

The Leprechaun

A Publication of the Harper Woods Notre Dame Alumni Association
www.friendsofnotredame.com - www.notredame-hw.com
Keeping the Spirit of the Fightin' Irish Alive Since 2005!
SUMMER 2009 EDITION



Boys of Summer Edition

NOTRE DAME



**S T A T E
C H A M P I O N S**

Where Are They Now?

George V. Cassar Jr. '89

Team Manager

Some of my best memories were on the bus trips where we'd play cards (for money, of course) in the back of the bus. I also loved the looks on some restaurant owners' faces when we pulled into some all you can eat place with a bus full of high school kids. It was pretty fun.

I didn't do anything with baseball after high school.

I am currently a lawyer in Southfield. I'm married with two kids - a four year old boy and a six year old girl. We live in Grosse Pointe Shores.



Sean P. Moran '89

Pitcher - Outfield

18 



I think most of the fun was during practice - we had a great time. Coach was loose with us, but he knew when to dial us in. Many rainbow throws from the outfield, and sunbathing during practice, but we always put forth a huge effort. I enjoyed our little things we did during games - we were a very superstitious bunch. We drew voodoo pictures in the dirt and sang our little songs... hilarious!

I spent many years playing baseball in the Canadian farm system near Niagara Falls. I still play today as part of the Detroit MSBL and would love to challenge some of my old teammates to come out of retirement.

I am married to Christa, whom I met in college at U of D. We have three children - Hannah 6, Logan 4, and Colin. We reside in Bloomfield Hills.

I am currently a Senior Vice President with Smith Barney, where I have worked for my entire career.

Matt Sokol '90

First Base

10 

My number one memory is the moment we won the state championship in East Lansing. My number two would have to be getting caught by Coach Mardirosian after curfew with a local girl when we were playing at a tournament in Cincinnati.

I didn't played baseball again after Notre Dame. I knew that if I wanted to make a living, I'd better hit the books.

I currently live in West Bloomfield with my wife Candy, our three kids - Madison, age 10, Emily age 9, Nick age 6, and our dog Sam.

I work as a psychologist both privately as well as within the Livonia Public Schools and have been doing so for the past 13 years.



Where Are They Now?

Bryan Santo '89

Pitcher - First Base



My favorite memory of the championship season was the final out of the championship game. We played against Milford at Kobs Field on the MSU campus. The game was a close, low scoring 3-2 battle. What a rush of excitement, achievement, and relief that our ultimate goal had come true. We won the Class A state championship! Our '89 class was close; however, our '89 baseball team had a special bond, a bond that continues to this day.

I continued my baseball career at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. I played 4 years on the travel team as a relief pitcher. The experience was awesome! I played from '89 thru '93.

Presently, I am working as a civil engineer/project manager for the Road Commission of Macomb County, designing and constructing roadways.

I have two sons, Adam and Matthew, 9 and 5, respectively. I enjoy coaching my oldest in federation baseball and will be coaching my youngest this summer in tee ball. I am still active in that I enjoy playing competitive softball, trap shooting, and golfing, when I can fit it in. I presently live in Richmond, Michigan - my original hometown. Go Irish!



Sean Louwers '89

Outfield



What a team! Sure we had great talent, but it was the chemistry of that team that led to our success. It all started with our coaching staff. I feel the most important thing that Coach Mardirosian and Coach Schypinski did was to allow us to have fun. We enjoyed being at practice every day. When we weren't on the field, chances are, we were together as a team elsewhere.

I played left field and batted first in the lineup. On occasion if Stanczak would pitch, I would move over to center field. Like the time in Districts at Grosse Pointe North, we had a good lead late in the game when Stan threw some heat down the middle of the plate. The kid hit a rocket deep over my head, and the fence for that matter. I don't think I moved except to turn my head and watch in

awe. We obviously won the game and moved on. The jokes continued on as well.

I did not continue my baseball career after high school. I attempted softball, but it didn't go well. I chose to play football instead. I was a preferred walk-on at Michigan State. I was on the team for 2 years when I chose to give up the game. I have great memories of college football and established great friendships, but they don't compare to those of N.D in 1989. I graduated from MSU in 1993 with a degree in Criminal Justice.

I worked for the Macomb County Sheriff's Office for 13 years when I decided to make a career change. I retired in 2008 and began working with/ for Frank Denardo '89 at Hog Brothers Recycling. I currently live in Macomb Township, but will likely be relocating to South Carolina in the future. I have been married for 12 years and have two daughters - ages 9 & 5)

I recently made contact with Coach Mardirosian. We agreed to make our best effort to have a 20 year reunion of the Class A State Championship team.

Fightin' Irish Forever!

Where Are They Now?

Mike Miller '89
Second Base



Thanks for the interest in the 20th anniversary of the state championship. I, unfortunately, remember the Catholic League championship game against De La Salle at Tiger Stadium. We got completely blown out and were pretty dejected walking through the line shaking hands with them after the game. They were hootin' and laughing about the pounding they put on us and talking smack, which we were pretty good at ourselves. We had won the season series against them, pretty handily, and someone on their team made a comment along the lines of "too bad you couldn't with the league," to which Larry Smiecinski replied, "Yeah, well good luck in Districts (in the State tournament)." That caused our entire team to bust out laughing. It was funny because De La Salle had lost their pre-district play-in game and were already knocked out of the state tournament. Even in defeat, we were able to get the last laugh. I did not go on to play baseball in college.

I live in Macomb Township and am married with three children - Faith 6 1/2, Noelle 5 and Isaac 2 1/2. I currently work in Advertising as Associate Media Director, Strategy at Starcom MediaVest Group managing the Cadillac, HUMMER and Saab national advertising.

John Turner '89
Catcher



I have a couple of favorite memories from the 1989 baseball season. One of them is the triple-header we played against Brother Rice. We mercied them all three games on the same day! Another memory I have is from a scrimmage. We were playing Bishop Foley. Sean Moran threw a ball in from the outfield and the only thing it hit was a basketball backboard!

After ND, I went to Wayne State University. I played baseball during the fall season of my freshman year before giving it up to concentrate on my education. I am currently a product development engineer for an automotive trim supplier, SRG Global, in Warren, Michigan. I have been with the company for 13 years. I live in St. Clair Shores and am divorced with no kids.

Jeff Miller '90
Third Base



My favorite memory from the 1989 baseball season was hitting a home run in the semi-final game and watching Mr. Ken Parent go into the creek to get the ball.

I continued my baseball career at the University of Detroit for two years and finished at Madonna University. I now own an Optical retail store in Sterling Heights called Miller Optical. I have been married for 6 1/2 years and I have two daughters - Jillian, five, and Brielle, one.

Where Are They Now?

Chris Gajewski '90
Outfield - Catcher



Thanks for giving me this chance to remember...

I remember that year of baseball like it was yesterday. That's how special that team was. The team consisted of 11 seniors and 5 juniors for the majority of the year. I was a junior that year, playing my first full year of Varsity Baseball at ND. The seniors on that team were awesome. That was the closest group of guys I have ever had the pleasure to be around in any team setting.

I remember some of the most amazing individual season performances I have ever seen. I still tell people to this day that Eric Stanczak was the best high school baseball player I've ever seen. I remember Bryan Santo's amazing pitching performance against Divine Child in the

Catholic League Playoffs, winning a game that we weren't supposed to win. That was the first time I think we really realized how good we were. I remember Bryan pitching an equally impressive game during the State Semi-Finals in Lansing. I remember losing to De La Salle in Tiger Stadium in rather embarrassing fashion at the Catholic League Finals, even though Eric had a home run and a double off the wall, which was pretty impressive for a high school player. I remember all of the hard working guys like Al Agbay, Sean Louwers, John and Jim Turner, Larry Smiecinski, Dominic Larocca, and Tony Jaboro who ALWAYS played the game the way it was supposed to be played. I remember guys rising to the occasion like Jeff Miller and Matt Ziolkowski when we needed it in the State Playoffs. I remember the rest of the guys like myself, who played other important roles on the team. Guys like Sean Moran, Mike Miller, Eric Burkheiser, and Matt Sokol did everything they could to help the team.

I remember how Coach Mardirosian and Coach Shy complemented each other so well, even with their completely different styles, and who can forget George Cassar's commitment as the Student-Manager all year.

Nobody blamed anyone for the losses, cared about who was getting credit for the wins, complained about playing time, or did any of those things that prevent lesser teams from winning.

It was truly the most committed, unselfish, hard-working, professional team I have ever been associated with. I would step onto a baseball field with any one of those guys again at any time, because they all played baseball with the highest respect and love for the game.

After graduating from ND in 1990, I received a baseball scholarship and played 4 years of college baseball at Madonna University, before graduating from there in 1995 with a Bachelor's Degree in International Business and Economics. I coached a few years of high school baseball after that, and wish I had time to do more coaching at that level.

I met my wife Ogie in 1996 and married her in 1999. We had our daughter Olivia in 2001, and our son Ethan in 2004. I have been working in the Insurance Industry for the last 14 years, and things have been going very well for me, due in no small part to the things I learned at ND.

I owe a lot to that team and those guys. I am lucky to be one of the few men in ND history to have a State Championship Ring that I can show my kids and someday my grandkids. Every team I have played on or coached since then has benefited from my experience on the 1989 State Championship Team.

I never take for granted that the majority of people that play baseball never get to experience something as perfect as that team.

I hope to see everyone at the Alumni Softball Tournament this year!!!



Where Are They Now?

Dominic LaRocca '89

14 

Outfield



I was a two-year starter in right field. We outright dominated the regional finals at GP North. The team was just about peaking – we must have collectively batted over .400 in that state tournament. I know it wasn't the '89 season, but it included the usual suspects... we had a bench clearing brawl sophomore year vs. Bishop Borgess – LOL! Those of us that remember Wally's speech on the bus ride home are still laughing about it.

At 20 years of age, I started a career within the information technology & software industry at Covansys; subsequently completed an undergraduate degree in economics. I founded, managed, and sold various consulting and staffing companies; however, we barely survived the dot com bust. After about 4 to 5 years of deep hibernation while simultaneously establishing myself as one of Detroit's top poker players, I am now officially back in action and work as an advisor and management consultant to technology and consulting companies. In addition, I facilitate and broker transactions involving petroleum products and various metals. I reside in Miami Beach with my wife of 11 years, Giovanna, and our 9 year old son Mark. We enjoy over 300 days of sunshine per year!

Larry Smiecinski '89

5 

Shortstop

My thoughts or favorite moments about the '89 championship team are great memories. The games were special, but I enjoyed the practices even more. The pre-practice stretch was stand up comedy hour but you never wanted to be the target. There were jokes, rips, and one liners that kept everyone loose. I won't forget the daily "race down Kelly road" to practice. Assistant coach Schypinski's red hot grounders that would eat you up at his choosing. The best game was a triple header against Brother Rice in which we mercied them three times. During one of the games, Sean Moran started doing the Brother Rice War Chant, much to the displeasure of the fans in Birmingham.

The run to the State Title started with us getting our butts whooped at Tiger Stadium by De La Salle in the Catholic League finals. After that, we all jelled and worked as one unit. Yes, we still joked and ripped on one another but we came together for one last win streak. This has to be one of the greatest group of people I could have ever played baseball with. We all had a role and it worked. I still see many teammates often, and we always joke about that year, much to our wives' displeasure. This was a great time in my life! The championship gave us great memories and great friendships, forever.

Unfortunately, my baseball career ended when I was cut in college. I went on to earn a B.S. at Eastern Michigan University.

I currently work for Accurate Gauge mfg. where I started working in January of 1990. My wife, Kelli, and I are proud parents of Mitchell (9) and Victoria (7). My only involvement in baseball now, is managing my sons little league team.



Where Are They Now?

John McCabe '63

J.V. and Varsity Assistant Coach



I knew when these guys were freshman that they were a very special group. No one could beat them as freshman, and I could see a close bond forming with this group of guys. I have a lot of memories about the championship year. Where should I start? I remember the guys tying one shoe before the game and leaving the other shoe untied until we arrived at the field. I also remember the fun I had driving the bus. We all lifted our feet off of the floor as we crossed railroad tracks. The only problem with that is I was driving, and I had to have at least one foot on a pedal! I remember winning the Harper Woods baseball tournament that year. It was quite an accomplishment because every school in Harper Woods had a good baseball team that year. Bishop Gallagher won the Class B State Championship, and Harper Woods and Lutheran East went deep into the state tournament. On a side note, Bishop Gallagher always had good baseball teams, and we always seemed to beat them. Even if we had a down year, we always seemed to be able to beat Gallagher.

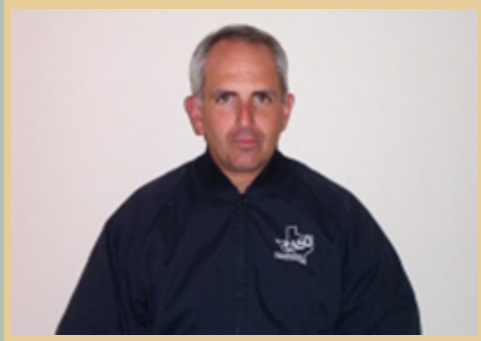


We ended up losing at Tiger Stadium to De La Salle in the Catholic League Championship game. The timing was odd because the pre-district games had already been played. We qualified for districts, but De La Salle had already been eliminated from the state tournament. The Catholic League Championship was all they had left to play for. We, as coaches, recognized we had a legitimate shot at winning the state championship, so we decided to rest some of our pitchers. We felt the State Championship would be a prize no one would ever forget. The sacrifice was well worth it! It really paid off!

I have the most memories about the championship game day - June 17, 1989. I will never forget that day as long as I live. There must have been at least 1,500 people in the stands at MSU watching the game. That's A LOT for a high school game. The game was well played by both teams. The last inning was tough, though. We were leading 3 - 2. Milford loaded the bases with two outs. Their next batter worked the count full. My stomach was in knots. Matt Ziolkowski '90 was pitching. He was a heck of a pitcher. He finally got the guy to pop-up to our 2nd baseman, Tony Jaboro '89. I held my breathe, and everything seemed like it was happening in slow motion. Tony caught the ball for the final out of the game, and we were state champions! It was one of the best feelings I had ever had in all my years of playing and coaching baseball. It's a special feeling that gave me goose bumps back then, and still does today when I think about it. The kids painted the bus with their names and state champs on the sides. I remember lots of people honking and waving as I drove the bus home from East Lansing. One of the coolest memories from that day happened when we approached Harper Woods. The Harper Woods police were waiting for us as we entered the city limits. They turned on their lights and gave us a police escort the rest of the way back to Notre Dame. Now *THAT* was special.

I currently live in Macomb, Michigan with my wife, Rita and work for the United States Postal Service.

Where Are They Now?



Tony Mardirosian
Varsity Head Coach



I have numerous memories of that season, starting with our trip to Cincinnati. We pounded McNicholas in both games of a doubleheader. After our team meeting, no one had any questions. The players walked out to the parking lot and started climbing into these girls' cars to go off for a little joyride. I stopped them, and they ended up at the Burger King at the top of the hill.

After we lost both games, by one run each, of a doubleheader at Catholic Central, I told the players to forget about it, and they were laughing and joking around on the bus on the way home. The next day, we talked about winners and losers in the classroom underneath the gym, and I told them we needed to stop worrying about the scoreboard and become winners by how we played the game. We got hot, made the Catholic League playoffs, beat Divine Child, then went to Tiger Stadium for the first time in 20 something years. Of course, we didn't play too well, except for Eric Stanczak, and De La Salle run ruled (mercied) us 13 - 3.

In the state playoffs, I remember Eric Burkheiser scoring the winning run against Troy Athens in the regional semifinals on an errant pickoff throw to 3rd base. Late in the game, 5th or 6th inning, they had the bases loaded and their best hitter up. He had already hit one off the fence and another to the fence. The count went to full, and Bryan Santo busted a curve that completely fooled the batter as he swung and missed it.

In the regional finals, Birmingham Groves had been hot, doing a little ritual they called drawing first blood, literally, and also scoring first. Jim Turner had some control issues, and I remember (not proudly) yelling terrible things from the dugout. Sean Louwers' dad, Jay, was behind me, trying to calm me down. Despite my lack of coaching, our players rose up and took a lead into the 6th. Groves rallied, and I had to bring Eric Stanczak from centerfield to pitch. He hadn't pitched in over a month. They scored a couple inherited runs, but he retired the side with a long fly to the fence in left center, leaving us ahead, 11 - 9. I was nervous until Eric came off the field and told me, "Don't worry, Coach. We got this." And we did.

The state finals against Milford featured their stud catcher, Jeff Irish, who had already been drafted a few days earlier. Being the *genius* I was, I told our guys we were going to test him anyway. He threw our first base stealer out by about 15 feet! I decided not to try that again. As the game went on, I remember two of the outs in the last inning were sky high flies that I thought would never come down, and that Eric seemed to teeter under for an eternity.

I know of a few more things. I remember John Turner's suicide squeeze base hit in the semifinal game that helped us break that game open. More importantly, I remember how lucky I felt to coach the players from that 1989 team. We had valedictorians - John and Jim Turner and Bryan Santo. We had class president, Eric Stanczak. We had some really hard-nosed, blue collar players like Al Agbay, Eric Burkheiser, Tony Jaboro, Larry Smiecinski, Sean Louwers, Dominic LaRocca, and Sean Moran. And superb talent like some of those mentioned above and Jeff Miller and Matt Ziolkowski. I am sure I have forgotten someone, but I didn't cheat and go back to look at anything as I am writing this. I have always said over the years that those players won the state championship, not because of me, but in spite of my limited abilities. I haven't mentioned that '89 was my first head coaching experience. Even then, I knew it would never be better than it was that year. I would be remiss if I didn't mention how awesome John McCabe and Jerry Schypinski were as coaches, and what a great athletic director Joe Spada was. Father Leon took a chance on me, and I will never forget him for that.

Continued on Page 10...

Where Are They Now?

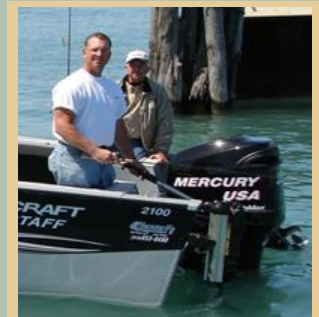
Coach Mardirosian Continued From Page 9...

After all these years, I am still coaching. This is my 29th year teaching and coaching. I am still married to Corinne. Our children are pretty much grown. Julian (24) graduated from MSU last year and has been working for Dell in Round Rock for the past year. John (20) just finished his sophomore year at the University of Texas. Jade (18) is finishing her freshman year at Drexel.

I have made several stops since returning to Texas in '91. I was the JV coach at Elkins in '95 when they won the 5A state championship. I was a head coach for two years at another school, then returned to Elkins to be the varsity assistant on two more state championship teams, '02, '03. I was head coach for 5 years at another Houston area school, and I am back to being a varsity assistant again. I am hoping to be a head coach again soon. Each time I have been a head coach, the predominant school color has been green.

Thanks again for allowing me to walk down memory lane. I hope I can see as many of those players as possible this summer. Corinne first said it, but we have both repeated it often. If we could have just moved ND to Texas, our life would have been perfect. We couldn't take the weather in Michigan and knew we wanted to raise our family in Texas, but in the 18 years we have been gone, we have never been at a better place with better people than Notre Dame. Thanks, again.

Matt Ziolkowski '90
Pitcher



I remember being prepared to play. The coaches knowledge of the other teams' strengths and weaknesses and their tendencies was the reason we won the state championship. The coaches all really worked together well. Our practices were fun, but intense. Especially the winter practices in the gym.

I remember Eric Stanczak putting us in the lead late in the game with a double. I pitched part of the 6th inning and all of the 7th. I'll never forget the look on Tony Jaboro's face when I finally got the last batter to pop up. As soon as the ball came off of the bat, he was calling everyone off. He made sure everyone knew that ball was his to catch. His eyes were wide open! As soon as he caught it he started running towards the bench yelling! We all did. It was a great feeling!

I am currently working as a construction engineer for 3C's Landscaping in Fraser, Michigan. On the weekends, I run my own charter fishing company - 'Eyes & Z's Sport Fishing Charters.

Unfortunately, we were unable to make contact with the following members of the 1989 state champions. We would like to recognize their contribution to winning (arguably) the most important trophy ever to be won for Notre Dame.

Eric Stanczak '89
Center Field



Eric Burkheiser '90
Outfield



Jim Turner '89
Pitcher



Al Agbay '89
Right Field



Tony Jaboro '89
Second Base



Jerry Schypinski
Assistant Coach



Before...



...After



The Season

The 1989 Varsity Baseball team capped off an impressive season by winning Notre Dame's first baseball State championship. Under first year head coach, Mr. Anthony Mardirosian, the team finished win an outstanding 29 wins and 7 losses.

Game-by-Game Results

Notre Dame	3	Southgate Aquinas	0
Notre Dame	5	Southgate Aquinas	0
Notre Dame	12	Brother Rice	8
Notre Dame	11	Brother Rice	0
Notre Dame	11	Bishop Borgess	7
Notre Dame	1	Bishop Borgess	4
Notre Dame	6	De La Salle	5
Notre Dame	9	De La Salle	15
Notre Dame	5	Catholic Central	0
Notre Dame	0	Catholic Central	4
Notre Dame	4	Bishop Gallagher	2
Notre Dame	5	Bishop Gallagher	3
Notre Dame	13	Harper Woods	3
Notre Dame	12	Brother Rice	2
Notre Dame	12	Brother Rice	0
Notre Dame	18	Bishop Borgess	5
Notre Dame	2	Bishop Borgess	5
Notre Dame	5	De La Salle	0
Notre Dame	5	De La Salle	6
Notre Dame	0	Catholic Central	5
Notre Dame	11	Catholic Central	0
Notre Dame	3	Bishop Gallagher	2
Notre Dame	8	Bishop Gallagher	1
Notre Dame	7	Divine Child	3
Notre Dame	16	Grosse Pointe North	3
Notre Dame	4	De La Salle	14
Notre Dame	13	Finney	3
Notre Dame	5	Grosse Pointe South	4
Notre Dame	4	Troy Athens	3
Notre Dame	11	Birmingham Groves	9
Notre Dame	7	Saginaw Heritage	3
Notre Dame	3	Milford	2

Individual Honors

Eric Stanczak: Team M.V.P., All-Catholic, All-Metro/Regional Qualifier, Vic Battani Athlete of the Year Award

Bryan Santo: Scholar-Athlete, All-Catholic

Jeff Miller: All-Metro

Larry Smiecinski: All-Metro

Jim Turner: All-Metro

Sean Louwers: All- Central

The Season

Final Individual Statistics



FINAL BASEBALL STATISTICS-1989

BATTING

#	NAME	AB	R	H	HR	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	NP	SAC	RE	SB	Batting Average	PO	A	E	Fielding Average
1	J. Meertz	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	.000
2	M. Miller	16	3	5	1	0	0	3	4	2	1	2	1	1	.313	8	11	2	.905
4	M. Gunn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	.000
5	L. Sencinski	85	19	34	22	4	0	3	10	19	4	5	2	6	.400	39	54	13	.977
8	Jim Turner	37	8	9	8	2	1	0	9	6	0	0	0	1	.243	8	10	3	.957
9	R. Ricken	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.000	0	1	0	1.000
10	M. Sokol	10	6	4	2	1	0	0	3	3	0	0	1	1	.400	75	2	2	.975
11	C. Gajewski	13	2	5	4	1	0	0	3	3	0	3	0	4	.387	29	0	2	.935
12	E. Buckhaze	29	9	8	2	0	0	0	6	10	1	1	0	3	.276	1	4	3	.625
13	E. Stanczak	116	33	49	37	14	1	6	15	8	2	2	6	13	.422	39	13	5	.912
14	D. LaRocca	32	3	9	5	1	0	0	2	7	0	3	2	1	.281	9	1	0	1.000
15	J. Miller	109	29	40	34	7	3	4	18	18	0	3	6	7	.374	21	42	8	.987
16	John Turner	95	18	29	11	6	0	0	16	16	0	2	2	2	.305	261	36	8	.973
17	S. Louwes	118	42	39	9	5	1	1	25	25	1	2	7	24	.331	32	0	2	.941
18	S. Moran	14	2	4	6	0	0	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	.286	2	5	1	.875
21	B. Santo	113	25	34	18	11	4	1	18	12	0	1	13	6	.301	151	20	5	.972
22	M. Ziolkowski	36	8	9	11	2	1	0	5	10	0	1	1	1	.250	5	11	1	.941
24	A. Agbay	101	33	34	30	8	2	2	16	11	0	2	10	10	.337	20	3	3	.985
33	T. Jaboro	113	28	32	14	5	0	0	16	22	1	1	7	14	.283	46	41	7	.925
TOTALS		1034	240	313	244	67	13	19	145	179	11	27	59	94	.331	706	254	65	.937

PITCHING

#	NAME	W	L	S	BF	IP	R	ER	W	2B	3B	HR	BB	K	NP	ERA
5	L. Sencinski	0	0	1	6	3.0	3	1	2	0	0	1	2	1	0	2.33
8	Jim Turner	8	1	0	253	51.0	30	19	37	7	0	0	42	58	5	2.61
9	R. Ricken	1	0	0	5	1.0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0.00
12	E. Buckhaze	2	1	1	135	28.2	17	7	15	2	0	1	25	29	3	1.71
13	E. Stanczak	3	2	0	139	30.1	22	15	29	8	1	2	15	38	0	3.47
15	J. Miller	1	0	0	25	5.0	3	3	4	1	1	0	5	2	1	4.20
18	S. Moran	1	0	1	59	10.2	9	15	4	0	2	7	11	0	5.93	
21	B. Santo	5	2	0	280	60.2	29	22	42	4	0	2	41	91	3	2.57
22	M. Ziolkowski	7	2	2	246	55.2	29	22	44	7	2	3	37	54	2	2.87
24	A. Agbay	1	0	0	31	5.2	6	2	3	0	0	0	11	7	1	2.47
TOTALS		29	8	5	1179	247.1	151	108	191	33	4	11	149	213	15	2.81



The Season

Letter From Harper Woods City Council



MAYOR
JAMES R. HALEY

MAYOR PRO TEM
LEONARD T. HALAS

COUNCIL
VIRGINIA ANN NICHELETTI
RICHARD M. ZHAPPEMENO
VICTOR G. MARROCCO
CRESTO J. VELARDO
WILLIAM J. DAVENPORT

CITY MANAGER
JAMES E. LUDLON

CITY CLERK
MICKY D. TODD



19617 HARPER AVENUE • HARPER WOODS, MICHIGAN 48225
PHONE: (313) 343-2800

CITY COUNCIL
CONGRATULATORY RESOLUTION
NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL 1989 VARSITY BASEBALL TEAM

WHEREAS, The Notre Dame High School FIGHTING IRISH Baseball Team won the 1989 CLASS A State Championship, that being the first championship in the High School's history, and

WHEREAS, This championship culminated a 29-8 season with a 3-2 victory in the state finals, and

WHEREAS, Among the many other distinguished individual accomplishments of team members under the direction of Head Coach Anthony Mardirosian and Assistant Coach Jerry Schypinaki, the Notre Dame High School Baseball Team was ranked as one of the top 25 teams in the nation by U S A Today, and

WHEREAS, The Mayor and City Council being the duly elected voice of the people of Harper Woods wish to express their sincerest congratulations and highest commendations to the coaches and team members.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That a copy of this Congratulatory Resolution be presented to the Coaches and Members of the 1989 Notre Dame High School Varsity Baseball Team at the July 17, 1989 Meeting of the City Council to serve as a remembrance of the City's pride in their outstanding achievement.



James R. Haley
James R. Haley, Mayor

Leonard T. Halas
Leonard T. Halas, Mayor Pro Tem

Virginia Ann Nicheletti
Virginia Ann Nicheletti, Councilwoman

Richard M. Zappemeno
Richard M. Zappemeno, Councilman

Victor G. Marrocco
Victor G. Marrocco, Councilman

Cresto J. Velardo
Cresto J. Velardo, Councilman

William J. Davenport
William J. Davenport, Councilman



Interview With Fr. John Kiselica

In June, Father John Kiselica will celebrate 25 years of priesthood. The Friends of Notre Dame caught up with him for a very open and candid interview about his life and career on the eve of this very special milestone.

JM: Where did you grow up?

Fr. K.: I grew up in Manchester, a suburb of Hartford, Connecticut.

JM: Tell me about your k-12 schooling. Did you attend catholic schools?

Fr. K.: I attended the local public school k through 6 and then moved on to the Catholic Middle School for 7th grade. Half way through the 7th grade, my father's job moved to Syracuse, New York. I attended a Catholic Parish school (k-8), finishing 7th grade and going through the 8th grade there. I moved on to a Catholic high school.

JM: When did you first realize your calling was to become a priest?

Fr. K.: Although I had thought about either priesthood or being a teacher from as early as I can remember, it wasn't until I went to high school and saw a priest teaching history that I made up my mind: I wanted to do both.

JM: What factored into your decision to join an order as opposed to becoming an diocesan priest?

Fr. K.: The priest (and high school) happened to be a Marist, so I joined them right after high school. The ability to teach was the motivating factor in becoming a religious order and not a diocesan priest.

JM: When was your first day at Notre Dame?

Fr. K.: After 10 years of undergraduate and graduate studies, I was ordained a priest on June 23, 1984 and was sent to my first assignment: Notre Dame High School in Harper Woods, Michigan. My first day at the school was sometime in June or July, 1984.

JM: What are some of your favorite memories of your years at Notre Dame?

Fr. K.: My favorite memory from Notre Dame was in one of my history classes - about 1989 or 1990 - having students so interested in the material, they competed among themselves for the best grades on the tests.

JM: I think I may have been apart of that group.

Fr. K.: You may have been. And how did you do?

JM: I'm asking the questions, here. (Not as well as I hoped to do.)

Fr. K.: I see. (Laughing.)

JM: What are some of your least favorite memories of your years at Notre Dame?

Fr. K.: My least favorite memories came as time went on. I experienced politics and downright nastiness from some of my colleagues at the rectory. I was also not happy to see the quality and caliber of the students slip, as maintaining numbers became more important to our admissions people than drawing quality students.

JM: You've been an Archdiocese of Detroit Priest since 2000. What contributed to your decision to leave the Marist order for the Archdiocese?

Fr. K.: My last day at Notre Dame was sometime in June, 2000. Seeing the Notre Dame I loved slowly slipping away, I requested permission from my provincial superior to do a sabbatical year, allowing me to earn the credentials necessary to become the next principal of Notre Dame High School. I was overjoyed at being granted this permission and being allowed to complete this year of studies locally. Unfortunately, this is when politics and pettiness began to emerge. Some of my local superiors were not happy that I would be staying in the area during my sabbatical, so, and I can only conjecture here, they got the provincial to change his mind. I think this is a fair assumption because that is exactly what happened. I was informed by telephone that I would have to move all of my belongings out of the rectory and complete my year of studies out-of-state. When I complained that this was not part of the original agreement and that I wanted to re-think the sabbatical year, I was told that was not an option. Well, to make a very long story short, even after I managed to stay in the area, I was told that I was not to step foot into Notre Dame High School. So, even though I was in the vicinity, when it came time to find celebrants for all school masses, other priests, who had no contact with the school at all, were asked to help out with these masses, while I was not. That treatment, as well as a complete lack of communication as to what my future held, lead me to pursue incardination into the Archdiocese of Detroit.

Continued on page 16...

Interview With Fr. John Kiselica Continued

JM: Tell me about your feelings about the closing of Notre Dame. When you first heard the news, what went through your mind?

Fr K: When I heard that ND was closing, I had a "bitter sweet" feeling. I knew how much the school had deteriorated over time and how the Marists were not really interested in keeping Harper Woods open, after having establish the "Prep" in Pontiac. My sadness came in knowing how many alums loved the place - not to mention my happy 16 years there.

JM: What have you been doing since you left Notre Dame?

Fr K: Since leaving ND, I went back to school and earned a masters degree in Catholic School Leadership from Madonna University. The idea was to get the degree and then return to ND as its principal. Unfortunately I was never given that opportunity. I am currently teaching at Orchard Lake St. Mary's.

JM: When you get to heaven, what would you like to hear god say when you arrive at the pearly gates?

Fr. K: Come in!

JM: Time for me to expose you to my twisted sense of humor once again... We'll call this part of the interview "Things they never taught me at Notre Dame." Ready?

Fr K: Yep.

JM: What is your favorite word?

Fr. K: One that we will both be enjoying in a few weeks: Vacation!

JM: How far east can you go before you are heading west?

Fr. K: Japan?

JM: If there's an exception to every rule, is there an exception to that rule?

Fr. K: The existence of God

JM: Were Mary and Joseph's surname Christ before Jesus was born?

Fr. K: No, DummKopf!

JM: Did Noah have woodpeckers on the ark? If he did, where did he keep them?

Fr. K: Locked in the bathroom.

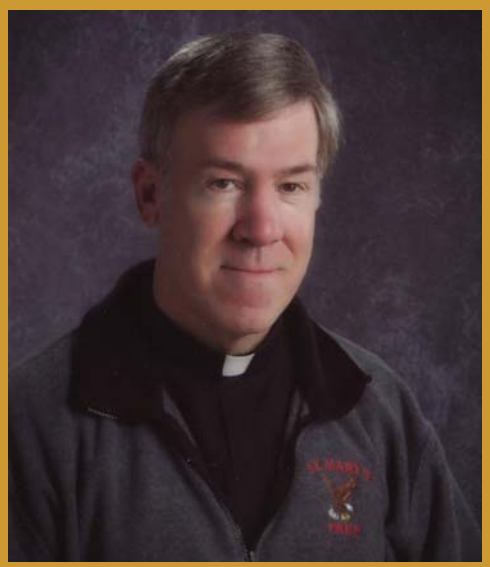
JM: Hhmmmm... Interesting.

JM: Why isn't the number eleven called onety-one or one-teen??

Fr. K: Next question.

JM: What was the best thing before sliced bread?

Fr. K: German Beer.



Celebrating 25 Years of Priesthood

Please join us in honoring him, his dedication to God and the community he serves, his commitment to education, and his many accomplishments over the last 25 years.

WHO: All ND grads, family, friends and guests who wish to honor Fr. K. in achieving this milestone

WHAT: Hors d'oeuvres, Beer, and a Good Time

WHEN: Saturday, June 20, 2009 @ 7:00 pm – 10:00 pm

WHERE: Fishbones in St. Clair Shores, MI (9 Mile & Jefferson)

COST: \$25 per person

HOW TO RSVP: Email to Paul Nahra '93: pnahra@comcast.net
Email to Jim Mandl '90: jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com

Checks can be sent to:

Friends of Notre Dame
c/o Jim Mandl
54361 Pine Street
New Baltimore, MI 48047

Make Checks Payable to
Friends of Notre Dame

Credit Card Payments:



To pay by credit card, visit www.friendsofnotredame.com and click on the "Donate" button at the top right of the home page.

Real Detroit Weekly's "Best of Detroit 2009"

Best Indie Rock Band: The Muggs

It doesn't get much bigger than the year The Muggs had last year. The fact that they topped the heights they reached in '07, puts '08 almost nearly out of the stratosphere. After appearing on a national TV show, which everyone remembers the band getting unjustly kicked off of, The Muggs came roaring back home to Detroit with more steam than a locomotive. Plowing through all the barriers, the group released their long-awaited sophomore record, *On With The Show*, independently before having it released on vinyl by local label, Bellyache Records.

The album is a shining testament to the friendship of the trio's members, guitarist/vocalist Danny Methric '90, bassist Tony Denardo '90, and drummer Matt Rost. It shows that no obstacles can ever stop rock 'n' roll. Tracks like "Slow Curve," "Somewhere Down The Line" and the title track are proof positive that the boys can still kick out a *James Gang* and *Cactus* inspired track like it's as easy as tuning a guitar string. Defying the criticisms of the judges on the television show and other general naysayers, Methric's guitar work was bold on the record and his voice even more flashy. In addition to *On With The Show*, the band again teamed up with Scotty Hagen at Bellyache Records and released a Halloween themed single, "Bite of the Weredog," just in time for the ghoulish holiday. Based on a C-grade horror movie, the guys made once for fun, the group, as always, served up a reminder that rock music doesn't have to be taken too seriously all the time. It can be fun as well.

Crowned in April with the dubious title of "Outstanding Rock/Pop Recording 2009" at this years Detroit Music Awards, The Muggs' *On With The Show* has made this past year a gigantic one for the band. Now continuing on with their winning streak with a victory in Real Detroit's "Best Of" reader's polls for "Best Indie Rock Band," The Muggs look to carry the momentum of '08 all the way through 2009. "This is one band that can't be stopped no matter what they come up against," St. Clair Shores native and Real Detroit reader Maria says, "They just love making great blues rock 'n' roll."



Photo by Michael Spleet www.2snapsup.com

Source: Real Detroit Weekly

Class of 1989 20 Year Reunion

The class of 1989 held their 20th reunion Saturday, May 16, 2009. It was held at the Gazebo on Mound in Warren, MI. Approximately 60 members of the class attended. Special guests included Fr. John Kiselica, Mr. Ken Parent, and the 1989 Class A State Baseball Championship trophy.



Upcoming Reunions

Reunions in 2009

The following classes are due to celebrate reunion years in 2009:



2004 - 5 Years
 1999 - 10 Years
 1994 - 15 Years
 1989 - 20 Years
 1984 - 25 Years



1979 - 30 Years
 1974 - 35 Years
 1969 - 40 Years
 1964 - 45 Years
 1959 - 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 50 Years - Class of 1959

Members of the class of 1959 have started organizing a 50th reunion!

Members of the class of 1959 are asked to contact:

Rudy Munoz at ramdam@charter.net or 989-821-5555

Or

Don Pierce at dpierce@pierce-company.com or 313-343-0000

Celebrating 10 Years - Class of 1999!

What: Cocktail Party

When: Saturday, June 27, 2009 at 8:00pm

Where: Luna Kai / Gino's Surf - 37400 Jefferson Ave., Harrison Township, MI 48045

Please email me at joedudek2007@yahoo.com or by phone at 586-945-9310

Casual Attire is appropriate; please note that this is an outside venue.

Hunks

Dan Ryan '01 (left) and Patrick Lipa '02, two 26-year-old friends and graduates of Notre Dame High School, will launch the Oakland County franchise of College Hunks Hauling Junk. The service hauls away residential and business garbage for a fee. Most of the items are donated to charities or recycled. For more information, call 586-713-3355 or visit www.1800junkusa.com.



The Facebook Group was deleted and replaced with a Harper Woods ND Fan Page. If you'd like to become a fan of HWND on Facebook, simply search for our fan page. You may also search for groups we've created for each class!



Our website has eclipsed 22,000 hits!

Upcoming Events

25th Anniversary Celebration

Honoring Fr. Kiselica's 25 Years in the Priesthood
Saturday, June 20, 2009
(See Page 16 for Complete Details)

Annual Alumni Softball Tournament

Saturday, September 19, 2009
Start recruiting your classmates!

Where: Total Sports in Mt. Clemens

Cost to play: \$30.00 per player

Entry fee covers: Double-elimination, t-shirt, softballs, umpires, facility usage, pizza, salad, snacks, and refreshments.

Who can play: Any graduate of HWND, sons and grandsons of HWND graduates, members of the displaced classes of 2006, 2007, and 2008.

To Register to play, please visit the Events page on the web site.
www.friendsofnotredame.com

The Muggs



See the Muggs... Live!

(Tony DeNardo '90 and Danny Methric '90)

♣ Saturday, June 21, 2009, Cadieux Cafe...
Detroit, MI

♣ Tuesday, June 23, 2009, Scotia Park...
Huntington Woods, MI Concert in the Park
7:15pm

♣ Saturday, July 11, 2009, Harley Fest 2009...
Hell, MI... 6:30-7:30pm

♣ Saturday, July 11, 2009, Machine Shop...
Flint, MI



Yearbooks

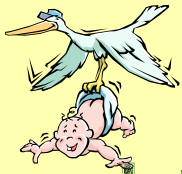
Almost all years are available for a small fee (\$7.00) to cover storage and shipping costs.
Send us an email and we'll make arrangements to get you a yearbook!

We're sorry, but we are sold out of the following yearbooks:

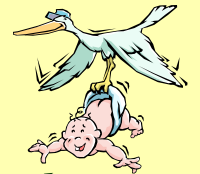
1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1961, 1970, & 1972

** A 1956 and a 1957 yearbook were donated to us recently.
They are for sale only through our new store. **





Births



Jackson Patrick Stieber
Born March 26, 2009 To
Olivia and Paul Stieber '90.

Colin Robert DeSmet
Born Feb. 2, 2009 To
Kimmy and Eric Desmet '97.



See Brian Jones '96 In...

THE PRODUCERS

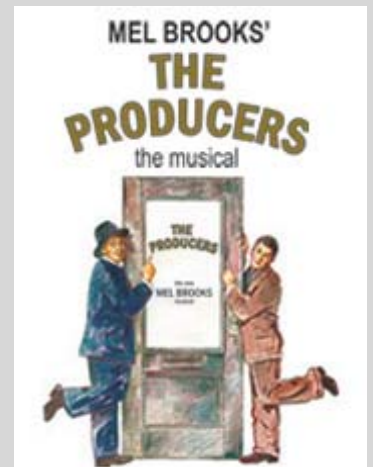
St. Dunstan's Theatre

248.737.3587

Show Times

Thursday, June 4
 Friday, June 5
 Saturday, June 6
 Thursday, June 11
 Friday, June 12
 Saturday, June 13

All Shows 8:00pm



*Brian Jones '96 Appearing
In A Streetcar Named Desire*

For an evening of escapist entertainment that will put a song in your heart and a spring in your step, there's one must-see production this season: **THE PRODUCERS**, presented by St. Dunstan's Theatre Guild of Cranbrook in the fabulous outdoor Cranbrook Greek Theatre.

Staring Brian Jones HWND Class of 1996!

Wall of Fame

If you see your name listed below, we have your Wall of Fame plaque that hung on the wall behind the gym. We would like for you to have your plaque if you want it. Please email us at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com, and we will make arrangements to get it to you! These plaques will only be released to the actual graduate or to a family member.

Gary Lytle '61
 Dave Debol '74*
 John Giordano '61*
 John Blum '77*
 David Bonior '63
 Bob Navetta '64
 Joe Przybycki '64
 Mike Boccia '65
 Chris Hacias '65
 John Kraft '65
 Tom Van Doorne '66
 Rick Wenner '67
 Dan Richards '67
 Glenn Radzik '69
 Gary Radzik '69
 Frank Lutostanski '71
 Jerry Guinane '71
 Al Provenzano '72
 Mike McGreevy '73
 Tim Flannery '73
 Pat Srock '74



Jim Navetta '67
Loyola Basketball



Brian Monfils '75
Kalamazoo Tennis

Jim Romeo '75
 Kevin Flannery '75
 Tom Bentley '75
 Brian Monfils '75
 Mark McGreevy '76
 Tom Gadawski '76
 Marco Caporuscio '78
 Dave Wolfbauer '79
 Gary Bass '80
 Kevin Paterson '80
 Mike Smith '80
 Jim Forsgren '81
 Craig Mitchell '81
 Walt Dixon '81
 Brett Nowak '82
 Chris Gust '82
 Paul Tripp '82
 Brian Barney '83
 Andy Nanasi '83
 Greg Placidi '83
 Ken Zazula '84
 Bruce Smith '85
 Paul Seibert '86



Jason Stoicevich '97
Toledo Baseball



Jeff Miller '90
Oakland Baseball

Paul Amodei '86
 Joe Trombley '87
 Andy Booth '87
 Scott Klott '88
 Jim Maher '88
 Eric Taylor '89
 Eric Stanczak '89
 DeJuan Reynolds '90
 Jeff Miller '90
 Matt Ziolkowski '90
 Mark Staples, Jr. '91
 Steve Jansen '92
 Anthony Vitale '94
 Preston Brandimore '95
 Phil Ruggerio '95
 Dave Biondi '95
 Jason Selleke '96
 Jason Stoicevich '97
 Nick Holliday '97
 James Fields '01
 Adam Fujita '01

* Pictured on the same plaque - University of Michigan Hockey

*We will gladly ship your plaque if you can cover the cost of shipping.
 The cost to ship a plaque is \$8.00.*



Make Checks payable to: Friends of Notre Dame

Mail to:

Friends of Notre Dame

c/o Jim Mandl

54361 Pine Street

New Baltimore, MI 48047



Trophies

For the past four years, we have been storing over 160 of the school's trophies. We would like to put these trophies in the hands of the guys who earned them for Notre Dame. We have taken photos of all the trophies and uploaded them to the photo gallery on the website. Please browse through them. If you see any that you would like, please contact us, and we will make arrangements to get them to you.

We will continue to store them through July of 2009. After July 31, 2009, we will decide what to do with them.



Introducing the All New Friends of Notre Dame On-Line Store

<http://friendsofnotredame.flyingcart.com>



If you are interested in promoting your business in our newsletter, please email us at jmandl@friendsofnotredame.com

Support Alumni Owned Businesses



Eric Woodhouse '91 - Co-Owner



David Moroz '76 Owner



Greg Schultz '76 - President and Manager
Eastpointe ~ Clinton Township



Scott Baumgart '84 - Owner



Dan Ryan '01 and Pat Lipa '02 Co-Owners

- Weddings
- School Dances
- Pep Rallies
- Festivals
- Homecomings / Proms
- Birthday Parties
- Fashion Shows
- And More!

Mike Olechowski '05 Owner (586) - 293 - 5652 www.LightMike.net

- Pro Disco Lighting
- Lighted Table Decor
- Strobe Lighting
- Stage Lighting
- Rope Lighting
- Fog Machines
- Outdoor Lighting
- And More!

Support Alumni Owned Businesses



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



Joe Vicari '75 - Owner



Casey Wakula '96 - Owner



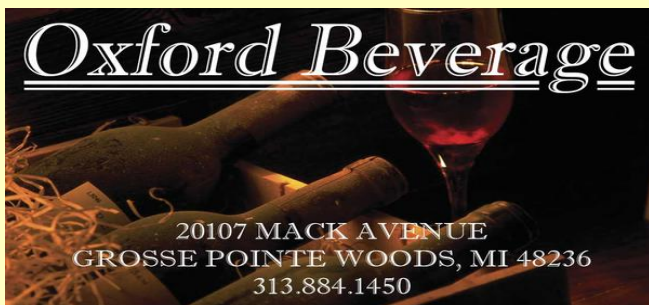
Samir Thomas '89 Owner



Jeff Meldrum '02 - Owner



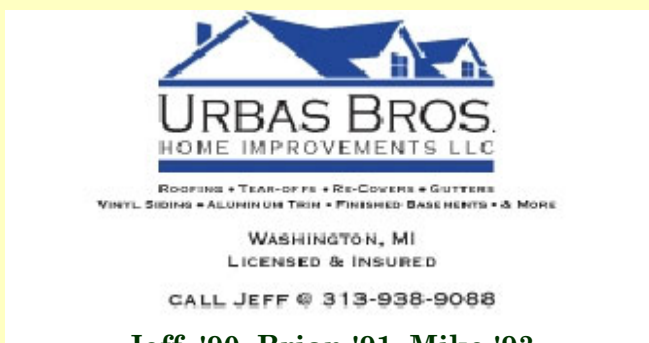
Michael Coley '86 - Owner



Dave Bourgeois '89 - Owner



Ben Holmes '87 - Owner



Jeff '90, Brian '91, Mike '93
Ask About Our Custom Finished Basements!



Patrick Stieber '92 - Owner