopt a Pet!

— Be Friendly —
Adopt a Pet!



Saturday, May 10
10am - 4pm
Jim Riehl's
Friendly Chrysler Jeep
586-979-8700
32899 Van Dyke Ave.
Warren, MI 48093



1st Annual Friends of Notre Dame Golf Outing



**Boulder Pointe
Golf Club and Banquet Center
One Champions Circle
Oxford, MI 48371**



www.friendsotnotredame.com

Friday June 6, 2008

www.friendsotnotredame.com

\$100 Golf Package Includes:
18 Holes of Golf with Cart
Free Range Balls
Dinner
Prizes

Schedule of Events:
10:00am Registration
11:00am Shotgun Start
4:00pm Dinner



Boulder Pointe is a 27 hole course with 18 holes on the west side of Lapeer Road and 9 holes on the east side of Lapeer Road.

www.boulderpointe.net

Special "Thanks" to
Jim Primeau, Class of 1962, for
organizing the golf outing!

Dinner Menu
Champagne Chicken
London Broil
Potato
Vegetable
Salad
Desert
Cash Bar

For Purchase On the Course
Beverage Carts
Hot Dogs in Gimmy's Grill

Submit Your Foursome no later than *May 30, 2008*. Payment must be sent for all members listed on entry form.
Golfers submitting less than four will be grouped with other golfers prior to the event.
Outing open to all Alumni and "Friends" of Harper Woods Notre Dame High School. \$100 per golfer.

Golfer 1 *Year of Graduation*

Golfer 3 *Year of Graduation*

Golfer 2 *Year of Graduation*

Golfer 4 *Year of Graduation*

Send Check or money order payable to "Friends of Notre Dame" to:
Friends of Notre Dame c/o Jim Mandl, 54361 Pine Street, New Baltimore, MI 48047

A portion of the proceeds to benefit the Marist House in Massachusetts



Harper Woods Notre Dame Alumni Night at the Ballpark



Join us for an evening of fun, friends, family, and baseball!



**DETROIT TIGERS
VS.
CLEVELAND INDIANS
MONDAY
AUGUST 25, 2008
COMERICA PARK
7:05PM
COST: \$30 PER TICKET**



*The Friends of Notre Dame
has reserved 100 tickets!*

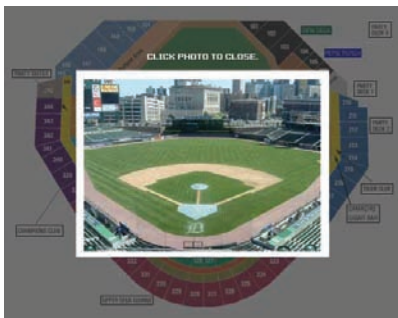
OPTIONAL

**SEASON TICKET HOLDER
TIGER CLUB PRE-GAME DINNER**
*(Features an amazing
all-you-can-eat buffet!)*

**5:00PM
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED**

**APPX. DINNER COST \$30 PER
PERSON PAYABLE THE EVENING
OF THE GAME TO YOUR SERVER**

*We will be using John McCabe's '04 and
Jim Mandl's '06 season ticket accounts
to make the reservations.*



The view from our seats - section 326



The view from our seats in February

Send check or money order payable to Friends of Notre Dame. Tickets will be mailed to you no later than August 11, 2008. Confirmation email will be sent once payment is received. Transportation, parking, and food are not included in price of ticket.

NAME: _____ CLASS OF: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

NUMBER OF GAME TICKETS: _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____

NUMBER OF TIGER CLUB DINNER RESERVATIONS: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

Return Form with payment to address below by Monday August 4, 2008.
Notre Dame High School Alumni Association
54361 Pine Street * New Baltimore, MI * 48047