



THE NOTRE DAME ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Edition IX
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NEWSLETTER

Editors: S. Blesch
A. Durante

Editorial

We are a little late with this edition Okay, okay, we are a lot late but I couldn't help it in January, Al made me go on vacation with him to Florida. In February I was involved in the work preparing for the Catholic Educators' Conference which, incidentally, was like a Notre Dame reunion with grads all over the place. It's amazing how many are teachers working in the Catholic system. Even the special Parent's night was like an impromptu reunion.

It is also Annette's fault we are so late. She got this new high powered 'executive' position at C-ISL Radio and just to make sure she has enough to do, she teaches aerobic classes almost every night of the week. Hasn't the girl ever heard of sitting down and relaxing in front of the TV? You know relaxing . . . that short three hour nap you take before you go to bed.



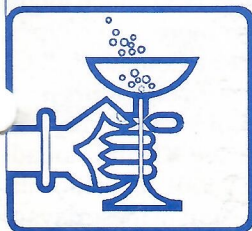
Annette Keller '81

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce you to Annette. It is great to work with her even if she does always leave me feeling a little out of breath.

Also, good news, Cindy has offered to help us with this publication again (see *Preparing for a Reunion*). And more good news, I am going to be a grandmother in August. If that makes you grads from the sixties feel old . . . well, you are. SB

CLASS OF 1961

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR YOU



Your classmates are having a reunion to celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of your graduation – that's right, I said "30" – on **FRIDAY, MAY 31ST**, in the Notre Dame Cafeteria. It's a wine and cheese party and it's \$20 per person.

Notre Dame Alumni Annual General Meeting & Party

Date: Thursday, May 9, 1991

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Notre Dame Old Cafeteria and New Gym

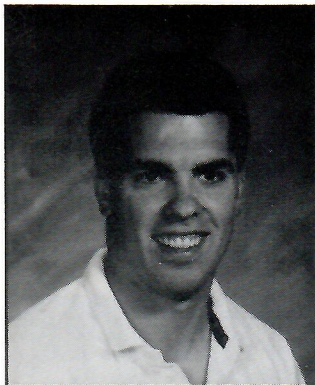
Tired of attending meetings? Does your body rebel at the very idea of one more night sitting on a chair listening to some boring speaker? Would you rather be home 'relaxing' in front of the TV? Well, have we got a deal for you! Your agenda for the Annual General Meeting of the Alumni Association is: A very short meeting, followed by a medium 'pick-up' volleyball game(s), and a long social. (Bring as much money as you think you will need for liquid refreshment – some of us do seem to need more than others.) **On a serious note, please set this date aside and plan to attend. If the Alumni Association is to continue to be a success, all of you must become more involved.** SB

Class of 1980 Celebrate Ten Years

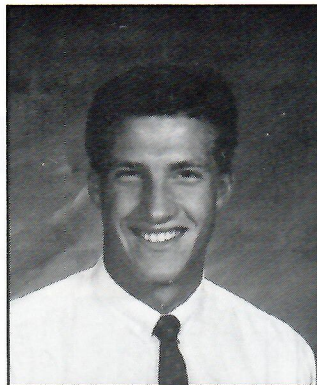
Yet another successful reunion was held last October for the grads of 1980. Friday, October 19th was grads only and was held at Notre Dame. Saturday was for the grads and their partners and took place at the Sheraton Villa. Most of my info comes from Alex Monk and according to him it is all positive. He used words like "huge success" and "super attendance"; but hey, Al's a positive kind of guy.

Awards were given out in various categories such as: "The Most Changed": Rob McGuiness; they say he took this one "hands down". "The Least Changed": Nick Schneider; that's pretty normal (get it, normal, the same, least changed . . . Oh, forget it . . .) "The Most Travelled": Angelo Gaganelo, who couldn't be there to accept his award as he was climbing a mountain in the Himalayas. Just kidding, he was there. There was a special award for Moro Horelli for "Just Being There". This is appropriate; Moro's everywhere. "The One With The Most Kids": Lark Wishard, who is currently teaching C.E.12 and Child Preparation. (Kidding again.) "The Person Who Travelled The Farthest" to be at the reunion was Brian Farkes. **He came all the way from Ottawa. Wow, what a guy!** ALK

Strange Happenings at Holy Cross High School



Chris Blesch



Maurice Jacob

We are getting reports of Notre Dame grads of the early sixties experiencing *deja vu* as parents at Holy Cross High School in the early nineties. In every case it follows a "Close Encounter of the Weird Kind" with two teachers at Holy Cross, Maurice Jacob and Chris Blesch. They'd feel even stranger if they knew how much history is repeating itself. You grads from the early sixties will remember a teacher named Maury Jacob. Maury began teaching at N.D. in September, 1960. One year later Al Blesch joined the staff. Maury coached track and Al coached football. Al met and married a grad from 1959 (me) the summer of 1962 and Maury was a member of the wedding party. A year later, Maury married N.D. grad, Mary Bourque '60 and that year the Blesch's had their first baby. No big deal, right . . . but how's this for coincidence. A few years ago Maurice Jacob Jr. (he graduated from St. Thomas More, but we won't hold that against him) and Chris Blesch '81 met at University and became friends. Both were studying to be high school biology teachers. Maurice finished first and began teaching at Holy Cross High School in September, 1989. Exactly one year later Chris joined the staff. Maurice coaches track, Chris coaches football. This summer Maurice is marrying Notre Dame grad, Michelle Patricelli '85 and Chris will be his best man . . . and yes, it is Chris and his wife who will make Al and I grandparents this summer. By the way, Maury Sr. is a Principal in the Delta School District. SB



Al Blesch



Maury Jacob

Looking at these pictures I think you can understand why those sixties grads are experiencing such problems. (Note the ties!)

Letters to the Editor

Dear Steppie,

This summer saw a mini reunion of the class of 1963. It was a beautiful day in July when John Martinelli, Peter and Mary (Storrow) Ciccone, and Patricia Talbot Begin boarded Peter's yacht for an Indian Arm Cruise.



L - R: Peter Ciccone, Mary Ciccone, Pat Talbot-Bégin, John Martinelli

While Mary, Pat and Peter had kept in touch, it had been twenty years since John had spent time with the threesome. John owns a theatre in Vancouver and continues to look for 'Miss Right'. Mary and Peter have been married for twenty-two years. Peter is a communications consultant and Mary is a nurse. Pat is married to a coach from Steveston Secondary and, as a flight attendant, has spent the last twenty-two years flying around the world. If any of the grads of 1963 would like to have a reunion, do call Mary at 929-3515 or Pat at 273-4709.

Hi . . . It is a pleasure to have started receiving the newsletter and I want to give you my new address. I also want to identify the people in the "Do You Recognize Them?" photo in your October issue. Left to right, the top row is: George Piggot, Bill Shaylor, Len Holmberg and Connie Bouchard. The bottom row is: Sharon Mitchell, Annette Molgat, Diane Litwin, Catherine Morley and Janet Gorman. Thanks you, keep up the good work.

Gord Seeley '63

Ed. Note: Straight "A" on the ID's, Gord.

Whatever Happened To . . .

. . . writing, telephoning, faxing us information. I warn you, if you don't send us information we will either make it up or bore you with details of our own family life (eg, "Strange Happenings"). We did receive an article about one of my classmates, Donna Geerneart '59. She is a Sister of Charity of Halifax and she is also the Ecumenical Officer for the Canadian Conference of Bishops. She has been invited to be a part of the Vatican delegation to the Seventh General Assembly of the World Council of Churches. Not bad for a scrawny blond kid from the east side. I met Mike McLellan '73 the other day. He's on the Executive Committee of the Central School Board. He told me that between himself, his twin brother, Pat, and older brother Don '71, they have eight girls. Pat kept up the male side by throwing in a couple of boys. Youngest brother Rob '74 owns his own travel agency in California. Two reports on grads from 1960 which might be of interest to some of you. For those more active types, Nicky Saban owns an outdoor resort at Coalmont, B.C., called Goldpan Inn. He conducts mountain bike tours from there. And for those of you who are older than me, you might want to file this one away. Shirley Kison is an administrator of a lovely 'resort' in Mill Valley, California. (Actually it is a Jewish retirement home but in these days of Ecumanism, who knows or cares.) SB

Preparing for a Reunion

Well, it's official – I am getting old and I have the letter inviting me to my reunion to prove it. It doesn't matter if it's your 10, 15, 20, or 25 year reunion, you still do a count on your fingers and toes when that notice arrives, because you know you're not that old! Of course a quick check with your spouse and parents will confirm the worst. (Watch that spouse; they enjoy nothing more than adding a few years and seeing you run for your birth certificate.) So in approximately six months, I will gather in old N.D. with people who saw me at my best and my worst and remember me for all those things I've tried to change. (Did I really roll my hair in hot rollers for my grad picture?)

In order to meet this challenge, oops, sorry, I mean wonderful day, I have prepared a checklist.

- Look at your grad picture so you'll know what people are expecting you to look like. While doing that, thumb through everyone else's pictures, laughing at hairdos and imagining them now. This is also the time to note if you are still wearing the same hairdo; if so high-tail it to a trendy salon, pay a fortune for a make-over and then go home and style it the same way anyway.
- It is still not too late to get that degree or diploma that is still eluding you. Thumb through the back pages of every magazine and send for that 'authentic' certificate degree now. Just hope that not everyone else at the reunion has ordered the same one.
- Look honestly at yourself, no, on second thought don't, this is supposed to be fun!
- Go through your closet to find something that is youthful but mature, sexy not smutty, and makes you look taller, slimmer, successful, etc. You will not find it in your closet so clear your bank account and head to Robson Street looking for a new look and a sales clerk over sixteen.
- If you have children, start counselling them to do wonderful things. Tell them you may need their successes as back-up if you find that no one is impressed that you are now the crew chief of the McDonald's you worked for in high school.
- Phone all the people you still are in contact with from high school. Tell each other you do not need to lose weight, grow hair, have an interesting job, loving spouse and wonderful children to face your reunion. After you hang up, go on a diet, get a hair transplant, change jobs, get married and look for neighbourhood kids who could pass for your own in a picture.
- And as that day gets closer, realize that all the people going to the reunion are having the same thoughts you are having. You enjoyed these people in high school; you'll enjoy them now. If you're not really ready to face them again, go anyway and save this list for the next ten year reunion.
- And finally, just a little advice, not my own this time . . . "THERE ARE NO FAILURES AT A CLASS REUNION . . ." (Jerry Springer, Reader's Digest, April '91) " . . . JUST GOOD STORYTELLERS" (Cindy Lapointe, Notre Dame '81). CL

Registration for the Notre Dame Alumni Association

It is **REGISTRATION TIME** again and you are asked to complete and return the enclosed form as soon as possible. As in the past, the fee is \$10 per person or, if you are married to another grad, \$10 per couple. Like last year, it won't come into effect until after we have published the June issue. In other words, if you have registered any time this year, you will receive the June issue but, unless you register again now, you will not receive the fall issue in October.



Do You Recognize Them?

(We hope this will help prepare you for the big occasion.)

Grads of '81 – It's Our Turn

The grads of '81 are next in line for the big ten year reunion. The sound of it is enough to bring wrinkles to my face and add inches to my hips. Ten years already, how can that be!

This September 27, 1991 will see us gathering at the Notre Dame gym to see our peers of yesteryear and share old memories of the days when exams were our biggest worry in life (no wonder they call them "the good old days"). Then on Saturday, September 29th, we will bring along our 'significant others' to meet all our crazy old friends so they can listen to more old memories.

We are in the midst of the planning now and all of you grads of '81, we'd love to hear your ideas for how to make our reunion a real special occasion. Contact me (Annette Durante) if you have any input. (420-0013)

ALK



The Juggler

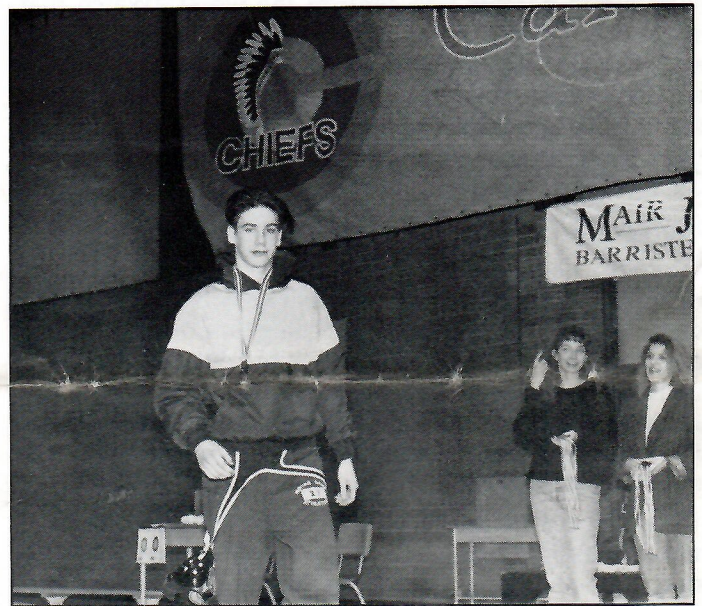
Wrestling — NOTRE DAME STUDENT WINS GOLD AT THE CANADIANS — Did you know there was a wrestling team at Notre Dame? I didn't. Now I not only find out they have a wrestling program, but it is a very successful one as well. They tell me further that this year head coach, Bill Cole '61, has even more reason to be proud than usual. Son Shawn, a grade ten student at N.D., won gold at the B.C. Championships in his weight division and then went on to win the gold at the Canadians. Congratulations, Shawn!

Basketball — Basketball was, for the senior teams, a collection of ups and downs. The senior boys did very well, splitting wins with St. Thomas More and Vancouver College, only to lose the crucial game which would have placed them in the Lower Mainland finals. The senior girls, a comparatively young team, also split wins with their rivals, Little Flower Academy. Like the boys, they lost the big one to L.F.A. which eliminated them from the finals. Coach Eileen Brassington feels the improvement made by the girls over the season makes this year an overall success.

Track — Track practice has begun and co-coaches, Harry McGrath and Chris Gervais have taken on John Brassington '69 as their partner. They are looking forward to great things again this year.

Drama — This year's Grad's play will be a revival of the ever popular musical *Oliver*. For obvious reasons, Grade Eight students will also be taking part. The production is scheduled for May 21, 22 and 23rd. This is one you won't want to miss. Actually you don't want to miss any, but this is a must. I have heard some of these Grade Twelve kids singing and they are great. Alan says that the reason for the delay in production and, for that matter, the reason for redoing *Oliver*, is because of the unavoidable delay in the renovation of the stage.

The Christmas play *My Three Angels* was highly successful as usual for La Charlton and the students of Notre Dame, and this despite the unfinished construction.



Shawn Cole, Gold Winner



Important Notice for All Notre Dame Graduates

This year the Alumni Association is holding their own Talent Night (for lack of a better title). The idea is that members from each grad year will challenge every other grad class to offer a three to five minute piece of entertainment. This entertainment will be something of your own choosing, guided by our director, Alan Charlton (in his usual tactful manner, of course). It is expected that the rest of your classmates will be there to support you. This is a contest and, as in any other contest, the winners will receive a trophy, hence the absolute necessity of your classmates being there to offer vocal support. Alan tells me the trophy will be 'appropriate' for such an auspicious occasion. Actually, he described a few ideas he had which I am prohibited from describing in a nice newsletter like this one, but suffice to say, you will love it. Rehearsals will begin in the Fall with production planned for February of 1991. AND ALAN HAS PROMISED HE WON'T CANCEL THIS ONE. Further details will be forthcoming in our fall newsletter, but you can begin calling your classmates and start planning now.