

THE blarney stone

A PUBLICATION FOR THE COMMUNITY
OF NOTRE DAME PREPARATORY SCHOOL
AND MARIST ACADEMY

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Soaring to new heights at Notre Dame

A bevy of staff members, teachers, parents, alumni and friends is working to take Notre Dame to its 'highest destiny.'

The past couple of years have seen a real uptick in overall philanthropy in this country. For example, total donations from individuals, foundations and corporations in the U.S. rose in 2015 to over \$373 billion, a 10-percent increase over 2013, which is helping to get things back to levels of giving not seen since before the Great Recession.

Studies show that more of these philanthropic donations have been channeled toward education than to any other sector of American society, with the exception of religion. And that has been the case since before the U.S. was a nation. The country's first college, which was donor supported, was created in 1636—nearly as early as some of America's first permanent towns.

The first "public" schools in the U.S., which were actually funded by private investors and donors looking to make the New World more desirable for emigrants, opened in 1640.

From the 17th century to 2017, from preschool through university, individual donations have been behind many of America's best educational innovations and institutions. And Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy is no different.

Take Brad and Jill Seitzinger, parents of an 8th grader and 11th grader at Notre Dame.

"We've been part of NDPMA for going on 11 years now," said Jill Seitzinger. "And we couldn't be happier. We started in the



In the near future, school administrators say, there is a need not only for more classrooms in the middle and upper divisions, but additional science labs, student learning centers, collaboration zones and faculty work rooms.

lower division and now we have a student in both the middle and upper divisions."

She said that Notre Dame "is a phenomenal school and everyone here truly lives the mission," she said. "Both our children are thriving not only academically, but as good Christian people and upright citizens. We are very happy with Notre Dame."

Anyone connected to fundraising in a professional capacity will tell you that happy "customers" don't always make generous donors. But for the Seitzingers, it just makes sense to ensure that what their kids have experienced is available for other students coming up "through the ranks."

Brad and Jill have been generous supporters of the school over the years, and as Notre Dame looks for more growth in the future, they've taken steps to help ensure that future.

"I feel very proud to be a part of any next phase that helps the school accomplish its mission and grow," said Brad Seitzinger. "I've always believed that you live a life by what you earn, and you make a life by what you give. We feel blessed in our lives and want to be a part of giving back and helping this school to continue to grow and succeed in the way it has since it was founded."

Please see MISSION, page 3

Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy provides its diverse student body a Catholic and internationally recognized college-preparatory experience of lasting value.



WITH THE HELP OF THE 'HOLY SPIRIT,'
THE MIDDLE DIVISION GETS NEW
MEMBER OF THE NOTRE DAME FAMILY.

‘Iron Arrow’ alum

Notre Dame grad’s membership in university organization called ‘highest honor’



Connor Verheyen '13 (NDP), middle, back row, who currently is majoring in biomedical engineering at the University of Miami, was invited into the university's prestigious Iron Arrow Honor Society.

Connor Verheyen, a 2013 graduate of Notre Dame Preparatory School and current student at the University of Miami in Florida, has been invited into the university's Iron Arrow Honor Society, which recognizes students who “exemplify five qualities based on the Seminole Indian tradition: love of alma mater, character, leadership, scholarship and humility.”

Established in 1926, the society is considered the “highest honor attained at the University of Miami.”

Selections for Iron Arrow typically are made from undergrad students, grad students, law-school students, med-school students, faculty, and staff. Once “tapped” for the honor, they are charged with keeping a fire going, and keeping a constant drum beat for 24 hours. They also wear colorful jackets for a week, followed by an elaborate initiation ceremony.

Verheyen majored in biomedical engineering at Miami and is pursuing a PhD in biomedical engineering.

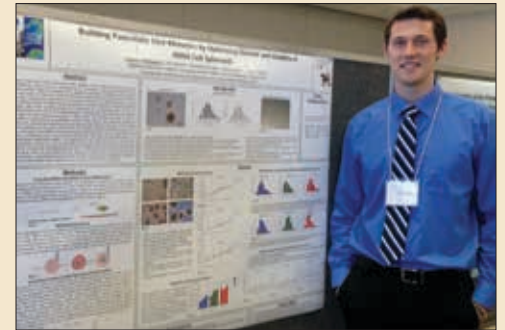
Last year, he was chosen to present his undergrad research on an important biomedical engineering project at the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES) annual meeting in Tampa.

Besides biomedical engineering, Verheyen said he also has interests in business and leadership.

“Ideally, my future career would be at the intersection of medicine, scientific research, engineering and business,” he said, which he admits is a very busy intersection.

As to how he’s managing to negotiate such a busy intersection in college so far, Verheyen gives much credit to his high school.

“Notre Dame definitely strengthened my time-management skills while cultivating an interest in many different, seemingly unrelated fields and classes,” he said. “Research takes time and dedication, so the ability to manage my limited time has helped me tremendously. Additionally, a biomedical engineer must have an interest and proficiency in multiple and disparate fields. My Notre Dame experience prepared me very well for that type of thinking.”



A year ago at Miami, Verheyen was chosen to present his research on an important biomedical engineering project at the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES) annual meeting in Tampa.

TO GROW IS TO 'ADVANCE'

Since the school was founded in 1994, Notre Dame's advancement office has been both a tireless and critical part of school operations. In fact, if not for advancement,



Jill and Brad Seitzinger, parents of an 8th grader and 11th grader at Notre Dame, said they want to be a part of giving back and helping the school to continue to grow and succeed in the way it has since it was founded.

tuition at Notre Dame would be much higher than it is currently.

While the primary role of advancement is to "advance" the mission of the school, i.e., with God, to "form Christian people, upright citizens and academic scholars," it does so by providing not only important fundraising services, it also helps Notre Dame with marketing, alumni relations, special events, public relations and school communications.

Gregory Simon, who is in the advancement office as director of the school's Notre Dame Fund, was one of the first teachers on campus when the school first opened. He also has served as director of admissions, so he's had a pretty good view of the many aspects of NDPMA — and its many needs.

"I moved over to advancement because I thought I could help," he said. "Despite the cost of tuition, a school of this quality is a very expensive proposition. If I could do a little to help keep class sizes down, increase pay and training for teachers, increase the amount available for scholarships and financial aid, help bolster funding for the arts, athletics, and activities, then my move to the advancement office would be worth it."

Simon also said he works in advancement because of how much he loved Harper Woods Notre Dame, which closed in 2005. "As an alum of that school, when I saw it close, it broke my heart. And I will never let that happen to another Notre Dame or Marist school if I can do something to help."

NDPMA, on the other hand, has been

witness to a very healthy growth over the years. And, it's precisely because of this kind of growth that the school now faces a real need to expand the school's footprint.

According to Andy Guest, NDPMA's interim president, the need for more space is indeed real.

"Our vision is that we continue to grow the school — not necessarily in number of students — but in the quality of our academic, arts and athletic programs, our facilities, teacher compensation, teacher training, and in financial aid that we are able to offer families," he said. "In September, we broke ground on a six-classroom addition to our lower division at a cost of \$1.1 million dollars. This will round out the number of sections per grade and provide space for our special sections such as art, language and reading in the lower division."

In the near future, Guest said, he sees a need for more classrooms in the middle and upper divisions, science labs, student learning centers, collaboration zones and faculty work rooms.

"Also, we'd like to provide more space for our world-class robotics team, so that more kids can learn and excel in science, technology and engineering," he said. "Plus, we're looking to build a bona fide art studio, so students can expand and grow their creativity."

He also said the school has been discussing a greenhouse so that the upper division can introduce botanical sciences to its environmental science curriculum. And in NDPMA's master plan, according to Guest, the school's board has identified the need for more athletic space in the form of another gymnasium as well as an athletic stadium with its own integrated track and field.

LOTS OF PLANS = LOTS OF HARD WORK

Robynn James is Notre Dame's senior philanthropy officer and works out of the school's advancement office. She says her job in seeking out larger donations to help affect some of the school's big plans is a true labor of love.

"This doesn't feel like hard work to me at all because in my role I get to reach out and spend time with some great and generous people every day," she said. "When we get together and I tell them about how our school is nearing its capacity, and that

students are lacking collaboration space and teachers sometimes need to move from one classroom to another with carts, the parents and alumni understand how important these plans are to the life of the school.

"Beyond that, the additional art studio, robotics lab and greenhouse are exciting additions that everyone clearly understands will enhance the educational experience of the students," she added. "Since our community is made up of generous, faith-filled people, I have found that their natural impulse is to help the school."

Guest said there are many more things that he and the board of trustees would like to do to help the school advance, but they know that they have to take it one project at a time.

"The important thing is we need to expand in a way that is financially responsible," said Guest, who also serves as Notre Dame's executive vice president and director of advancement. "Solid, prudent management is the key to success. And, as stewards of our mission, it is our responsibility as parents, alum parents, grandparents, board members, alumni and friends to



Jill Seitzinger said NDPMA is a phenomenal school where everyone truly lives its mission.

make sure that we are doing everything we can to ensure that Notre Dame, our Catholic school, reaches its highest destiny."

If the Seitzingers are any indication, Notre Dame's destiny and future are in good hands.

"Originally we had a friend who referred us to take a look at the school, which at that time for us, was the lower division," recalled Brad Seitzinger. "We did appreciate the Christian focus and the school's overall emphasis on academics and citizenship. And we've been very happy the last 11 years having our kids come up through this great institution, and we're pleased to be able help pave the way for many more students in years to come." 🇺🇸

Everything she needed in a high school

Junior knew Notre Dame was the right fit for her as soon as she walked in the door



When Emily Byrd first came to the Notre Dame campus, she knew she'd found a place that offers everything she needed in a high school. Its academics, of course, were without question the very best in southeast Michigan. But Notre Dame's sense of family also was a big deal to her. In fact, she quickly learned that the school's cadre of teachers, counselors, students and coaches were always at the ready to help her through whatever she might encounter.

And, she discovered, it wasn't just about work and study.

"Notre Dame balances academics with fun," she said. "Students are challenged to thrive in classes, but every day we're also encouraged to show school spirit through many social events."

Byrd's typical day includes a full plate of classes and extracurriculars. Her courses include AP Composition, Morality, AP Psychology, Spanish, Chemistry, Algebra 3/4, and Women's Chorus. Her "extras" include participation in the Drama Club (she was in NDP's latest musical), cross country, peer ministry and the National Honor Society. Plus, she serves in the elite group of Notre Dame "marketers" called the student ambassadors. Wow!

But let's let Byrd herself finish up this profile by explaining why this junior from Rochester has made Notre Dame a huge part of her extended family. . .

I came to Notre Dame because. . .

. . . I loved the opportunities, the Christian values and the academics. NDP called me to turn over a new leaf and discover what I wanted to accomplish. I came here to meet new people, to find who I truly am, and to learn under the influence of great scholars, leaders and Christians. I knew the moment I stepped in the door I would find all of this at NDP.

I didn't realize it at first, but I came to learn that Notre Dame. . .

. . . is a family. No matter if we struggle, have disappointments or bad days, NDP has built a community of people who are ready to lend a helping hand. As a freshman, I felt that I had to handle problems on my own. Boy, was I wrong! Every faculty member, coach and student is always willing to offer guidance for navigating high school.

Notre Dame is different from other schools because. . .

. . . it balances academics with fun. Students are challenged to thrive in classes, but every day we're also encouraged to show school spirit through many social events. I am truly grateful for the ability to be involved in both high-level academics and social activities at NDP.

I would use these three words to describe my academic experience at Notre Dame so far:

Challenging, engaging, interesting

The best/most interesting class I've taken at Notre Dame is. . .

. . . AP Psychology, with Mr. Smith. I've always been intrigued by this subject, and I also enjoy how the class is set up like a college

course. Every day I learn something about myself that I had never known before, and I find that that fits right into the goal of figuring out one's self in high school.

The most fun experience I've had so far at Notre Dame is. . .

. . . Irish Week. It's fun to compete against the other grades while bonding with my own classmates. I enjoy watching everyone get into the games and show lots of effort. My favorite game to watch is cageball, and I like playing it, too!

I am able to balance schoolwork, sports, clubs and activities at Notre Dame because. . .

. . . the great teachers, staff and students help ease the craziness. I feel comfortable enough to ask a teacher for help. I feel confident enough to speak to the faculty and coaches on a personal basis. I also feel at ease when relating to other students and what we're experiencing. We all interact as a family.

Notre Dame has been a great fit for me because. . .

. . . I am surrounded by wonderful people who are helpful, kind and outgoing. The welcoming nature and strong personal touches drew me to the school.

Notre Dame has helped me become a Christian person through. . .

. . . the opportunities for Christian service and faith formation. I am a part of Peer Ministry, Champions for Life, and a club specifically for service. I feel God's presence on a daily basis here, especially when I interact with others. I am so in-tune with my faith here. My experience at NDP really has taken it to a new level.

Notre Dame has helped me become an upright citizen through. . .

. . . learning about responsibility. NDP is all about making sure students are responsible in handling time management, interacting with others, and managing social situations. All of these skills contribute to producing well-rounded, upright citizens who are prepared for the future.

Notre Dame has helped me become an academic scholar through. . .

. . . the challenging classes. My classes not only allow me to explore new subjects and ideas, but also they teach me to be a better person.

I know when I graduate from Notre Dame I will leave feeling. . .

. . . prepared for the "real world," both academically and socially. NDP is preparing me to be my best self. I am proud to be experiencing such a wonderful school. 🇺🇸



Notre Dame junior Emily Byrd has been heavily involved with the school's theatre program and was in November's musical, "Anything Goes."

Robotics team earns no. 3 world ranking

Lower and middle division robotics teams excel at weekend tourney hosted by Notre Dame.

Notre Dame hosted a big tournament event last month as part of the VEX IQ Challenge series, presented by the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation, a relatively new STEM program designed for elementary and middle school students (ages 8-14).

According to one of Notre Dame's VEX IQ Bumble Bees parent mentors, teams from as far away as Toronto came to NDPMA to compete in the event, which was threatened by adverse weather conditions.



Notre Dame's VEX IQ robotics team, 3333B, a.k.a. "The Engineers who say Ni," earned a third-place world ranking after a December competition.

"The weatherman was predicting a snow storm follow by freezing rain, but that didn't stop us," said Jerry Palardy said. "It was a big day for robotics at NDPMA, with all three divisions competing at home." Notre Dame's Killer Bees, the school's high school robotics team, also hosted a competition during the same weekend.

The Bumble Bees were very proud to show off their robotics creations in more than 100 qualifying matches, programming skills and driving skills competitions even before the final events took place.

"Teams also created their own STEM Project and Design notebooks," said Palardy, which are then presented to a panel of judges from local engineering companies.

To prepare for the finals on that Saturday, Vex IQ teams were paired up as 'alliance partners' based on their ranking in the qualification matches. Heading into the finals, it looked like it would be a showdown between the #1 Alliance consisting of Bumble Bees teams 3333B "The Engineers who say Ni," and 3333Q "Squadra," and the #2 Alliance consisting of the 3333Y "Yellow Jackets" and 1140Z "Discobots from Canada."

However, the #6 Alliance, which consisted of Bumble Bees teams 3333J "Code Crushers" and 3333V "The Vipers, surprised everyone and pulled off an epic upset.

Bumble Bees team 3333B, "The Engineers who say Ni," earned a high placement in the world rankings after Saturday's competition. Their robot, which is called "I am Arthur, King of the Britons," were on a quest from the very beginning for the Holy Grail of all autonomous and driving skills routines.

"Their combined score of 128 points earned them a third-place ranking in the world,' Palardy said. "And just two points out of first place! Getting into the top ten halfway through a season is an amazing feat. That puts them ahead of 2185 teams worldwide that have entered the skills competition so far this year."

Among the awards collected on Saturday at the VEX IQ Challenge at Notre Dame:

- Excellence Award Middle School: 3333B "The Engineers who say Ni"
- Excellence Award Elementary: 3333T "The Terminators"
- Teamwork Champion: 3333J "Code Crushers"
- Teamwork Champion: 3333V "The Vipers"
- Design Award: 3333J: "Code Crushers"
- STEM Research Project Award: 3333X "The X-Factor"
- Robot Skill Champion Award: 3333B: "The Engineers who say Ni"
- Judges Award: 3333Y "Yellow Jackets"

In addition, teams 3333J, 3333V, and 3333X each earned their spot in the upcoming Michigan State Championship. Notre Dame now has six teams that have qualified for "states" (including 3333T, 3333B, and 3333P), with eight other teams working hard and hoping to earn their spot. 🇺🇸

7th grader gets award from national publication

Congratulations to Notre Dame 7th-grader Jaimie Krankel, who was named a winner of Scholastic Inc. SCOPE magazine's Phone Manners Guide contest.

Krankel's phone guide also earned her a copy of the book, "Echo," by Pam Muñoz Ryan.

"We loved your creative and artful guide to helping others improve their social etiquette when using technology," Kristin Lewis, executive editor of SCOPE magazine, said to Krankel. "Your organization and clear presentation of information were both excellent. Great work!"

Kelly Patterson, a 7th grade teacher at Notre Dame, said all the 7th graders read an article about phone etiquette throughout the generations in the September issue of SCOPE. "The students then were challenged to create an etiquette guide for today's youth," she said. "We're very proud of Jaimie." 🇺🇸



Jaimie Krankel, a Notre Dame 7th grader, holds her award from Scholastic SCOPE magazine and the book she won as a result of her entry in the magazine's Phone Manners Guide contest.

Alum and author publishes new children's book

A new children's book by NDP alum Kelsey (Ellsasser) Fox ('06) that teaches young readers about the importance of trying new things has recently been published and is available online and in local bookstores.

Called "Just try it Wyatt," the book is the first in a planned series of books by the author featuring Wyatt, the red fox, who is very set

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The Holy Spirit and a new teacher

With the help of the ‘Holy Spirit,’ the middle division gets new member of the Notre Dame family

It was December of last year when Notre Dame middle-division Principal Jill Mistretta first received an email from a teacher who was living in South Korea and inquiring about a job at NDPMA.

“We jokingly now refer to that email as the ‘cold-call email,’” said Mistretta. “But I’m positive the Holy Spirit guided me directly to what was terrific opportunity for our school.”

Now, because of that “terrific opportunity,” the middle division’s new math teacher, David Morehead, is back living in southeast Michigan and, most importantly, is helping to redefine math for the NDPMA’s middle schoolers.

“The challenge of making math class enjoyable and helping the students understand the purpose of math is something I thoroughly enjoy,” said Morehead, who grew up in Royal Oak and graduated from Michigan State University’s College of Engineering. “Making math class enjoyable

that teaching would complement my personality and provide me ultimately with a rewarding career.”

Morehead’s first foray into education as a career started a long way from Pontiac, however.

“Before Notre Dame, I had taught at two other international schools, both in Seoul, South Korea,” he said. “I wanted to live in Asia so working at an international school was a great way to start my teaching career and experience living in a new country.”

That experience also led Morehead to his wife, Hyesu, who he met while in South Korea.

“Hyesu and I had so much in common, including a love for food and taking those trips back then to Thailand to escape the ‘Michigan-esque’ winters of Korea,” he said. “But now, after being away from Michigan for close to a decade, it is wonderful to be back and to be working at Notre Dame!”

According to Mistretta, in the classroom, Morehead really strives to help his students be curious about math — not just to follow memorized steps to find solutions — but to categorize problems based on what they look like and to apply the best “recipe” to solve them.

“Kids love his class,” she said. “Over the summer David shared with me an article that he refers to each year before the start of school. It’s a progressive math-related piece (maybe too way out for some math teachers) which, in my opinion, is the direction schools should be headed. In fact, the author of that article is referenced in a book I am very familiar with: ‘Most Likely to Succeed; Preparing our Kids for the Innovation Era,’ whose author, Tony Wagner, was a featured speaker at the Nov. 3-4 ISACS Annual Conference in Columbus.”

Clearly succeeding at his current job at Notre Dame, Morehead said his first impressions of Notre Dame upon his arrival on campus were very positive. He said the school seemed to have a



Before becoming a teacher, Morehead was an engineer in the metals industry. He said he and his wife look forward to vacations in Asia.

“great aura” about it.

“I felt very comfortable on my first visit to the school because of the people I met and the beautiful campus,” he said. “After that first visit, I knew Notre Dame was the school at which I wanted to work. I am so happy I became part of the Notre Dame family!”

But, we still wondered, what would Morehead like to do now if he wasn’t a teacher.

“Perhaps I could be an entrepreneur, maybe start a gym for kickboxing and taekwondo with my wife,” he said. “My wife has 10 black belts and I have zero, so I guess she would be the boss! But creating a family business would be a great experience.”

For her part, Mistretta is quite pleased this math teacher is now a member of the Notre Dame family.

“The connections between David and Notre Dame are many,” she said. “They once again are constant reminders to me that Mary guides what we do here and protects the students of our school.” 🙏



David Morehead, who teaches 6th-grade math, honors math and 7th-grade math in Notre Dame’s middle division, met his wife, Hyesu, while living and working in South Korea.

and helping the students understand the purpose of math is a big part of what I do.”

Even though teaching seemingly is all-consuming for Morehead now, it wasn’t his first career choice out of college.

“I worked in the metals industry for about 10 years prior to becoming a teacher,” he said. “I had a feeling I wanted to make a career change so I started tutoring in math part time. I knew soon enough

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in his ways, but discovers that trying new things can be fun and exciting.

According to Fox, the second book in the “Adventures of Wyatt” series will be called “Please be quiet Wyatt,” where the little fox learns when and where he needs to be quiet and that it’s important to let others have a turn to speak, too.

Fox has been busy since graduating from Notre Dame in 2006. She received a BS in elementary education from Oakland University and worked as a kindergarten teacher initially and now is a part-time 4/5 ELA (English language arts) teacher in Royal Oak. She married Steven Fox and they have a baby boy, Cody, who was born in March.

She’s also doing a book-signing tour to help boost book sales.

Her book “Just try it Wyatt” can be found currently at The Funky Monkey in Oxford and Toyology in Royal Oak. It retails for \$8 and according to Fox, the book not only entertains young readers, it informs them.

“As a teacher, I want to make sure that each book I write has a learning element in it,” she said. “In ‘Just try it Wyatt,’ you will find an informational page on the red fox along with an interactive writing activity.”



Notre Dame alum Kelsey (Ellsasser) Fox ('06) has published “Please Be Quiet Wyatt,” the second book in the “Adventures of Wyatt” series, after “Just try it, Wyatt,” shown above.

She said all of her book characters are based on students she has known through her teaching career, or children of friends, or, of course, family.

“I love to incorporate what I know into my work because it helps

make stories that the reader can not only relate to, but teaches them some life lessons.”

Fox also said that NDP had a hand in her creativity and success.

“I took many art and design classes while at Prep and my teachers were always very encouraging,” she said.

Her website, www.booksbykelseyfox.com, has books for sale as well as information about upcoming events, new book release dates and printable activities for kids. 📖

Notre Dame to Stanford (and back again)

Stanford University, consistently one of the top-ranked universities in the country, has recognized Notre Dame’s Vlado Salic, the school’s director of guidance counseling, as part of its Teacher Tribute Initiative. Salic learned of the honor from Stanford after receiving a nomination from current Stanford freshman and Notre Dame Prep grad James Pillot ('16).

Richard H. Shaw, who is the dean of undergraduate admission at Stanford, said that in earning the tribute, Salic has exhibited a meaningful impact on the lives and education of Notre Dame students, and in particular, on current Stanford freshman James Pillot.



Vlado Salic, left, Notre Dame’s director of guidance counseling, was nominated by 2016 alum James Pillot as part of Stanford University’s Teacher Tribute Initiative. Pillot, at right, served as one of Notre Dame’s student ambassadors while attending the school’s upper division.

“While the influence of former educators is truly invaluable, students do not often have the opportunity to express their appreciation,” Shaw said. “With this in mind, Stanford University sponsors the Teacher Tribute Initiative. This past summer, members of Stanford’s Class of 2020 were given the opportunity to acknowledge a former educator who played a significant role in their intellectual, academic and personal development.”

For his part, Pillot, who is studying engineering at Stanford, said that while the entire staff at Notre Dame is exceptional, there was no question on who he would choose.

“Mr. Salic is as good as they come when it comes to the complex profession of guidance counseling,” Pillot said. “His lively spirit, relaxing demeanor, and highly sought-after wisdom that comes from years of experience makes him a sort of guru, a loved family man, and a highly valued employee. I will forever be grateful for the role that Mr. Salic has played in my many steps toward future success and on behalf of all that he does for everyone, I would like to send gratitude and God’s many blessings to him.”

As a high-achieving student in Notre Dame Prep’s Class of 2016, Pillot also served in a number of extracurricular roles, including student ambassador and as a member of the Killer Bees robotics team. He also had a shoutout for a favorite subject during his tenure at NDP.

“My favorite subject has been math all throughout my years at Notre Dame with my favorite math class being Mr. McCaskey’s AP Calc class,” Pillot said. “However, in a close second would be Mr. Smith’s American Culture class that included looking at the evolution of music throughout the years and then watching footage from Woodstock, which was absolutely great. And I’m still a big fan of Jimi Hendrix!” 🎸

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 and Marist Academy
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 Preparatory
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 Academy is an
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A world of education



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NDPMA also is on Facebook! Find a link on the NDPMA web site: ndpma.org.



Where are the Irish?

Certainly by now, most of us will have had enough with electoral diagrams and maps — and yes, with the election itself. Nonetheless, NDPMA has decided to add one more U.S. map to the mix, only this one is not rendered in red and blue.

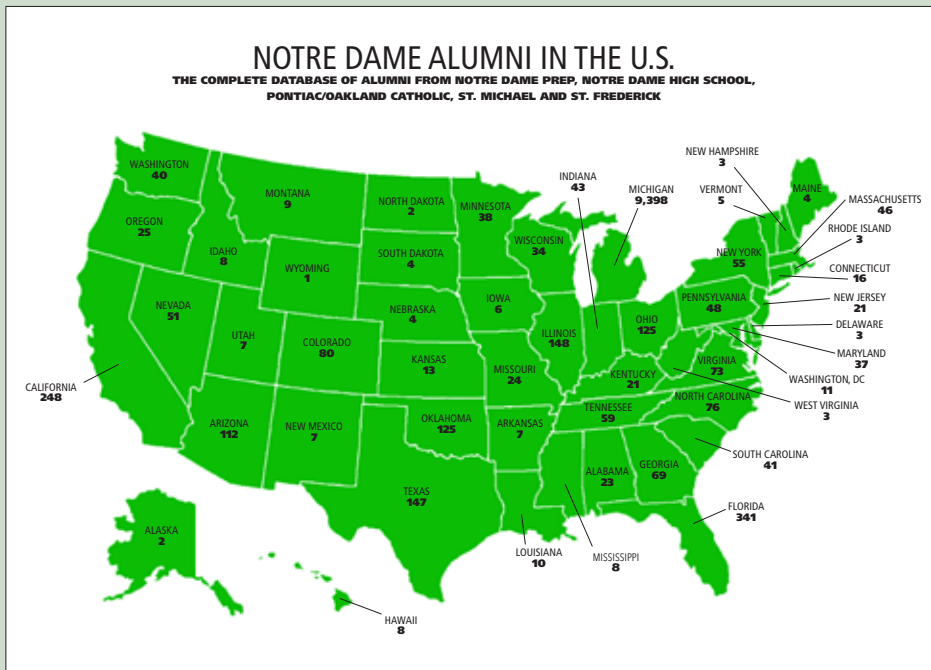
The truly “united” Irish green map at right shows by state what the Notre Dame Alumni Association’s database lists as primary residences for current members of the association.


It is perhaps no surprise that Michigan has the most alums by far at 9,398 or that Florida comes in at number two with 341, given the number of alumni retirees in the database.

But what may be just a little surprising is that many alums currently live as far west from Michigan as one can go in the contiguous United States with California at 248, Washington 40,

Oregon 25, Nevada 51 and Arizona at 112 alums.

And yet as we go even farther west, we find eight alums checking in from (usually) sunny Hawaii and two in (usually) snowy Alaska.



(Pontiac), 1988 – 1994; Pontiac Catholic (Pontiac), 1967 – 1988; St. Michael (Pontiac); St. Frederick (Pontiac). 

The Office of Alumni Relations, which compiled this data and oversees the Notre Dame Alumni Association, is part of the Advancement Office at Notre Dame Preparatory School and Marist Academy. It is dedicated to serving the alumni and friends of Notre Dame Preparatory School as well as the following schools that preceded it and shared in its rich history and legacy: Notre Dame High School (Harper Woods), 1954 – 2005; Oakland Catholic