ON THE COVER

Jaylon Smith
2015 Butkus Award winner and consensus first-team All-American (football)

Ronnie Stanley
2015 consensus first-team All-American (football)

Molly Seidel
Three-time NCAA individual champion in 2015-16 (cross country and track and field)

Brianna Turner
2016 first-team All-American (women’s basketball)

Matt Landis
Two-time winner (2015 and 2016) of William C. Schmeisser Award as USILA national defensive player of the year and 2016 Tewaaraton Award finalist (men’s lacrosse)

Barbara Sullivan
Two-time (2015 and 2016) Tewaaraton Award finalist (women’s lacrosse)

Zach Auguste, Demetrius Jackson and A.J. Burgett
Veterans of the only team in the country to qualify for the NCAA Elite Eight in both 2015 and 2016 (men’s basketball)

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Letter from Jack Swarbrick

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Volleyball
I am proud of the way our programs, even while competing at elite levels, continue to accomplish amazing things:

- Brian Kelly’s 2015 football program spent the entire fall immersed in the College Football Playoff conversation and rankings and then played in a New Year’s Six bowl game.
- Mike Brey’s men’s basketball team advanced to the NCAA Elite Eight for a second straight year in 2016, a first for Notre Dame, and the only men’s basketball program to accomplish that in ‘15 and ‘16.
- Muffet McGraw’s squad again went unbeaten in Atlantic Coast Conference play, won the ACC Tournament and didn’t lose a game for three months.
- Our fencing teams combined to finish fifth in the NCAA Championship—and our women’s indoor track squad achieved the identical NCAA finish.
- On an individual basis, Molly Seidel won three individual NCAA titles in a single athletic year—one in cross country and two in indoor track—and that had never happened at Notre Dame.
- There were dozens of other headline-making individual achievements, from Jaylon Smith claiming the Butkus Award to Matt Landis being named the national defensive player of the year in men’s lacrosse for a second consecutive season.
- Our fencing teams combined to finish fifth in the NCAA Championship—and our women’s indoor track squad achieved the identical NCAA finish.
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Major college sports have never been more competitive—and never been more complicated. As hard as we work to win, we work even harder to prepare our students to be future leaders—in their families, communities and professions. In addition, from an administrative standpoint, we are committed to playing a leadership role when it comes to determining what college athletics will be about in those decades to come.

I would like to say that I know where intercollegiate athletics will be a decade or two from now. But I don’t.

I do, however, know that the University of Notre Dame is firmly committed to both maintaining Notre Dame’s model of athletics as an integral part of our education mission and having an impact on the critical decisions that will be made about the uncertain future of intercollegiate athletics.

Jack Swarbrick
Vice President, James E. Rohr Director of Athletics

We have to mine the small margins of victory that define success in an increasingly competitive environment, and for us that is about investing in sport science and analytics.

We need to enhance the fan experience at all of our home events. Without compromising our traditions, we need to meet the most modern standards and expectations for customer service and the in-game experience. The Campus Crossroads Project is a compelling example of this focus.

We must continue to invest in our educational mission. That means creating foreign study opportunities, internships and expanded career services.

Finally, we need to utilize athletics as a vehicle to promote the University. We must be evangelical about telling the stories of who we are, what we believe in and who our students and coaches are. That is why we have continued to build our Fighting Irish Media operations and partnered with entertainment leaders like Showtime and Bleacher Report.

College sports continue to evolve in dramatic ways. That represents a fabulous opportunity for Notre Dame athletics to prove its case. We have a view of what college athletics is and should be and we intend to take a national leadership role and be evangelical about that as well.

The pages to come provide a sampling of where we are as an athletics department—both in terms of what our teams are doing on the field and the manner in which our administration provides more opportunities every day for our students to improve, grow and succeed both on and off the field.

Jack Swarbrick
Vice President, James E. Rohr Director of Athletics
Notre Dame Wins Ninth Straight National Title in Graduation Rates

Notre Dame graduates 98 percent of its student-athletes between 2005 and 2008. Notre Dame in November claimed a share of the 2015 national championship for graduating student-athletes in all sports—in the process posting the top NCAA Graduation Success Rate (GSR) figure (98) for its student-athletes for the ninth straight year. The GSR number for all Notre Dame student-athletes rated the Irish first (tied with Duke and Stanford) among the football-playing institutions in the NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly Division I-A). The 2015 NCAA figures were based on entering classes from 2005 through 2008. Notre Dame research showed Irish student-athletes in 2015 ranked number one in two of 10 sets of standings—ranking second in three others and third in two more. For the seventh year in a row Notre Dame led the nation in GSR categories for all student-athletes (at 98) and female student-athletes (99).

In addition to its number-one GSR ranking for all student-athletes (98), Notre Dame finished tied for first among female student-athletes at 99, tied for second among male student-athletes at 97 percent (behind Stanford at 98) and tied for third among black student-athletes at 92 percent (behind Duke at 98 and Northwestern at 94). In football, Notre Dame ranked fifth at 93.

Notre Dame graduated 93 percent of all women competing in varsity athletics to rank second among its peer institutions based on the federal calculations (behind Stanford at 97). Among men, Notre Dame’s 89 percent federal rate was third (behind Stanford at 92 and Northwestern at 90). Notre Dame graduated 93 percent of all women competing in varsity athletics to rank second among its peer institutions based on the federal calculations (behind Stanford at 97). Among men, Notre Dame’s 89 percent federal rate was third (behind Stanford at 92 and Northwestern at 90). Notre Dame graduated 85 percent of its black student-athletes, ranking tied for fourth based on the federal rate, and Irish football players graduated at an 82 percent rate to rank sixth.

Notre Dame Leads Way in NCAA APR Four-Year Numbers

16 Irish programs earn perfect scores for most at NCAA FBS level!

Sixteen Notre Dame athletic teams earned 1,000 scores—more perfect scores than any other NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision school—in the annual set of Academic Progress Rate statistics issued in April by the NCAA. Notre Dame’s number of perfect scores of 1,000 has ranked either first or second among all FBS programs for 11 straight years. Leaders in the 2016 data were Notre Dame (16), Stanford (14), Boston College (12), Minnesota (11), Rice (10), Duke and Northwestern (nine each), Tulane (seven), along with Auburn, Michigan and North Carolina (six each). Seven Notre Dame men’s teams—cross country, fencing, golf, lacrosse, soccer, tennis, track and field—registered perfect 1,000 scores. Nine Irish women’s teams—basketball, cross country, fencing, lacrosse, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, volleyball—also earned perfect scores. This year for the first time indoor and outdoor track and field were combined into one score.
Six other Notre Dame teams produced scores of 985 or better: women’s rowing (985), men’s swimming and diving (994), lacrosse (991), men’s ice hockey (991), women’s golf (988) and women’s soccer (985).

Over 11 years’ worth of APR scores, Irish teams in men’s cross country, men’s golf, men’s tennis, men’s track and field have earned 1,000 scores every year. Women’s tennis, men’s fencing, men’s softball and women’s cross country all have earned seven 1,000 scores—while women’s fencing has earned six. The NCAA also recognized teams that posted multiyear APR scores in the top 10 percent of all squads in their respective sports with public recognition awards. Notre Dame also had 16 of its programs honored for the multiyear achievement (second most among all FBS schools)—men’s cross country, men’s fencing, men’s golf, men’s lacrosse, women’s basketball, women’s cross country, women’s fencing, women’s soccer, softball, women’s swimming and diving, women’s tennis, men’s track and field and volleyball.

Academic All-Americans

Notre Dame senior men’s soccer midfielder David Giesting was named an Academic All-American. He ranked among the greatest players in the history of the Notre Dame men’s soccer program. Giesting running the third leg held the record for the team. Giesting helped the Denver Outlaws win a gold medal in the championship game. Former Notre Dame track star Brianna Giesting running the 4x400m relay at the IAAF World Indoor Track and Field Championships in Portland—with Giesting running the third leg in the finals.

Four Earn ACC Postgraduate Scholarships

Notre Dame senior men’s soccer 2015 graduate Patrick Hodan, senior rower Sarah Kappers and Class of 2015 men’s cross country/track and field athlete Jake Kildoo were among 43 student-athletes selected for the Weaver-James-Corrigan Awards, part of the Atlantic Coast Conference’s postgraduate scholarship program. Irish senior men’s lacrosse defender Matt Landis was among nine individuals chosen as Weaver-James-Corrigan Honorary Award recipients. The Weaver-James-Corrigan postgraduate scholarship is presented to selected student-athletes who intend to pursue a graduate degree following completion of their undergraduate requirements. Hodan, Kappers and Kildoo received $5,000 toward their graduate education and were honored because they performed with distinction both in the classroom and their respective sport, while demonstrating exemplary contact in the community.

The Weaver-James-Corrigan Honorary Award goes to those student-athletes who plan to pursue professional careers in their chosen sports following graduation. The Weaver-James-Corrigan Award is named in honor of the late Jim Weaver and Bob James, as well as Gene Corrigan, the ACC’s first three commissioners. Corrigan also served as director of athletics at Notre Dame from 1981-87.

The ACC annually names a scholar-athlete of the year in each of 27 sports—and Notre Dame had four of those selections in 2015-16 to tie for second most among all ACC programs. Notre Dame had four of those selections in 2016-17. The ACC annually names a scholar-athlete of the year in each of 27 sports—and Notre Dame had four of those selections in 2015-16 to tie for second most among all ACC programs.

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ATHLETICS ADVANCEMENT

With $46.1 million in gifts and pledges contributed from over 5,500 donors, 2015-2016 was another year of remarkable generosity from Notre Dame benefactors.

Significant progress was made to underwrite Notre Dame’s top two expenditures: grants-in-aid and coaches. Other gifts made advancements possible in sports performance technologies, medical equipment and team travel. Perhaps most visibly, gifts to capital projects led to the completion of the McConnell Family Boathouse and the groundbreaking of the Harris Family Track and Field Stadium. Across the board, benefactors to Fighting Irish athletics continue to play an increasingly important role in making the student-athlete experience excellent and unique.

ATHLETICS ANNUAL REPORT

Endowed Coaches

This year, Notre Dame received three new coaching endowments that will help underwrite the head coach’s salary, provide stability and resources for the long term, and create funds for use within the department.

Mike Brey
Glenn and Stacey Murphy
Head Men’s Basketball Coach

A couple from Toronto made a $5 million gift to Notre Dame to endow the head men’s basketball coaching position. The gift from Glenn and Stacey Murphy was the first Irish coach to be endowed by a non-alumnus of the University.

“We are so proud to be forever associated with Notre Dame athletics, the men’s basketball program and especially a quality individual like Coach Mike Brey.” —Glenn Murphy

Ryan Sachire
Callaghan Family
Head Men’s Tennis Coach

Notre Dame alumnus Dr. John J. Callaghan and his wife, Kim, made a $3 million gift to his alma mater to endow the Fighting Irish head men’s tennis coaching position. Callaghan’s son, Patrick ’10, played four years on the tennis team under former head coach Bobby Bayliss.

“Our son’s experience during his four years on the tennis team under the mentorship or Coach Bayliss and Coach Sachire proved lifelong skills that extended far beyond the tennis court. We recognize that endowing the men’s coaching position will ensure the same mentoring experience for all men’s tennis athletes in the future.” —John Callaghan

Todd Lyght
Pat and Jana Eilers Family
Defensive Backs Coach

Pat and Jana Eilers of Winnetka, Illinois—a member of the 1988 Notre Dame national championship football team and his wife—a $3 million gift to endow the football team’s defensive backs coaching position. It qualified as the first endowed assistant coach position at the University.

“The gift is simply an expression of our gratitude to those professors, coaches, and administrators who have dedicated their lives to Notre Dame’s unique mission of striving for excellence in academics, athletics and spirituality, while upholding the highest standards of integrity and character.” —Pat Eilers

Endowed Grants-in-Aid and Excellence

Eighteen new endowments were established for grants-in-aid (scholarships) in 2015-16. This funding, a total of $10.4 million, will be invested to help cover the cost of attendance at Notre Dame, which constitutes the most significant expense of the athletics department budget.

Five of these commitments will fully endow and name positions for football and baseball. Each year these benefactors will be connected to their endowed recipient, while also helping Notre Dame move toward its long-term goal of endowing all 322.2 grants-in-aid.

Additionally, three endowments were created to support student-athlete internship aid and programs, creating $250,000 in investable funds.

Highlights by the Numbers

- 2 new positions created from benefaction—Director of Performance Sciences and Director of Mental Conditioning
- $46.9M in pledges and outright gifts
- $26.9M raised for endowment (tops among ACC institutions)
- 7,147 gifts to athletics
- 18 new endowed scholarships established
- 20 student-athlete summer internships made possible by donor gifts

The Rockne Heritage Fund

The Rockne Heritage Fund provides immediate scholarship and budget support for all 26 Irish varsity programs. 2015-16 was a record-setting year for the fund—as contributions grew to $3.75 million (an increase of 44 percent) and more than 2,500 benefactors supported Irish student-athletes.

The Rockne Heritage Fund also introduced the Athletics Director’s Circle in 2015. Members of this exclusive group assist Vice President and James E. Rohr Director of Athletics Jack Swarbrick in advancing the department’s mission by providing additional resources and support. These funds give Notre Dame athletics the flexibility to meet the department’s most pressing annual needs in the ever-changing collegiate landscape.

38 benefactors joined the newly formed Rockne AD Circle to help a record-setting year of impact for the Rockne Heritage Fund.

ATHLETICS ANNUAL REPORT
The community commitment division includes three primary focuses: 1) annual signature initiatives aligned with the athletics pillars of education, excellence, community, tradition, and faith; 2) an emphasis on collaborative initiatives to advance other department and University outreach projects; and 3) a facility outreach initiative centering on maximizing use of Notre Dame athletic facilities for community engagement on multiple levels.

**Signature Initiatives**

**Education**

Extra Yard for Teachers

Extra Yard for Teachers, the primary philanthropic initiative of the College Football Playoff Foundation, has been embraced by Notre Dame athletics as its primary vehicle to focus on education. In the inaugural year of the Notre Dame-EYFT partnership, Notre Dame led the way in both dollars raised and activation efforts. Designed to honor, celebrate, inspire and empower great teachers, the EYFT program is focused on preparing students to achieve their dreams of attending college through the support of and commitment to gifted teachers.

Notre Dame served as host to a special activation during a 2015 football game. Notre Dame athletics partnered with the CFP Foundation to encourage alumni and fans to support an educational initiative unique to Notre Dame, the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE). ACE seeks to form the next generation of teachers and leaders, to strengthen under-resourced Catholic schools and give disadvantaged children the opportunities they need and deserve— and to extend the Catholic school advantage to thousands of new families.

Between Oct. 7 and Nov. 29, 758 in individual Notre Dame contributions to ACE, combined with EYFT matching dollars, totaled $440,015. These gifts provided ACE teachers and school leaders with much-needed classroom materials and tools to give their students a fighting chance for a better future.

**Faith**

Mass Card Initiative

Specially designed mass cards were sent to colleagues in intercollegiate athletics to express thoughts and prayers, in an ongoing response to challenging or tragic events taking place in their university communities. These impacted individuals and their institutional affiliations are then recognized during departmental masses.

**Tradition**

Gratitude Week

Notre Dame student-athletes celebrated the legacy of former University President Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, C.S.C., during Gratitude Week, sending 261 thank-you cards and 703 phone calls and video messages thanking mentors.

The house was blessed in an April 24th ceremony attended by members of the athletics staff, Rev. Pete McCormick, C.S.C., Habitat staff and volunteers, the Tipton family and many of their friends. A Third Notre Dame Athletic Department build is set to begin in the fall 2016.

**Excellence**

Summer Camps

Notre Dame’s sports camps continue to promote excellence in athletics performance by extending learning opportunities to youth across the country and in our home community. The 2015 sessions involved 10,139 participants, 650 camp counselors, 18 sports and 56 individual sessions—and were responsible for $1,486,546 in indirect sales to the local economy. Five students from under-served local elementary schools received full camp scholarships based on academics, attitude and character.

**Community**

Habitat for Humanity

In the spring of 2016, Notre Dame athletics personnel completed a Mishawaka Habitat for Humanity house for Jay and Elizabeth Tipton, and their daughter Abigail. Every division of the athletics department, all 26 athletic teams, and 157 volunteers worked at the build site throughout the year.

Donors, former monogram winners and other community members who positively impacted their collective collegiate experience.

**Facility Outreach Initiatives**

Notre Dame’s athletic facilities are not only an asset for Irish student-athletes, but also to the local and national community, visiting international contingents and various professional teams. Maximizing facility usage is a critical component of the department’s outreach strategy.

In 2015-16, Notre Dame’s 24 athletic facilities welcomed 1.3 million people to either compete, spectate or take part in various hosted events. These gatherings were numerous and varied, including graduations, ticketed athletic events, summer camps, wedding receptions, masses, seminars, and career fairs.

Chinese Athletics Administrators Study Notre Dame Athletics

More than 40 Chinese athletics administrators arrived at Notre Dame in July 2016 to take part in a unique month-long study program covering all aspects of Notre Dame athletics and multiple facets of university administration. The University of Notre Dame Overseas Study Program for University Sports Leaders in China offered university, high school, middle school and education department administrators multiple daily presentations by members of the Notre Dame athletics department. The group toured athletics facilities, observed various summer camps, and received instruction in compliance, academic services, equipment/apparel, mental conditioning, sports medicine, strength and conditioning, sport science, nutrition, student welfare and development and career services, event management and communications/digital media. Co-hosted by the Athletic Department and Notre Dame International, the Chinese delegation also learned how a university’s athletics funding model supports its academic mission and attended workshops on integrating student-athlete recruitment into an overall student enrollment strategy.

**Student-Athletes, Coaches and Team Initiatives**

Notre Dame varsity teams participated in 13 community outreach activities in 2015-16—including 12,422 hours of service performed by 726 athletes. The Irish softball team ranked first in community efforts by donating the most cumulative hours of any varsity program.

**Collaborative Initiatives**

In addition to the five signature initiatives, Notre Dame athletics partnered with various department and campus entities to provide support to address immediate needs in South Bend and nearby communities—and to capture the overall community impact of the myriad department and individual/team/coach/staff efforts. These partnerships and efforts included:

**Outreach**

**Fighting Irish Fighting Hunger**

Fighting Irish teams raised $38,000, collected 895 pounds of food and provided 350,000 meals to Michiana families.

**Fighting Irish Fighting for Flint**

Notre Dame athletics partnered with Catholic Charities of Shiawassee and Genesee Counties to provide donations to Flint, Michigan, in order to aid in the water crisis.

**United Way**

Athletics participated in the United Way drive that raised $291,019.55 for St. Joseph County.

**Fighting Irish Mass Card Initiative**

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**YEAR IN REVIEW**

**COMPLIANCE**

**Campus Crossroads Project Includes Stadium Enhancements**
The University in August 2015 announced plans to enhance the experience of fans in the existing Notre Dame Stadium bowl by providing several important and significant upgrades when the 2017 season begins.

- Seating improvements will include the addition of vinyl-clad benches throughout the stadium, replacing the wood bench seats, as well as establishment of an 18-inch standard width for all bench seating.
- The most visible change at Notre Dame Stadium will involve the addition of a video board at the top of the south end of the venue, along with ribbon boards along the east and west sides of the stadium. As is the case with the video boards at Pursell Pavilion and the Comp-Ton Family Ice Arena, there will be no advertising or commercials associated with use of the video boards. The addition of the video boards also will allow for the removal of the north scoreboard in order to enhance the view of the “Word of Life” mural on the Heisburgh Library.

**Additional Enhancements Planned Include:**
- Improvements to the Wi-Fi network within the stadium
- Enhancements to the existing sound system within the stadium bowl
- Renovation of restrooms and an increase in the number of women’s restrooms
- Renovation of concession stands
- Renovation of both the lower and upper concourses, including improved lighting, seating areas, enhanced signage and video monitors

**New Irish Boathouse Opens**
A program-changing moment for Notre Dame rowing occurred in early December, as the state-of-the-art McConnell Family Boathouse was completed along the St. Joseph River. The almost 15,000-square-foot building provides the Irish with an impressive facility that rivals most of the top programs in the country. Four boat bays are available—two for the varsity shells, one for the men’s club team shells and one central maintenance and repair bay. All bays are located on the lower level of the facility with easy access to the water. The building is separated vertically with team warm-up and multi-purpose space located above the boat bays on the upper level. Team locker rooms, showers, coaches’ locker rooms, nutrition stations and training rooms are also available. The facility has an on-site laundry room as well as coaches’ offices and conference rooms. Views of the St. Joseph River and Viewing Park recreation area are visible from the elevated observation deck along the riverside facing side of the boathouse. An official dedication will be held Sept. 9, 2016.

**New Irish Rugby Team Trains at Notre Dame in Advance of 2015 Rugby World Cup**
The national rugby union of Australia, commonly known as the Wallabies, headed to Notre Dame for approximately two weeks of training in advance of the 20-nation 2015 Rugby World Cup in England. The Wallabies arrived in South Bend Aug. 29 and trained on campus through Sept. 3 before heading to Chicago for a Sept. 5 test match versus the USA Eagles at Soldier Field. Following that event, the Australian squad returned to Notre Dame for additional training before heading to London Sept. 13. Notre Dame staff members exchanged best practices with the Australia team that brought a support staff of therapists, doctors and strength coaches regarded as some of the most advanced in the world in the area of sports science. The Wallabies ultimately finished as runner-up to New Zealand in the RWC.

**Facilities**

**Crossroads Project**

**Notre Dame Begins Construction of Harris Family Track Stadium**
Notre Dame broke ground in May on the Harris Family Track Stadium that will provide a new home for the Irish track and field and cross country squads. The $5.85 million project will create a structure on the west side of Notre Dame’s outdoor track to include men’s and women’s locker rooms, team rooms and a meeting room, an athletic training room, timing and media areas, a kitchenette, plus a balcony viewing area. The construction has been funded thanks to the benefaction of Dr. Robert Harris, a 1969 Notre Dame graduate who is president of Harris FRC Corporation in Holmdel, New Jersey. This marks the first step of a two-part plan to improve the Irish track and field facilities. Phase two will include spectator seating.

**Notre Dame Leads Charge to Define Management of Student-Athlete Role**

How many hours per week should a collegiate student-athlete engage in his or her sport? Should it make a difference if a student-athlete is on full scholarship at a Division I institution or essentially a walk-on at a Division II school? How does one compare the practice and competitive requirements of a football or basketball player with the training regimen of a swimmer or a track and field sprinter? These are just a few of the questions being bandied about these days at NCAA institutions all over the country. With a few exceptions, the NCAA Manual says a student-athlete’s participation in “countable athletically related activities” (CARA) shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 20 hours per week. However, numerous studies indicate that student-athletes spend over 40 hours per week on their sport when you combine CARA and non-countable activities like training tables, rehabilitation and academic study hall.

Notre Dame (along with ACC counterpart North Carolina) made the case a priority. With NCAA legislation normally routed to enhance the view of the “Word of Life” mural on the Heisburgh Library.

**Swarbrick Heads D1A Athletics Directors**

Notre Dame vice president and James E. Rohe Director of Athletics Jack Swarbrick, chair of the Division IA Athletics Directors Association in 2015-16, began his tenure in that position by naming former Maryland and professional basketball standout, U.S. Congressman and Rhodes scholar Tom McMillen as executive director of the D1A group as part of a major reorganization of that organization. Swarbrick and McMillen were key components in the restructured D1A association which moved its headquarters from Dallas, Texas, to Washington, D.C. Their goal is to help member athletics directors better navigate the rapidly-changing collegiate athletics landscape. To do so, the association expanded its mission by providing increased resources in the areas of advocacy, legislative services, business analytics and professional training.

Swarbrick and Notre Dame senior associate athletics director Jill McMillen were key components in the NCAA Convention convenes in Nashville, hopes to play a key role in modifying the NCAA Manual says a student-athlete’s participation in “countable athletically related activities” (CARA) shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 20 hours per week. However, numerous studies indicate that student-athletes spend over 40 hours per week on their sport when you combine CARA and non-countable activities like training tables, rehabilitation and academic study hall.

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**Notre Dame Leads Charge to Define Management of Student-Athlete Role**

How many hours per week should a collegiate student-athlete engage in his or her sport? Should it make a difference if a student-athlete is on full scholarship at a Division I institution or essentially a walk-on at a Division II school? How does one compare the practice and competitive requirements of a football or basketball player with the training regimen of a swimmer or a track and field sprinter? These are just a few of the questions being bandied about these days at NCAA institutions all over the country. With a few exceptions, the NCAA Manual says a student-athlete’s participation in “countable athletically related activities” (CARA) shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 20 hours per week. However, numerous studies indicate that student-athletes spend over 40 hours per week on their sport when you combine CARA and non-countable activities like training tables, rehabilitation and academic study hall.

Notre Dame (along with ACC counterpart North Carolina) made the case a priority. With NCAA legislation normally routed to enhance the view of the “Word of Life” mural on the Heisburgh Library.

**Swarbrick Heads D1A Athletics Directors**

Notre Dame vice president and James E. Rohe Director of Athletics Jack Swarbrick, chair of the Division IA Athletics Directors Association in 2015-16, began his tenure in that position by naming former Maryland and professional basketball standout, U.S. Congressman and Rhodes scholar Tom McMillen as executive director of the D1A group as part of a major reorganization of that organization. Swarbrick and McMillen were key components in the restructured D1A association which moved its headquarters from Dallas, Texas, to Washington, D.C. Their goal is to help member athletics directors better navigate the rapidly-changing collegiate athletics landscape. To do so, the association expanded its mission by providing increased resources in the areas of advocacy, legislative services, business analytics and professional training.

Swarbrick and Notre Dame senior associate athletics director Jill McMillen were key components in the restructured D1A association which moved its headquarters from Dallas, Texas, to Washington, D.C. Their goal is to help member athletics directors better navigate the rapidly-changing collegiate athletics landscape. To do so, the association expanded its mission by providing increased resources in the areas of advocacy, legislative services, business analytics and professional training.

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Seidel Tabbed 2015-16 Mary Garber Award Recipient

As a parting achievement to culminate her college career, four-time Notre Dame national champion Molly Seidel was honored as the Atlantic Coast Conference's top female athlete and the Atlantic Coast Sports Media Association's Scholar-Athlete of the Year—signifying Seidel being recognized as the Atlantic Coast Conference's top female athlete from the past academic year, the first Irish student-athlete to receive the award since Notre Dame joined the ACC in 2013.

Seidel capped a standout cross country season in 2015 by winning her first national title in the sport with a time of 19:36.20 at the NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships last November. She previously claimed the 2015 ACC Championship 6K with a time of 19:36.20 and the top spot at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional 6K by clocking in at 20:04.40, on the road to the national championship meet.

A 2015 cross country All-America selection, Seidel also was named the ACC Women's Cross Country Performer of the Year, ACC Women's Cross Country Scholar-Athlete of the Year—and she was tabbed as the Honda Sport Award winner as the top female athlete nationally in cross country. She represented Notre Dame along with other 2016 Honda Sport Awards winner at the Collegiate Women's Sports Awards (CWSA) ceremony June 27 in Los Angeles.

In recognition of outstanding achievement in cross country, Seidel was Notre Dame's nominee for the 2016 NCAA Woman of the Year award, one of a record 517 student-athletes across the country in consideration for the award.

Seidel's four combined national championship victories (2015 NCAA Outdoor 10,000m, 2015 NCAA Cross Country 6K, 2016 NCAA Indoor 5,000m and 2016 NCAA Indoor 5,000m) are a Notre Dame school record. Seidel claimed six combined All-America citations (two cross country, four track) during her collegiate career, to go along with nine all-ACC scrolls and four all-ACC academic team nods.

A standout in the classroom with a cumulative 3.54 GPA in biological anthropology (biological anthropology major with a minor in sustainability), Seidel was the lone College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-America representative from Notre Dame for the spring 2016 season.

Four-time national champion becomes Notre Dame's first ACC female athlete of the year honored as a parting achievement to culminate her college career, four-time Notre Dame national champion Molly Seidel was honored for an exceptional senior cross country/track and field campaign by being named the 2015-16 Mary Garber Award winner by the Atlantic Coast Sports Media Association in June. The award signifies Seidel being recognized as the Atlantic Coast Conference's top female athlete from the past academic year, the first Irish student-athlete to receive the award since Notre Dame joined the ACC in 2013.

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O.S.C.A.R.S.

The Notre Dame athletics department took time to celebrate its successes on the fields of competition, in the classroom and throughout the community at its 15th annual O.S.C.A.R.S. (Outstanding Student-Athletes Celebrating Achievement & Recognition Showcase) gala in April. Here’s a look at the 2015-16 Notre Dame award recipients:

KYRON V. KANALEY AWARD

The most prestigious honor awarded to Notre Dame student-athletes, the Kyron V. Kanaley Award has been presented each year since 1927 to a senior athlete who has been most exemplary as students and leaders, as selected by the Faculty Board of Athletics.

Emma Gaboury
Women’s Swimming and Diving

Gaboury made program history with the diving squad in 2016 when she and two of her diving teammates qualified for the NCAA Championship, the first time Notre Dame sent more than one diver to the national meet.

Garrett McCroth
Men’s Fencing

McCroth was a four-time NCAA Championship qualifier in épée, a two-time All-America finisher (highlighted by his NCAA runner-up finish as a sophomore in 2014) and the 2016 ACC Men’s Fencing Scholar Athlete of the Year.

Quentin Monaghan
Men’s Tennis

Monaghan and teammate Alex Lawson advanced to the semifinals of the 2016 NCAA Doubles Championship, with Monaghan also claiming the Intercollegiate Tennis Association’s Arthur Ashe Award.

Alyson Risk
Softball

Risk not only led Notre Dame to its first NCAA appearance, she was the team’s hitting leader and was the first Fighting Irish softball player in school history to earn All-American honors, being named a first-team selection by both the NFCA and the CSTA.

Michael Shipp
Women’s Basketball

Shipp graduated with a 3.96 cumulative grade-point average during the fall 2015 semester and an overall average during the spring 2016 term of 3.539. He also earned three Team GPA awards after the Notre Dame women’s basketball team earned all three Team GPA awards after the Notre Dame women’s basketball team earned all three Team GPA awards after the Notre Dame women’s basketball team earned all three Team GPA awards. The Notre Dame women’s cross country team earned all three Team GPA awards after the Notre Dame women’s cross country team earned all three Team GPA awards. The Notre Dame women’s cross country team earned all three Team GPA awards after the Notre Dame women’s cross country team earned all three Team GPA awards.

Caucelli Claims Arch Ward Award

Former Notre Dame assistant athletics director and sports information director Roger Valdiserri was inducted into the United States Basketball Writers Association Hall of Fame at the 2016 NCAA Men’s Basketball Final Four in Houston.

Roberts Selected to National Radio Hall of Fame

Former University of Notre Dame football radio play-by-play veteran Tony Roberts was selected for induction into the National Radio Hall of Fame. Roberts handled play by play on Irish radio broadcasts on Westwood One from 1980 through 2005.

Bodensteiner Joins NCAA Committee

Jill Bodensteiner, Notre Dame senior associate athletics director, has been appointed to a five-year term on the NCAA Division I Women’s Basketball Championship Committee. Bodensteiner begins her tenure Sept. 1, 2016, serving on a committee that is charged with numerous responsibilities, including the selection, seeding and bracketing for the annual NCAA Women’s Basketball Championship.

Weaver joins NCAA Committee

Notre Dame Men’s Soccer

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Cafarelli Claims Arch Ward Award

Former Notre Dame assistant athletics director and sports information director Bernie Cafarelli in June received the prestigious Arch Ward Award (for outstanding contributions in the media relations field) at the annual College Sports Information Directors of America Convention in Dallas. Cafarelli left Notre Dame in January for a position as associate commissioner for communications with the American Athletic Conference.

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AFGHANISTAN EMERGENCY FUND

Afganistan Emergency Fund

The Notre Dame soccer team was recognized for its humanitarian efforts in Afghanistan. The team has raised more than $35,000 and financed two primary schools, the construction of two medical facilities and the training of hospital staff.

YEAR IN REVIEW

McGraw was the first four-time NCAA individual champion in school history, won national championship in every event she competed in during the last calendar year: 10,000 meters (2015 outdoor track and field) cross country, and 3,000 meters and 5,000 meters (both 2016 indoor track and field).

Lee Keklota
Men’s Soccer

Keklota, a repeat winner of the All-American honors, was a mainstay for this honor due to the program’s ever-growing Strikeout Cancer initiative held each April. Through Strikeout Cancer, Notre Dame softball has raised more than $150,000 to directly benefit pediatric cancer patients since 2010.

Katie Naughton
Women’s Soccer

Naughton was the first three-time captain in Fighting Irish soccer history and a three-time all-conference selection and a CoSIDA Academic All-America Second Team pick last fall.

Molly Sodel
Women’s Cross Country/Track and Field

Sodel, the first four-time NCAA individual champion in school history, won national championship in every event she competed in during the last calendar year: 10,000 meters (2015 outdoor track and field) cross country, and 3,000 meters and 5,000 meters (both 2016 indoor track and field).

Jaylon Smith
Football

Smith, a consensus football All-American for 2015 by the NCAA, won the Butkus Award recipient as the nation’s top line backer. He led Notre Dame in total tackles (143), solo tackles (69), assisted tackles (45), pass breakups (five) and fumble recoveries (two).

Megan Sorlie
Softball

Sorlie returned from an injury sustained in the middle of the 2016 season to set career highs in doubles (seven) and RBIs (22) in 50 games (44 starts), batting .277.

Barbara Sullivan
Women’s Lacrosse

Sullivan set Irish single-season, single-season and career records for caused turnovers and draw controls. A three- time first-team All-American, Sullivan was a finalist for the 2015 and 2016 Tewaaraton awards, the national player-of-the-year competition.

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COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARD

This award recognizes the contributions of athletes to the university community and the community at large, in terms of embodying the spirit of leadership, commitment and service.

Casey African
Softball

A repeat selection for the award. African was a key Fighting Irish Fight for Life ambassador and spent the majority of her 2015 summer in the Internationalomer Service Learning Program in Ghana, serving as a senior school instructor who was charged with developing a sustainable income for the local school system so it could continue providing for the children in the surrounding area.

Lena Madison
Women’s Track and Field

Two-time team captain Madison was heavily involved in the Notre Dame Green Dot violence prevention initiative, worked with the student-organization Noteworthy and served as a peer leader for the Gender Relations Center of Notre Dame.

Eva Niklinska
Women’s Fencing

Niklinska has been active in the University’s Student-Voice Week program, which provides primary health care services to the uninsured residents of St. Joseph County, and also contributed to her own “HandwrittenHearts” organization that she founded in 2011 to deliver handwritten letters and seasonal gifts to patients in the oncology and renal wards at the Saint Joseph Regional Medical Center in Indiana.

Kyle Richardson
Baseball

Richardsonconnected with the Alzheimer Foundation and raised his teammates for participation in the annual November grass-roots movement of raising money and awareness for men’s health, most notably prostate cancer. With the entire Notre Dame baseball team on board, the Irish raised more than $35,000 and finished in the top 30 nationally among all Men’s baseball programs, finishing first among all college teams, sports teams and organizations.

Andy Ryan
Hockey

Ryan was Notre Dame’s nominee for the 2016 College Hockey Humanitarian Award. He also led the Notre Dame hockey team’s involvement with the Fighting Irish Fight For Life program, the Universi-
MARKETING

Notre Dame ranked 15th nationally in home football attendance in 2015 at 80,795 fans per game. Notre Dame’s home final game in 2015 against Wake Forest marked the 249th straight sellout at Notre Dame Stadium. Notre Dame has played in front of sellouts in 298 of its last 299 home games.

Every Notre Dame football game in 2015 sold out—indicating record crowds at Lincoln Financial Field in Philadelphia (69,280) and Heinz Field in Pittsburgh (68,400).

After previously selling out in December, the 2016 BattleFrog Fiesta Bowl added 2,600 tickets and seats due to high demand for the game between Ohio State and Notre Dame. A sold-out crowd of 71,331 witnessed the contest in Glendale, Arizona, on New Year’s Day. That attendance surpassed the previous mark of 71,123 witnessed the contest in 2014.

Notre Dame’s 2015 Shamrock Series game against Boston College at Fenway Park drew an attendance of 38,688 and a total spending impact of $22.2 million. The spending impact is nearly 14 times more than an average regular season game in 2015 and nearly 14 times more than an average regular college football team at $127 million. Notre Dame typically generates around $1.6 million.

Notre Dame’s 2015 football game at Temple drew by far the highest spending impact in Philadelphia for a college football game on ABC at 17.6 (even though the game went up against the World Series). The next highest ABC game drew a 12.4 (Ohio State/Michigan in 2006). By comparison, the Oct. 17, 2015, prime-time ABC full national game between top-ranked Ohio State and Penn State drew a 5.7 rating.

The Showtime series “A Season with Notre Dame Football” every Tuesday night during the 2015 season produced a million viewers per week across all platforms.

Four of the New Year’s Six bowl games following the 2015 season saw ratings increases from their same bowl last year (i.e., Cotton Bowl vs. Cotton Bowl), including the BattleFrog Fiesta Bowl between Notre Dame and Ohio State on New Year’s Day, which earned a 6.2 overnight, up 35 percent from the Fiesta Bowl the previous season. The four bowls which were not designated as College Football Playoff Semifinals last season—Peach, Fiesta (including Notre Dame), Rose and Sugar—averaged a 5.8 overnight rating, up 26 percent from the four bowls the previous season which were not semifinals (Peach, Fiesta, Orange and Cotton).

Notre Dame’s basketball team boasted top ratings for the 2016 NCAA Championship, playing in two of the most-watched games of the tournament. Its second-round clash against Stephen F. Austin had 8.39 million viewers tune in, while over 10 million watched the Irish in the Elite 8 against North Carolina. Overall, Mike Brey’s squad was seen by over 30 million viewers during its four-game 2016 NCAA run.

Digital/Social Media

Notre Dame’s official athletics site UND.com in 2015-16 produced 27 million total page views and 6.3 million unique views. In addition to the South Bend market, the largest number of views came from Chicago, New York City, Washington, D.C., Indianapolis, San Francisco, Houston and Columbus. Video views number over 38 million—including 3.1 from WatchND, 3.8 from YouTube, and a combined 3.14 from Facebook and Twitter.

Notre Dame became one of two schools with four Twitter accounts with 100,000 or more followers—and the only school with two accounts with 300,000 or more followers (football and men’s basketball). Tweets from Notre Dame Athletics accounts featured more than 160 million impressions during 2015-16.

Television Ratings and Viewership

NBC’s top college football games in 2015 included a 2.5 rating for Notre Dame-USC in week seven in prime time and 4.1 million viewers for Notre Dame-Texas in week one, also in prime time. The week one game against Texas was the most-watched Notre Dame home opener since the 2006 game against Penn State. The Notre Dame-Ohio State game on ESPN3 Steel City Extra digital coverage saw a record 2.8 million five minutes streamed by 56,000 unique viewers.

NBCSN televised its first Notre Dame football game on Nov. 21, 2015 (a 19-16 victory over Boston College at Fenway Park). That game averaged 2.0 million viewers to rank as the network’s most-watched college football game.

Notre Dame’s 2015 regular-season finale at Stanford qualified as the highest-rated and most-watched regular season game on FOX at 4.3/11 rating/share, with more than 7.3 million viewers.

Other top ratings for Notre Dame games in 2015 included a 4.5 (7647 million viewers) for the game at Clemson in prime time on ABC, a 3.7 (5.744 million viewers) for the game at Virginia on ABC and a 3.6 (5.977 million viewers) for the game at Temple in prime time on ABC.

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Fighting Irish Media

1 School with two team Twitter accounts with more than 300,000 followers
4 Teams in top 10 for Instagram followers
5 New shows created
6 Top 25 rankings in every social media platform (one of six schools)
8 Twitter accounts with at least a 25 percent increase in followers (men’s basketball) had 102 percent increase; also football at 91 percent, followed by cross country/track and field, men’s soccer, women’s basketball, Fighting Irish, women’s lacrosse and men’s lacrosse
16 Team Twitter accounts in top 25 in their respective sports ( shuts)
University of Notre Dame

ATHLETICS ANNUAL REPORT

18

New Chicago Radio Outlet

ESPN Chicago 1000 reached a multiyear agreement to broadcast every Notre Dame football and men’s basketball game beginning with the 2016-17 season. The deal returns the Irish to Chicago’s top-rated sports station, which was previously the home for Notre Dame sports from 1999-2005. ESPN Chicago 1000 will produce Notre Dame basketball games, while IMG will produce Notre Dame football games, as part of IMG’s Notre Dame Football Network.

Fighting Irish Media Awards

The Notre Dame athletics media production group earned 19 honors for professional excellence in 2015-16 in the fields of video production, broadcasting, publications and feature writing. These were in a year in which Fighting Irish Media completed its first cycle combining the talents of Notre Dame’s digital media group (formerly known as Fighting Irish Digital Media) and the University’s athletics communications office (formerly called athletics media relations and, prior to that, sports information).

Another highlight was a record-setting nine Telly Awards, including four silver Tellys, for excellence in several online video and film productions. In the past three years alone, FIM has collected 17 Telly Awards—five silver and 12 bronze.

FIM also earned praise from the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) for excellence in publications, with the 2015 Notre Dame football game program and the 2015-16 Fighting Irish women’s basketball media guide both rated second in the nation in the annual CoSIDA Publications Contest. The Fighting Irish football program also was recognized with the best cover in the nation award for 2016.

Three Notre Dame games ranked among the 50 most-watched sporting events in the first half of 2016—and no college placed more events on that list than the Irish did (as charted by Sports Media Watch).

The Notre Dame-North Carolina men’s basketball game that night ranked 25th (5.5 rating, 11.0 million viewers on TNT).

The Notre Dame-Ohio State Fiesta Bowl football game ranked 38th (5.76 million viewers on ESPN).

The Notre Dame-Stanford basketball game that night ranked 15th (6.39 million viewers on ESPN).

No other institution was represented in both football and men’s basketball in the NCAA Championship ranked 46th (8.39 million viewers on TBS).

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Notre Dame qualified 10 current and former athletes for competition at the 2016 Summer Olympic Games in Rio de Janeiro, with that group producing one gold medal (Amanda Polk in rowing) and three bronze medals (Gerek Meinhardt and Mariel Zagunis in fencing; Melissa Tancredi for Canada in women’s soccer).

**AMANDA POLK**
Rowing, USA, Women’s Eight
Polk earned her first career gold medal, and the first Notre Dame gold medal of the 2016 Olympics, when Team USA Rowing claimed victory in the women’s eight in 6:01.49. The U.S. women’s eight has won 11 consecutive world/Olympic titles.

**MELISSA TANCREDI**
Soccer, Canada
Tancredi and Team Canada defeated Brazil in the women’s soccer bronze medal match. Tancredi scored two goals in Canada’s 2-1 victory over Germany in group play. Canada finished 3-0 in group play and then topped France in the quarterfinals before falling to Germany in the semifinals. Tancredi captured her second Olympic medal, having helped Canada to the bronze in 2012.

**MARGARET BAMBOSE**
Track and Field, Nigeria, 400 meters
Bambose posted the third-fastest time in her qualifying heat (51.43). She then ran a 51.92 in the semifinals of the 400-meter dash and placed seventh in her semifinal heat.

**MOLLY HUDDE**
Track and Field, USA, 10,000 and 5,000 meters
Huddle posted an American record in the women’s 10,000-meter race, finishing sixth in the fastest women’s 10K in history. Huddle captured her second Olympic medal, having helped Canada to the bronze in 2012.

**ANGE (HARRIS) AKERS**
Beach Volleyball, Netherlands
Akers and the Netherlands beach volleyball duo of Marleen van Iersel and Madelein Meppelink saw their Olympic run end in the round of 16 with a narrow 2-1 defeat at the hands of Switzerland.

**BUCKIE LEACH**
Fencing, USA, Epee
Leach helped Team USA advance both its foil fencers, Lee Kiefer and Nzingha Prescod, to the round of 16 in the individual competition.

**COACHES**

**GEREK MEINHARDT**
Fencing, USA, Foil
Meinhardt was the first individual with Notre Dame ties to claim a medal in Rio as he helped the United States men’s foil team to bronze. It was Meinhardt’s first Olympic medal in three appearances. In the individual men’s foil competition, Meinhardt posted two victories before falling in the quarterfinals.

**LEE KIEFER**
Fencing, USA, Foil
Kiefer, a three-time NCAA foil champion, saw her run in the individual women’s foil competition end in the round of 16. It marked her second consecutive appearance in the Olympics after finishing fifth in the individual competition in 2012.

**MARCIE SIAVASH**
Fencing, USA, Sabre
Zagunis was the first individual with Notre Dame ties to claim a medal in Rio as she helped the United States women’s sabre team to bronze. It was Zagunis’ fourth career podium finish at the Olympic Games, tying Notre Dame track legend Alex Wilson (32) for the most Olympic medals earned by an athlete with Irish ties. Zagunis is also the first U.S. fencer to ever medal in three different Olympics after claiming gold medals in individual sabre in 2004 and 2008, and bronze medals in team sabre in 2008 and 2012. In the individual sabre competition in Rio, Zagunis fell in the round of 16.

**ANGIE (HARRIS) AKERS**
Beach Volleyball, Netherlands
Akers and the Netherlands beach volleyball duo of Marleen van Iersel and Madelein Meppelink saw their Olympic run end in the round of 16 with a narrow 2-1 defeat at the hands of Switzerland.

**MONTY WILLIAMS**
Men’s Basketball, USA
The USA men’s basketball team won the gold medal for a third consecutive Summer Olympic Games. After going 3-0 in group A competition, Team USA defeated Argentina in the quarterfinals, Spain in the semifinals and then Serbia in the gold-medal contest.

**COACHES**

**MOLLY HUDDE**
Track and Field, USA, 10,000 and 5,000 meters
Huddle posted an American record in the women’s 10,000-meter race, finishing sixth in the fastest women’s 10K in history. Huddle captured her second Olympic medal, having helped Canada to the bronze in 2012.

**ANGIE (HARRIS) AKERS**
Beach Volleyball, Netherlands
Akers and the Netherlands beach volleyball duo of Marleen van Iersel and Madelein Meppelink saw their Olympic run end in the round of 16 with a narrow 2-1 defeat at the hands of Switzerland.

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Men’s Basketball, USA
The USA men’s basketball team won the gold medal for a third consecutive Summer Olympic Games. After going 3-0 in group A competition, Team USA defeated Argentina in the quarterfinals, Spain in the semifinals and then Serbia in the gold-medal contest.
Notre Dame finished 17th in the Final Directors Cup all-sports standings for 2015-16 in the tabulations sponsored by Learfield and the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics. The Irish scored points in nine women’s sports and eight men’s sports in addition to points from the combined NCAA fencing championship. Top point-scoring programs in 2015-16 were fencing (75 points), women’s indoor track and field (75), men’s basketball (73) and women’s lacrosse (70). Notre Dame qualified for spots in the brackets listing the final 16 teams in the 2016 NCAA Championships in men’s basketball, women’s basketball and hockey—becoming the first institution in history to accomplish that feat.
SEASONS IN REVIEW

BASEBALL

27-27
11-17 (ACC)
7TH IN ACC ATLANTIC DIVISION

HEAD COACH
Mik Aoki

ASSISTANT COACHES
Jesse Woods
Chuck Rislanato
Robert Youngdahl

CAPTAINS
James Nevant
Lane Richards

Matt Vierling earned a spot on the Louisville Slugger Freshman All-America team following a rookie campaign that saw him become a mainstay in the Irish outfield from day one. He was tabbed as one of two utility players on the team. He also claimed second-team Freshman All-America accolades from the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA) in addition to Perfect Game/Rawlings. Vierling earned a spot on the Atlantic Coast Conference All-Freshman Team. A starter in all 54 games, he finished the year hitting .258 with 55 hits, three doubles, one triple, six homers, 29 RBI, 20 walks, three stolen bases and 26 runs scored.

Zak Kutsulis led the Irish with his .315 average and 30 RBI to go with a .467 slugging percentage. Cavan Biggio finished at .311 and led the squad in hits (61).

Michael Hearne ranked among ACC leaders in ERA at 2.13 to go with his 8-2 record.

The Irish had two selections in the 2016 Major League Baseball Draft—with Biggio going to Toronto in the fifth round and Torii Hunter Jr. selected in the 23rd round by the Los Angeles Angels.

The Irish advanced to the NCAA Elite Eight for the second straight year—the first time that happened since the 1978 and 1979 NCAA Championships.

Junior point guard Demetrius Jackson was named to the all-ACC second team, while senior forward Zach Auguste earned a spot on the all-ACC third team.

The Notre Dame regular season was keynoted by home wins over North Carolina (then top rated in one poll) and No. 13 Louisville.

MEN’S BASKETBALL

24-12
11-7 (ACC)

HEAD COACH
Mike Brey

ASSISTANT COACHES
Rod Balanis
Martin Ingelsby
Anthony Solomon

CAPTAINS
Zach Auguste
A.J. Burgette
Demetrius Jackson
Steve Vasturia

The Irish advanced to the NCAA Elite Eight for the second straight year—the first time that happened since the 1978 and 1979 NCAA Championships.

Notre Dame and Syracuse qualified as the only schools to advance both their men’s and women’s teams into the Sweet 16 of the NCAA Championships.

Notre Dame was the only school in the country to advance its teams to the last 16 in NCAA brackets in men’s basketball, women’s basketball and hockey.

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SEASONS IN REVIEW

WOMEN'S

BASKETBALL

33-2
16-0 (ACC)

Brianna Turner

won consensus first-team All-America honors and was both ACC Player of the Year (voting by coaches) and ACC Defensive Player of the Year.

Lindsay Allen

and

Madison Cable

joined Turner as all-ACC first-team selections.

Notre Dame won 26 straight games through the first weekend of the NCAA Championship after winning both the ACC Tournament and ACC regular-season crown for the third straight time.

Notre Dame takes a current home win streak of 30 games into the 2016-17 campaign.

The Irish finished second nationally in three-point field-goal percentage (.412) and third in overall field-goal percentage (.496).

Michael Clevenger

won All-America honors with a 38th-place finish at the NCAA Championship.

Clevenger won all-ACC honors for his 21st-place finish at the ACC Championship and took sixth place at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional.

Notre Dame won the National Catholic Championship, led by four of the top eight finishers, including Timothy Ball in third and Clevenger in fifth.

The Irish had seven individual top 10 finishes and 14 top 25 finishes over the course of the season.

MEN’S

CROSS COUNTRY

6th
ACC Championship

32nd
NCAA Championship

BRIANNA TURNER

MICHAEL CLEVENDER

Notre Dame's cross country team finished the season ranked 6th in the ACC and 32nd nationally.

BASKETBALL CROSS COUNTRY

33-2
16-0 (ACC)

Brianna Turner

won consensus first-team All-America honors and was both ACC Player of the Year (voting by coaches) and ACC Defensive Player of the Year.

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The Irish had seven individual top 10 finishes and 14 top 25 finishes over the course of the season.
SEASONS IN REVIEW

CROSS COUNTRY

All-American Molly Seidel won the individual NCAA Cross Country Championship in helping the Irish to an eighth-place team finish.

Seidel finished first at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional and at the ACC Championship. She was named the ACC Women’s Cross Country Performer of the Year and the USTFCCCA National Athlete of the Year award-winner for cross country. She also received the 2015 Honda Sport Award for cross country.

Anna Rohrer joined Seidel as an All-American with her sixth-place finish at the NCAA meet.

Seidel and Rohrer finished first and second, respectively, at both the ACC Championship and the NCAA Great Lakes Regional.

Notre Dame won the National Catholic Championship, led by five of the top eight individual finishers, including Rohrer in the blue-ribbon slot.

Rookie Axel Kiefer won first-team All-America honors after advancing to the NCAA semifinals in foil.

Virgile Collin-eau earned third-team honors in foil.

Garrett McGrath finished eighth in the NCAA bracket in epee for second-team All-America recognition.

The Irish came away with two third-team All-Americans in men’s sabre, as Jonathan Fitzgerald finished 10th while classmate Jonah Shainberg took 12th.

At the NCAA Midwest Regional, Kiefer was perfect in grabbing the foil crown, McGrath claimed silver in epee and Fitzgerald finished second in sabre.

The Irish repeated as ACC champions, with Shainberg (sabre), Kiefer (foil) and Dylan French (epee) all claiming individual weapon gold medals. Kiefer was named the ACC’s most valuable fencer overall.

Coach Gia Kvaratskhelia was named the ACC co-men’s and women’s coach of the year, while Kiefer was named the ACC men’s fencer of the year for foil and Shainberg was named the co-men’s fencer of the year for sabre.

FENCING

35-3 ACC Champion

HEAD COACH
Guiorgie “Gia” Kvaratskhelia
ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH
Cedric Loiseau
ASSISTANT COACH
Samir Ibrahimov
CAPTAINS
Garrett McGrath
Kristjan Archer
John Hallsten

3rd ACC Championship
8th NCAA Championship

HEAD COACH
Alan Turner
ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH
Matt Sparks
ASSISTANT COACH
Sean Carlson

WOMEN’S

MEN’S
Notre Dame produced five All-Americans—with a first-team honor to Sabrina Massialas in foil (she shared third place after falling in the semifinals), second-team recognition to Francesca Russo (sabre) and Catherine Lee (epee) and third-team honors to Nicole McKee (foil) and Tara Hassett (sabre).

The Irish women boasted NCAA Midwest Regional champions in epee and foil, as Lee and Massialas turned in outstanding days. Also medaling for the Irish was Russo who claimed second in sabre.

The Irish repeated as ACC champions, with Massialas (foil) and Lee (epee) taking home individual gold medals. Massialas was selected as the ACC women’s fencer of the year for foil.

A week after her rookie collegiate campaign ended Massialas added the title of junior world champion to her trophy case after capturing the FIE Junior World Women’s Foil Championship in Bourges, France.

WOMEN’S FENCING

38-0
ACC Champion

10-3
BTI FINAL RANKING (ASSOCIATED PRESS)
BATTLEFROG FIESTA BOWL
PARTICIPANT

FOOTBALL

Linebacker Jaylon Smith won the Butkus Award—while Smith and offensive tackle Ronnie Stanley both earned consensus first-team All-America honors. That marked the first time since 1993 the Irish produced two consensus picks in the same year.

Receiver Will Fuller claimed consensus second-team All-America honors, while the Associated Press named defensive lineman Sheldon Day to its second team.

The Irish came from behind to win games at Virginia and Temple on late DeShone Kizer-to-Fuller touchdown passes and also eliminated a fourth-period deficit to defeat USC.

Notre Dame’s only two regular-season losses came in the final seconds in road games, as Clemson thwarted a potential tying two-point conversion with seven seconds left and Stanford came from behind to prevail on a field goal as time expired.

The 2015 season marked the 12th time in Notre Dame history the Irish won 10 or more games during the regular season.
Notre Dame recorded five top five individual finishes and four other top 10 finishes. Matthew Rushton led the Irish at the ACC Championship with a tie-for-16th finish at even-par 216. Ben Albin won medalist honors at the Battle at the Warren event. The fall season featured a co-championship in the Fighting Irish Golf Classic, with Blake Barnes second individually at 210.

Notre Dame’s participation in the NCAA Birmingham Regional marked the ninth straight NCAA Championship berth. Emma Albrecht led the Irish in Birmingham in finishing tied for 24th at 230.

Talia Campbell led Notre Dame at the ACC Championship with a ninth-place finish, becoming the first player in Notre Dame history to lead the team in scoring in four straight events. Talia Campbell led Notre Dame at the ACC Championship with a ninth-place finish, becoming the first player in Notre Dame history to lead the team in scoring in four straight events. The Irish opened the fall season with a repeat win in the Mary Fossum Invitational.
SEASONS IN REVIEW

HOCKEY

19-11-7

#5 FINAL RANKING (USILA, INSIDE LACROSSE, LACROSSE MAGAZINE)
3-1, TIE FOR 1ST IN ACC
ACC TOURNAMENT SEMIFINALS
NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP
QUARTERFINALS

HEAD COACH
Jeff Jackson
ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH
Paul Pooley
ASSOCIATE COACH
Andy Slaggert
ASSISTANT COACH
Brian Mahoney-Wilson
CAPTAINS
Steven Fogarty
Thomas DiPaoli
Sam Herr
Mario Lucia
Andy Ryan

The Irish made their eighth appearance in the NCAA Championship, including their third appearance in the last four seasons.

High-scoring sophomores Anders Bjork and Jordan Gross were named second-team Hockey East All-Stars at the league’s annual awards banquet. Goaltender Cal Petersen and forward Thomas DiPaoli were named honorable mention All-Stars, while head coach Jeff Jackson was the runner-up for the Hockey East coach-of-the-year honor.

Hockey East head coaches voted Notre Dame forward Sam Herr the Gladiator Custom Mouthguards Best Defensive Forward of the Year, while freshman defenseman Bobby Nardella was named to the Pro Ambitions All-Rookie team.

The Irish went on a 12-game streak without a loss (two ties) beginning with a Nov. 28 home win over Western Michigan through a Jan. 23 road win at New Hampshire. With a home loss to fourth-ranked Boston College sandwiched in the middle, Notre Dame over one stretch swept consecutive two-game series against Merrimack, New Hampshire (on the road), Vermont (on the road) and Maine.

The United States Intercollegiate Lacrosse Association selected defenseman Matt Landis and midfielder Sergio Perkovic to its first All-American team, attack Matt Kavanagh and long-stick midfielder John Sexton to the second team and goaltender Shane Doss to the third team. Those same five individuals earned all-ACC recognition.

One of five Tewaaraton Award finalists, Landis for the second straight year received the USILA William C. Schmeisser Award as the top defenseman in the country—and he was picked as the ACC Defensive Player of the Year for a second consecutive season. The ACC named rookie attack Ryder Gamse its Freshman of the Year.

The Irish ranked number one in the country for nine weeks during the season, according to the Lacrosse magazine poll.

Notre Dame advanced to the NCAA quarterinals for the seventh year in a row, the best active streak in the country.

LACROSSE

11-4

3-1 (ACC)

#5 FINAL RANKING (USCHO.COM)
15-5-2, 3RD IN HOCKEY EAST
HOCKEY EAST TOURNAMENT QUARTERFINALS
NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP REGIONAL SEMIFINALS

HEAD COACH
Kevin Corrigan
ASSISTANT COACHES
Gerry Byrne
Matt Karweck
CAPTAINS
Conor Kelly
Matt Landis
Matt Kavanagh
Eddy Glazener

The Irish ranked number one in the country for nine weeks during the season, according to the Lacrosse magazine poll.

Notre Dame advanced to the NCAA quarterfinals for the seventh year in a row, the best active streak in the country.
Defender Barbara Sullivan qualified as one of five finalists for a second straight season for the Tewaaraton Award as the top player in the country. Cortney Fortunato and Sullivan were named to the Intercollegiate Women's Lacrosse Coaches Association All-America first team, while Casey Pearsall earned a spot on the third team. It was Sullivan’s third first-team All-America honor, joining the 2013 and 2015 seasons. Fortunato was also a first-team All-American in 2015.

Fortunato, Pearsall and Sullivan all received first-team IWLCA all-West/Midwest accolades, while Brie Custis, Alex Dalton and Rachel Sexton earned places on the all-region second team.

The Irish had five members of the 2016 team receive all-ACC accolades. Fortunato and Sullivan made the first team while Pearsall, Sexton and Stephanie Toy earned spots on the second team.

The Irish advanced to the NCAA quarterfinal round for the first time since 2009—with the 14 Notre Dame wins ranking as third most in program history.

Notre Dame’s 10-9 overtime home win over Duke gave coach Christine Halfpenny her 100th career win—and a March 9 win over Liberty marked the 200th in program history.

After claiming all-Atlantic Coast Conference honors at the league championship regatta, Joanna Mulvey and Hilary Shinnick received similar CRCA all-region accolades. Mulvey claimed first-team honors through the ACC and CRCA, while Shinnick tallied second-team accolades from both organizations.

Notre Dame’s top finish at the ACC Championship came from a third place by the second varsity eight, which lowered its time by nearly nine seconds from the previous day.

The Irish clinched their third Dale England Cup in four years. Notre Dame captured the victory based on a tie-breaker, which swung in favor of the Irish after the first varsity eight crew won the final race by .85 seconds (6:37.4).

2015 Irish rowing alumnus Rose Doerfler earned a prestigious Fulbright U.S. Student Program grant in engineering from the U.S. Department of State. Doerfler will research at Yuan Zs University in Taiwan as part of a project to build devices for detection of genetically modified rice and soy crops.
Tri-captains Patrick Hodan and Max Lachowecki, along with striker Jon Gallagher, were tabbed to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America all-South Region second team.

Patrick Hodan and Max Lachowecki claimed second-team all-ACC recognition, while Gallagher was named to the third team.

The Irish finished as the ACC Championship runner-up and then earned the number-seven national seed in the NCAA Championship bracket.

Notre Dame made its 18th appearance in the NCAA Championship in 2015 and its 10th as one of the event’s 16 national seeds. The Irish were the top overall seed in both 2012 and 2014 and won the 2013 NCAA Championship as the third seed.

Cari Roccaro was named to the National Soccer Coaches Association of America All-America third team. Roccaro and classmate Katie Naughton—both central defenders—were named to the NSCAA all-Southwest Region first team, while forward Anna Maria Gilbertson made the second team.

Gilbertson, Naughton and Roccaro won second-team all-ACC honors, with forward Natalie Jacobs named to the league’s all-freshman squad.

Goalkeeper Kaela Little posted seven solo shutouts and combined for three more.

Notre Dame made its 23rd consecutive appearance in the NCAA Championship, the second-longest active streak (to North Carolina).
Outfielder Karley Wester closed one of the best seasons in program history by receiving National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) Division I All-America honors for the second time in her career. The Irish co-captain was named to the third team.

One of 10 finalists for the 2016 USA Softball Collegiate Player of the Year award, Wester won the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC) batting average crown (.446), and was the league leader in hits (91) and runs scored (68). Wester’s 46 stolen bases also ranked second in the ACC, to go along with a career-high nine doubles, three home runs and 33 RBI as primarily a slap hitter.

Karley Wester, Micaela Arizmendi, Ali Wester, Caitlyn Brooks and Melissa Rochford were each named to the NFCA Mid-Atlantic all-region first team. The five first-teamers were the most for Notre Dame in a single season.

Morgan Reed was tabbed to the second team, while Bailey Bigler was a third-team selection.

Four members of the Notre Dame team claimed all-Atlantic Coast Conference honors. Arizmendi was tabbed to the all-ACC first team, while Reed, Karley Wester and Ali Wester represented the Irish on the all-ACC second team.

Notre Dame played in the NCAA Championship for the 18th straight season.

The NFCA named the Irish coaching staff the Mid-Atlantic Region staff of the year for the second time in three years.

Justin Plaschka took second at the ACC Championship in 2:52.18, while Plaschka was second in the 100 butterfly in 46.37 at that event. Both times represent school records.

James Lichtenstein finished ninth in platform diving at the NCAA Zone C Meet with a school-record point total.

The Notre Dame 400 free relay (Plaschka, Reed Fujan, Spears and Afrik) took second at the ACC Championship in 3:21.18, while Plaschka was second in the 100 butterfly in 46.37 at that event. Both times represent school records.
SWIMMING & DIVING

Ella Moynihan qualified for the NCAA Championship in the 200 freestyle. She also broke the school record in the 500 freestyle and swam with the 400 free relay team that set a pool record at the Shamrock Invitational meet.

Divers Emma Gaboury, Annie Crea and Lindsey Streepey also competed at the NCAA meet—the first time the Irish have qualified three divers for the national meet.

At the ACC Championship, Alice Treuth took seventh in the 200 backstroke, while Streepey was fourth and Gaboury fifth in three-meter diving.

Quentin Monaghan and Alex Lawson (they ranked 15th nationally) advanced to the semifinals of the NCAA Championship doubles bracket, with both claiming All-America honors. Monaghan also played as far as the final 32 in NCAA singles play.

Monaghan claimed the Arthur Ashe Award from the Intercollegiate Tennis Association for his sportsmanship and leadership. He finished with a 101-47 singles record. Lawson was the Midwest Region’s most improved player.

Monaghan was named to the all-ACC first team for the second year in a row, while junior Josh Hagar made the all-ACC third team.

Notre Dame defeated top-rated North Carolina 5-2 on April 8 inside Eck Tennis Pavilion for the first Irish win over a top-ranked opponent since 1992.
Senior Quinn Gleason qualified for the individual singles bracket as an at-large entry at the NCAA Championship. Gleason was tabbed for the all-ACC second team for the second time in as many seasons, while sophomore Brooke Broda earned a nod on the all-ACC third team.

Since their first appearance in the Division I NCAA Championship in 1993, the Irish have made 23 postseason appearances in 24 seasons—and only twice have the Irish failed to win a first-round match when making the tournament. Broda finished with a 28-2 overall record in 2016, including 22-1 in dual matches playing number-five singles.

Nathan Richartz finished eighth in the pole vault at the NCAA Championship, good for All-America honors. Richartz was the winner in the vault at the ACC Championship at a school-record 17-11. He also was the champion at the Alex Wilson Invitational.

Jake Dumford took fifth in the mile at the ACC meet. Harvey Smith claimed fourth in the 400 meters, while the 4x400-meter relay unit (Smith, Drake Stimson, Pat O’Connell, Alex Groesch) also took fourth.

Matt Birzer was the ACC high jump runner-up, while Brent Swanberg was third in the heptathlon.
**Molly Seidel** doubled at the NCAA Championship with victories in the 5,000- and 3,000-meter races to earn All-America recognition in both events. **Kaila Barber** (sixth in 60-meter hurdles), **Margaret Bamgbose** (fifth in 400 meters) and **Anna Rohrer** (fourth in 5,000 meters) also earned individual event All-America honors.

The Irish distance medley relay team of **Jessica Harris**, **Parker English**, **Jamie Marvil** and **Danielle Aragon** also won All-America recognition with a sixth-place finish.

Notre Dame’s fifth-place team finish marked the best in program history for the Irish women.

**Matthew Birzer** was Notre Dame’s top finisher at the ACC Championship, claiming a red ribbon in the high jump, as Birzer and Hunter Holton both earned all-ACC accolades. Birzer finished second overall (2.17m) and took first-team honors, while Holton claimed sixth (2.08m) and earned second-team honors.

**Drake Stimson** earned second-team all-ACC accolades for his sixth-place finish in the 400m hurdles (52.57), while **Alex Groesch** finished seventh in the 400m (47.95). **Anthony Shivers** finished fifth and earned second team all-ACC honors in the men’s discus (55.25m).

**Senior Brent Swanberg** finished fifth in the decathlon to merit second-team all-ACC honors.

Shivers shattered the school record in the men’s hammer throw at the ACC Championship with his third-place performance at 65.06m.
SEASONS IN REVIEW

WOMEN’S OUTDOOR

TRACK & FIELD

5th ACC Championship

9th Final Ranking (USTFCCCA)

7th in ACC Championship

Tie for 25th in NCAA Championship

HEAD COACH
Alan Turner

ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH
Matt Sparks

ASSISTANT COACHES
Adam Baltran
Sean Carlson
Jim Garnham
Prisitina Jones

CAPTAINS
Danielle Aragon
Margaret Bamgbose
Lena Madison

Five Irish emerged with first-team All-America scrolls. Margaret Bamgbose and Kaila Barber both claimed individual first-team All-America honors. Bamgbose earned a career-best finish in the 400-meter dash at the NCAA Championships, clocking 51.57 to take fourth place. Bamgbose claimed her third career first-team All-America scroll in an individual outdoor NCAA event, as she placed in the top six of the NCAA 400m dash for the third straight season. Barber crossed the line in 56.54 to place eighth.

Bamgbose joined Parker English, Payton Miller and Jordan Shead in the 4x400m relay, finishing 3:33.95 to place sixth, securing Bamgbose dual first-team All-America accolades and clinching inaugural career first-team honors for English, Miller and Shead.

Carly Loeffel wrapped up Notre Dame entrants at the national meet with 19th place in the heptathlon.

Barber won blue ribbons at the ACC Championship in both the 100-meter hurdles and 400-meter hurdles, with her 100-meter time of 56.81 breaking the school record. Bamgbose came in second in the 400m (51.17) and fourth in the 200m (23.44). Her 400 time broke her own school record (51.37).

The women’s team cheered on two second-team all-ACC relays, as the 4x100m team of Barber, English, Kyla Lewis and Bamgbose took third in :44.43. English, Barber, Shead and Bamgbose raced together in the 4x400m, taking second (3:31.86).

Indi Jackson earned second-team all-ACC honors for her fourth place in the shot put (15.62m).

VOLLEYBALL

7-25
2-18 (ACC)

14th in ACC

HEAD COACH
Jim McLaughlin

ASSOCIATE HEAD COACH
Mike Johnson

ASSISTANT COACH
Katie Wilson

CAPTAINS
Katie Higgins
Madie Diller
Natalie Johnson

Sam Fry became the first second-team all-ACC selection in Irish volleyball history, while first-year player Meg Morningstar earned a spot on the league’s all-freshman team. It marked the first time two Irish players earned regular-season conference recognition in the same year since Notre Dame joined the ACC in 2013.

Fry played in all 121 sets and led the Irish in kills (353), kills per set (2.92), solo blocks (12), block assists (114), total blocks (126), blocks per set (1.04) and points (441.0).

She is one of just three Irish players since 2008 to total 300–plus kills and 100–plus blocks in a season and one of just nine Notre Dame student-athletes to accomplish the feat since 2001.

Morningstar played in 98 sets and posted 116 kills (1.18 per set) and 90 blocks (0.92 per set) to go along with a team-high .235 attack percentage. Her finest performance came on the defensive end against Temple, where she sent back 11 blocks, most by a Notre Dame player since 2013.
DRAFTEES

Baseball
Major League Baseball
Cavan Biggio: 5th round Toronto Blue Jays
Tori Hunter Jr.: 23rd round Los Angeles Angels

Men’s Basketball
National Basketball Association
Demetrius Jackson: 2nd round Boston Celtics

Football
National Football League
Ronnie Stanley: 1st round Baltimore Ravens (6th pick)
Will Fuller: 1st round Houston Texans (21st pick)
Jaylon Smith: 2nd round Dallas Cowboys

Men’s Soccer
Major League Soccer
Nick Martin: 2nd round Houston Texans
Kel’Varios: 3rd round Kansas City Chiefs
C.J. Prosise: 3rd round Seattle Seahawks
Sheldon Day: 4th round Jacksonville Jaguars

Men’s Lacrosse
Major League Lacrosse
Matt Landis: 1st round Florida Launch (3rd pick)
Matt Kavanagh: 1st round Denver Outlaws (5th pick)

Women’s Soccer
National Women’s Soccer League
Cari Roccaro: 1st round Houston Dash (5th pick)

Hockey
National Hockey League
Andrew Peck: 2nd round Columbus Blue Jackets (34th pick)
Cameron Morrison: 2nd round Colorado Avalanche (40th pick)

Irish Join Big Ten Hockey
Notre Dame has accepted sport affiliate membership into the Big Ten Conference for men’s ice hockey and will begin Big Ten play with the 2017-18 season. Notre Dame will join Michigan, Michigan State, Minnesota, Ohio State, Penn State and Wisconsin to form a seven-team hockey conference. Notre Dame has been a member of the Hockey East Association since the 2013-14 season and will continue to compete in that league for one additional season in 2016-17. Prior to joining Hockey East, Notre Dame played in the Central Collegiate Hockey Association (CCHA). The Irish had two stints in the CCCHA, first playing from 1981-83 and then again from 1992-93 through the 2012-13 season. During that time, the Irish won both CCCHA regular-season and postseason tournament titles in 2007 and 2009 and competed against Michigan, Michigan State and Ohio State. From 1971-72 to 1980-81, the Notre Dame competed alongside Michigan, Michigan State, Minnesota and Wisconsin in the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA).

Litzinger Now Directs Both Swimming Programs
Mike Litzinger, who spent his first season as Irish women’s swimming head coach in 2015-16 in addition to handling the men’s swimming head coaching role on an interim basis, now is head coach of both programs. The Irish men and women moving forward will operate as part of a combined program for swimming and diving, similar to all other ACC institutions.
One of Notre Dame’s primary objectives is to support and improve athletic performance through the application of science, medicine and technology. Central to this is a philosophy that works to create systems and structures to maximize the impact of technical expertise, environments, technology and service delivery on an athlete’s ability to optimize performance. Sports performance staff members are empowered to gain insights through athlete monitoring and profiling that allow implementation of positive interventions. Here are details of key 2015-16 initiatives:

- **Derin McMains**, director of mental conditioning, joined the sports performance staff in November 2015. He serves as a resource to support coaching staffs from all sports on matters relating to peak performance and mental conditioning.

- **Dr. Duncan French**, director of performance sciences, arrived in January 2016. He works across all sports to provide a technical interface between coaches and support services, as well as coordinating the sports science initiatives that support competitive advantage.

- **CoachMePlus** is an app-based platform now providing the sports performance staff and coaches with the opportunity to centralize collected data. The system enables athletes to report data on a daily or scheduled basis as well as providing the opportunity to visualize and report that information to sports performance team members, coaches and athletes.

- **Fusionetics** provides specific interventions for each athlete based on screenings in which the created intervention is designed to help create symmetry for athletes and enable them to move “better” and more efficiently.

- **About 150 undergraduate student members from a variety of majors have joined the newly formed Sports Analytics Club. A select group of these students will be working alongside staff from a variety of sports to help undertake data analytics and data mining that will serve to inform coaches and support staff.

- **Matt Howley**, director of sports science, coordinates use of Catapult (GPS), providing objective external load data. Used across seven teams, including football, it provides an understanding of each sport and the physical demands required of it, then linking those details to practice plans. The aim is to assist coaches in planning practice sessions to ensure optimal performance in games, and to enable appropriate levels of training stress to be applied to athletes. Catapult also monitors physical performance to understand if an athlete may become overtrained or is undertraining. It assists in return-to-play protocols ensuring athletes are where they need to be prior to returning from injury—and it makes interventions to decrease the risk of injury.

- **Sleep monitoring and research with the Sleep, Stress and Memory Lab on campus produces specific research as it pertains to athletes and their athletic performance.**

- **The latest new technology central to sports science portfolios is a markerless motion capture system used to generate “movement blueprints” for every athlete.** These will accurately direct efforts for each individual to minimize injury and enhance performance. This tool will roll out for the 2016-17 academic year.

- **Force plate assessments enable profiles of athletes as it pertains to their physical abilities, trainability and fatigue.** The long-term goal is to be able to profile athletes on the plate to understand how they compare to previous/other current athletes, how a training intervention has impacted their physical qualities—and how fatigue is impacting their ability to perform. Through partnerships with the NHL Buffalo Sabres and ongoing conversations with departments on campus (including computer engineering) an algorithm will assist in providing additional usable information in these areas. Strength and conditioning coach Geoff Dus gained an on a successful grant application with Notre Dame professor Patrick Quinn from computer sciences to explore bespoke force-plate applications within the weight room setting.

- **Fusionetics** provides specific interventions for each athlete based on

- **The majority of teams, including football, collect and assess wellness questionnaire data which enables understanding of what is impacting athletes on a day-to-day basis, how they are coping with stress and how they are recovering and adapting to training on a day-to-day/week-to-week basis.**

- **RPE (Rating of Perceived Exertion) data is collected across four sports.** RPE is the athlete rating for each session completed, whether it be practice, games (competition), strength and conditioning or rehab sessions. With this information training loads are developed for given sessions based on the athletes’ perception of the difficulty of the session.

- **As a marker of internal load or response to training, heart rate monitoring is utilized with five teams, including hockey, which acquired the latest heart-rate monitoring technology to inform staff about physiological demands placed on athletes. The goal is to understand what it costs an athlete by performing a specific effort.**

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Study Abroad Programs
Notre Dame in 2015 added additional study abroad programs in spring and summer time periods outside of summer school—and that has enabled a number of Irish athletes to participate. In 2016, 11 Notre Dame athletes (from nine sports) participated in the South Africa program, six traveled to Jerusalem (two sessions), four to Brazil and four to Greece.

Rosenthal Leadership Academy
The 2015-16 version of the Rosenthal Leadership Academy included 128 participants across all 26 Irish varsity programs. The program included six workshops and three overnight retreats. Targeted growth areas included embracing leadership challenges, overcoming perfectionism and fear of failure, maximizing potential by providing and receiving feedback, initiating communication, maximizing team potential and fostering a championship culture.

Notre Dame Christian Athletes
Sixty Notre Dame athletes representing all 26 teams attended weekly meetings to provide a place of refuge to inspire spiritual growth and community.

Student-Athlete Advisory Council
Seventy-nine athletes across all sports enriched the overall athletic experience by contributing in the areas of community, camaraderie, career, communication and character. Irish track standout Kaila Barber represented the University by serving as one of three Atlantic Coast Conference representatives voting on NCAA autonomy legislation. Officers in 2015-16 were president Katharine McNamus (women’s lacrosse), vice president Corey Robinson (football) and secretary Emily Geyer (women’s soccer). Katie Higgins (volleyball), Chris Hubbard (men’s soccer), Lena Madison (women’s track and field) and Katie Sieron (rowing) served as career chairs. Casey African (softball) and Jane Fennelly (women’s tennis) served as community service chairs. Hannah Huffman (women’s basketball), Danielle Lukish (women’s lacrosse) and Drew Recker (football) were the forum chairs. Josh Nagler (men’s tennis), Ryan Lopez (cheerleading) and Karley Weston (softball) were the IrishOn3 chairs—and Sydney Golic (women’s swimming) and Gloria Williams (women’s soccer) served as Through-Ini/Idyes chairs.

Student Welfare and Development

These were other student welfare and development programming pieces:
- Football player Drew Recker initiated a Student-Athlete Pageant in Club NaNoM with Bo Brauer (hockey) and Olivia Perham (rowing) crowned as winners among the participants representing 14 sports.
- The goal of the pageant is to highlight the depth of talents and strengths student-athletes possess beyond their sports.
- All 26 teams participated in an August “Welcome Back BBQ” which also included a drop-off point for the ACE School Supply Drive.
- Football player Ke’Varae Russell continued the Instagram account “Get To Know Me” he initiated to encourage people at Notre Dame to engage with each other by asking questions, rejecting judgments and getting to know one another.
- The Irish women’s tennis, rowing and cheerleading teams won the IrishOn3 competition for 2015-16 for their support of other teams and athletics—with senior cheerleader Ryan Lopez winning individual recognition for a third straight year.
- The Notre Dame hockey, men’s and women’s basketball and men’s and women’s lacrosse teams worked with the Gender Relations Center and student affairs to hold action events highlighting the Green Dot campaign to promote violence prevention.
- Track and field athlete Lina Madison served as host of a One Love Escalation Workshop to help activate the campus in a movement to end relationship violence.
- The Fighting Irish Career Institute held two career events to connect athletes with various companies such as Accenture, E&J Gallo and Evicore—with more than 175 students participating.
- Ongoing programs included the Summer Bridge Orientation and First Year Orientation—with both events designed to provide student welfare and development details, sports performance programming and background on campus partners to new athletes, parents and guardians. The IBS first-year athletes heard from a panel of upper-class athletes and athletics staff and were paired with peer mentors. In addition, Positive Transition Seminar provided teams and athletes with opportunities to promote social connect-edness and purposeful goal-setting.
- The McDonald Center for Student Well-Being helped create drug and alcohol student welfare and development details, sports performance programming and background on campus partners to new athletes, parents and guardians. The IBS first-year athletes heard from a panel of upper-class athletes and athletics staff and were paired with peer mentors. In addition, Positive Transition Seminar provided teams and athletes with opportunities to promote social connect-edness and purposeful goal-setting.
- The McDonald Center for Student Well-Being helped create drug and alcohol recovery programs tailored per team.
- Ongoing programming provided teams and athletes with opportunities to promote social connect-edness and purposeful goal-setting.
- More than 60 athletes walked regularly with residents of the Homeless Center to create relationship-ships and promote healthy lifestyles and positive decision-making.
- The One Shit One Body campaign originated at Notre Dame by Andrew Helmin (formerly track and field) and Corey Robinson (football) provided a program where college athletes at schools all over the country could donate their extra athletic gear and also visit schools to talk about the importance of goals, hopes and dreams and hard work.

Community service work by Notre Dame teams and individuals included a record 12,422 hours (a fourth consecutive record-breaking year), highlighted by these projects:
- Fifty-seven Notre Dame athletes worked with 140 fourth-graders from Farley Primary Fine Arts Academy and McKinley Primary Center (in partnership with St. Joseph Regional Medical Center) as part of This Counts Camp, a health initiative designed to promote physical activity.
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For a decade the Mendelson Fund for Athletics Excellence has provided incremental dollars and non-budgeted funding for Notre Dame’s Olympic sports programs. The fund generates annual income to assist Irish coaches in supporting the development of their athletes and ultimately increasing the visibility of their programs. The fund’s market value stands at more than $2.9 million. These are projects approved in 2015-16:

October 2015 Approved Items

**MEN’S LACROSSE**
- 8 NormaTec Chairs
- advanced rehab and recovery system $14,800
- Norma Tec Attachments $800
- 2 E Stim Units created for elite athletes for sport specific rehabilitation and performance optimization $1000
- 8 Norma Tec $12,000

**BASEBALL**
- Home Plate Premier programmable pitching machine that can simulate nearly any pitch a batter could face $4,999

**FENCING**
- 3 Pro Floating Tripods used to improve video quality $4,067.31
- Video Equipment Protection $1,198.85

**WOMEN’S SOCCER**
- 2 NormaTec Bilateral Hip advanced rehab and recovery system $1,080
- Battery Charger $144
- 4 Battery Packs $558
- PULSE Recovery Package Short $1,194.99
- PULSE Lower body Recovery $1,309.45

**WOMEN’S LACROSSE**
- 3 PULSE Recover Systems and cases, PULSE Lower Body Recovery Packages advanced rehab and recovery system $10,812

May 2016 Approved Items

**WOMEN’S LACROSSE**
- Bexel Camera System Remote camera system $41,015

**HOCKEY**
- 2 Polar Team Pro Sets heart rate monitoring system $20,397.60
- Polar Team Pro Sensors (10) $3,467.50
- Polar Team Pro Licensing Fee $2,500
- Polar Onside Training and Install $1,875
- A300 black (30) $2,099.10
- iPads $956

**BASEBALL**
- Triple Play Pitching Machine portable pitching machine $2,400

**VOLLEYBALL**
- Film computer Upgrade $769
- Kaiser Bikes (2) $2,611.94
- iP Camera $699.10

**SWIMMING AND DIVING**
- Lower and Upper Diving Platforms $31,866

**WOMEN’S SOCCER**
- Portable Electrical Stim Units (2) created for elite athletes for sport specific rehabilitation and performance optimization $6,990
- Hawk Grip Gold Set facilitates soft tissue healing $2,895

**TRACK AND FIELD**
- Extended Warranty for 2 Anti-Gravity Treadmill Units $3,900
- Alter G treadmill—shorten recovery time, reduce injury and improve mobility $3,900