

A black and white photograph of Coach Joe Piane, wearing a white Notre Dame baseball cap and a dark jacket, talking to athletes on a track. The athletes are wearing dark athletic gear with white accents. The background is a blurred track with a fence.

Coaches

and Staff

Joe Piane
begins his 31st
season as head
cross country/track
and field coach
this season. He is
the longest active
tenured coach at the
Notre Dame.

In 1889, track and field became the second varsity sport in school history. One hundred and 16 years later student-athletes continue to represent the Fighting Irish across the nation on the track, in the field and on the cross country course.

Out of the 115 years of competition, Joe Piane has been leading the program for the past 30. The longest active tenured coach at Notre Dame, Piane begins his 31st season at Notre Dame in the fall of 2005.

Since 1974, Piane's cross country and track and field teams have posted the following numbers:

- Men's cross country runners have earned All-American status 20 times.
- A Notre Dame cross country runner has appeared at the NCAA Championship meet for the past 15 years, while the team has made the trip 14 out of the past 18 years.
- The Notre Dame men's cross country team has finished in the top 15 at the national meet in 13 of the past 18 seasons.
- The Irish men's track and field team has earned 56 All-America citations since 1974, while the women's team has received 34 such accolades since 1994. Combined, Piane has helped guide 90 All-Americans during his tenure at Notre Dame.

A distance-coaching specialist, Piane is recognized across the nation as one of the best in the business. He has been named NCAA Division I National Cross Country Coach of the Year on two different occasions (1987 and 2001) while garnering five district/regional coach of the year honors.

As the Irish program continues to assert itself nationally (the men's track and field team won the 2005 BIG EAST indoor meet before taking second at the outdoor meet, while hurdler Selim Nurudeen and distance runner Kurt Benninger both picked up two All-America plaques, and the women's team yielded All-America performances from Stephanie Madia and Kerry Meagher), Piane has led from the front for more than three decades.

Benninger's emergence highlighted a stellar 2005 men's track and field season for Piane's Irish. The sophomore claimed All-America laurels with a third-place finish in the mile at the NCAA Indoor Championships and added another All-America citation with his contributions to Notre Dame's sixth-place distance medley relay team, the first Irish DMR unit to garner the award since 2000, but the fifth All-America relay group in Piane's illustrious tenure.

Meanwhile, Nurudeen closed out an impressive career with All-America honors during both track seasons, placing sixth in the indoor 60-meter hurdles and seventh in the outdoor 110-meter hurdles at the NCAA Championships. Nurudeen also set a BIG EAST indoor meet record in the 60-meter hurdles (7.72) and won the league hurdles crown in both the indoor and outdoor meets, winning the outdoor title for the fourth consecutive year.



Joe Piane

Head Coach

31st Season

Loras College '69

Piane Continues To Blaze New Trails At Notre Dame

Irish head coach celebrates his 31st season in 2005-06



Nurudeen also won the BIG EAST indoor 200-meter championship in 2005 and was named the meet's Outstanding Track Performer, helping the Irish win their second league indoor crown in three years. Like the team, Piane and his assistants picked up their second BIG EAST Men's Indoor Track Championship Staff of the Year award in three seasons as well.

The 2004 men's track and field season was highlighted by several different BIG EAST champions and NCAA Championship qualifiers. Among the successful distance athletes

coached by Piane in '04 were Nurudeen, Benninger and senior Kevin Somok.

The 2003 track and field season was highlighted by several special performances from Luke Watson. Both Piane and Watson set their sights on breaking the four-minute mile barrier at the Meyo Invitational in 2002, hoping that Watson would become just the second runner to crack the mark. Piane helped assemble an outstanding field for the race and it ended up as arguably the highlight of the collegiate indoor season. Watson did his part, scorching past the field in the final straight away to win in 3:58.83, easily a school-record time and briefly the fastest mile run in the world during the indoor season. Watson eventually moved on to garner All-America honors in the indoor mile, indoor 3,000 meters and outdoor 5,000 meters – as well as taking home BIG EAST Championships in the mile, 3,000-meter steeplechase and outdoor 5,000 meters.

In 2001, Piane helped distance specialist Ryan Shay compile one of the greatest track and field seasons in Notre Dame history. The Central Lake, Mich., native won the BIG EAST indoor 5,000 meters, the conference outdoor 5,000 and 10,000

meters and finished off the season in legendary style by becoming Notre Dame's first individual NCAA champion since 1972 by taking first place in the 10,000 meters at the NCAA Outdoor Championships in Eugene, Ore. Shay has since moved on to become one of the best marathon runners in the country.

The Notre Dame men's cross country team has enjoyed three of its most successful seasons in the program's history over the past six years. In 2000, Piane helped the Irish recover from the loss of Shay due to injury and finish ninth at the NCAA Championship meet.





see in 2005).

Piane ushered the Irish into the BIG EAST in 1995-96 with third-place finishes in men's cross country and both the men's and women's indoor and outdoor track and field. In 1997 and again in 1999, Notre Dame moved up to second in both the men's and women's indoor and outdoor track championships, with the Irish men's coaching staff earning staff-of-the-year honors at the 1999 BIG EAST outdoor championships. The Irish got over the hump by winning their first BIG EAST men's track title at the 2000 BIG EAST Outdoor Championships. Piane and his assistants earned the men's staff-of-the-year award for the second straight season.

To date, Piane has coached his men's track teams to 58 individual BIG EAST Championships and three relay wins in the past decade and the women have finished first as individuals 22 times and captured four relay team titles (all in the past five seasons). In addition, six athletes — Selim Nurudeen (indoor, 2005), Godwin Mbagwu (outdoor, 2004), Liz Grow (outdoor, 2002), Luke Watson (outdoor, 2002), Marshaun West (outdoor, 1999) and Jason Rexing (outdoor, 1996 and indoor, 1998) — have received the conference's outstanding track or field performer at various championship meets.

In 1985, Piane was named a member of the United States National Track staff. As such, he

was one of 40 collegiate coaches given the opportunity to coach a United States squad in international competition. During the summer of 1987 he did just that, guiding a team of American all-stars in meets held in England and Ireland. Upon the conclusion of the 1991 Notre Dame track season, Piane once again faced international competition as he was appointed coach of the U.S. Pan American juniors team for the games in Kingston, Jamaica.

Piane became Midwest regional chairman for United States Olympic Development in the area of track and field in 1984. Piane's other Olympic preparation experience came in 1985 when he coached the North team in the National Sports Festival. He also coached the U.S. team against England in Birmingham, England.

Piane has produced a winning record in all but one season with the Irish cross country team and is also the creator of Notre Dame's National Catholic Championship, an annual meet held on campus since 1980. The Irish running program continues to be a rapidly-growing entity thanks to Piane's achievements. Continually searching for greater challenges, he also founded the Meyo Invitational and the Alex Wilson Invitational, both traditional indoor Notre Dame track events. The Alex Wilson

With Shay back on the team in 2001, Notre Dame achieved its highest-ever national ranking (fourth), won the BIG EAST Championship (Piane and his staff earned the league's Coaching Staff of the Year award) and ended up sixth at the national meet to give the Irish their highest team finish since 1993.

Last year, Notre Dame threatened to eclipse its best-ever ranking, as Piane deftly guided his charges from an unranked start all the way to a BIG EAST title and a No. 5 national ranking before placing 11th at the NCAA Championships. For his efforts, Piane and his aides garnered a second BIG EAST Men's Cross Country Coaching Staff of the Year plaque.

In 1986, Piane was chosen as the District IV track coach of the year. The MCC track coach-of-the-year award was given to Piane in the first six years that it was awarded, while the entire track and field coaching staff was named the BIG EAST women's indoor staff of the year in 2002 after guiding the women's team to its first-ever BIG EAST Championship. The 2003 season witnessed the Irish men's team sweep the indoor and outdoor titles, with the Notre Dame coaching staff honored as the BIG EAST staff of the year for both meets (a precursor of the success the Irish would

Invitational has developed into one of the top indoor "last chance" meets in the nation, hosting the nation's best indoor performers just prior to the NCAA Championship.

A 1969 graduate of Loras College, Piane ran both track and cross country for four years at the Dubuque, Iowa, institution. He captained Loras' undefeated cross country squad as a senior, while excelling in middle distance events during the track season. He was inducted into the Loras College Athletics Hall of Fame in the fall of 2002.

Piane began his impressive coaching career in 1970. Working for the Peace Corps, he coached track and field and cross country at both the regional and national levels in Morocco, North Africa. Piane guided a top-ranked junior cross country team, sending three runners to Cambridge, England, for the World International Cross Country Championship in 1972. Several of those runners went on to compete in the Munich Olympics and one advanced to the 1976 Summer Games in Montreal.

After returning to the United States in July 1972, Piane assisted the track and cross country programs at Western Illinois. During that time he earned a master's degree in physical education.

Born Aug. 6, 1946, in Westchester, Ill., Piane joined the Notre Dame staff in 1974 as an assistant track coach and physical education instructor with plans to stay on for just one year. He was named head track and cross country coach the following season.

Piane and his wife, Mimi, reside in South Bend, with their son, Nick.

**1987 & 2001 NCAA Division I
National Cross Country Coach of the Year**

**Five-time District IV Cross Country
Coach of the Year**

**Six-time Midwestern Collegiate Conference
Cross Country Coach of the Year**

**Six-time Midwestern Collegiate
Conference Track Coach of the Year**

**2001, 2004 BIG EAST Men's Cross Country
Staff of the Year**

**2003, 2005 BIG EAST Men's Indoor Track
Championship Staff of the Year**

**1999, 2000, 2003 BIG EAST Men's Outdoor
Track Championship Staff of the Year**

**2002 BIG EAST Women's Indoor Track
Championship Staff of the Year**



As the Notre Dame women's cross country team continues to establish itself as one of the best in the nation, Tim Connelly enters his 18th season at Notre Dame.

Connelly serves as the head coach of the Notre Dame women's cross country team and tutors the middle distance and distance runners during the indoor and outdoor track seasons. He also is closely involved with all aspects of the Notre Dame track and field/cross country program and is known as one of the best recruiters in the Midwest.

Under Connelly's guidance, the Irish had an exceptional 2004-05 season in both cross country and track. The women's cross country squad peaked at just the right moment, racing to a fourth-place finish at the NCAA Championships, marking its second trip to the awards podium in the past three seasons. Notre Dame also had three women's cross country All-Americans for the first time ever, as junior Stephanie Madia (23rd), freshman Sunni Olding (32nd) and senior Kerry Meagher (34th) all garnered their first All-America citations.

On the track last season, Connelly saw two of his pupils run to All-America status at the NCAA Outdoor Championships, as Madia (fifth in the 5,000 meters) and Meagher (10th in 1,500 meters) both completed unique cross country/track All-America doubles.

Connelly and his athletes also performed very well in both cross country and track during the 2003-04 campaign. The women's cross country team won its second-straight BIG EAST title, placed first in the NCAA Great Lakes Region and capped off its season with a 10th-place finish at the NCAA Championships. Junior Lauren King and sophomore Molly Huddle earned All-America honors for the Irish, with 28th and 41st-place finishes, respectively.

On the track Connelly's distance athletes combined to garner five All-America awards and five new school records, with Huddle responsible for many of those marks.

In 2004, Huddle had one of the most prolific seasons in Irish track and field history. She was an All-American in the indoor 3,000 and 5,000-meter runs as well as the outdoor 5,000-meters. In all three of these events she also recorded a Notre Dame school record. After the collegiate season ended Connelly accompanied Huddle as she competed in the United States Olympic Trials, eventually finishing seventh in the 5,000 meters as the top non-professional/collegian in the race.

Connelly also helped Meagher have a breakout track season in 2004. She recorded two All-America honors, earning the awards in the indoor mile and the outdoor 1,500-meter run. She also helped set two indoor school records; one in the 4x800 meter relay with Lauren King, Megan Johnson, and Katie DeRusso, and one in the distance medley relay with Lauren King, Kristen Dodd, and Huddle.



Tim Connelly

Women's
Cross Country Coach

Assistant Track &
Field Coach

Women's Middle Distance/
Distance



Connelly enjoyed one of his finest seasons with the Irish in 2002-03, as he witnessed his cross country team finish third at the NCAA Championship. The third-place finish marks the highest-ever at the NCAA meet for the women's cross country team. On the track, Connelly guided Huddle (who finished sixth overall at the NCAA cross country meet) to All-America honors in the indoor 3,000 meters and outdoor 5,000 meters. Huddle capped her season by running away with the U.S. Junior 3,000-Meter Championship at the national meet in Palo Alto, Calif.

Taking over the women's cross country program in its infancy, Connelly assumed the reins of the Irish program in 1988 and has led the team to four consecutive NCAA Championship appearances and five in the past six years. The

Irish also broke through for their first two BIG EAST cross country titles in 2002 and 2003, led by '02 individual champion Lauren King and the two-time conference Coaching Staff of the Year. Additionally, King and '02 second-place BIG EAST finisher Huddle, Notre Dame also went on to capture its first NCAA Great Lakes Regional cross country title that season.

The Notre Dame women's cross country emergence began in 1999, when the Irish placed first in the initial three meets of the season and established themselves as a team to reckon with in the national picture. A fourth-place finish at the District IV Championships earned the team an at-large berth to the 1999 NCAA championship meet, the second invitation in the program's history.

The Irish raised the bar again in 2001. Combining veterans Jennifer Handley (Class of '02) and Megan Johnson with talented rookie Lauren King, the Irish climbed to 15th in the nation. Notre Dame eventually finished fourth in the BIG EAST Conference (behind three highly-ranked teams) and earned an automatic bid to the NCAA Championship with a second-place team finish at the NCAA Great Lakes Regional.

In 1993, Connelly and the Irish women's cross country team qualified for their first-ever NCAA championships and finished 15th.

During the track season, Connelly has helped the women's middle distance and distance runners reach NCAA Championship competition 22 times since 1996. At the BIG EAST level, Connelly has coached six individual champions, as well as the distance medley relay team which set a meet record at the 2003 indoor championship.

A 1983 Notre Dame graduate, Connelly ran both cross country and track for the Irish. Following his graduation, Connelly served as a graduate assistant coach under Joe Piane while working toward his master's degree in business.

In 1986, Connelly moved on to Syracuse as an assistant cross country and track coach. During his time in northern New York, he coached the men's and women's middle distance and distance runners and managed recruiting duties for both programs.

A native of Pittsburgh, Pa., Connelly and his wife, the former Donna Southerly, are the parents of a daughter, Alexandra, and son, Brendon.





John Millar
*Assistant
 Track & Field Coach
 Sprints/Hurdles*

One of the top sprint and hurdle coaches in the world, John Millar enters his 15th season at Notre Dame and has developed the Irish women's sprint group into a force in the BIG EAST Conference. Millar's 15-year stay at Notre Dame, which has included serving as the speed coach for all Notre Dame athletic teams for several years, is the third-longest tenure of any current Irish assistant coach in any sport.

A dedicated coach, recruiter and organizer, Millar has developed the Irish sprint/hurdle group into one of the best in the Midwest. He also plays a key role in Notre Dame's organization of four home indoor meets, which are widely regarded as the top events during each annual indoor season.

Millar recently completed a successful relationship with hurdler Selim Nurudeen, who was a two-time All-American, seven-time BIG EAST Champion and 15-time all-BIG EAST selection during his career at Notre Dame from 2001-05. Nurudeen also was named the 2005 BIG EAST Indoor Championship Outstanding Track Performer after helping the Irish win the team title.

In his first year with the Irish, Millar began the process of enhancing the Notre Dame sprint corps which culminated in three school records in the 55 and 200 meters along with the 4x100 relay. He guided Raghieb Ismail to a second-place finish in the 1991 NCAA indoor championships and the fastest collegiate 55-meter time in the world. Millar also coached two-time All-American Allen Rossum to seventh-place finishes in the 55-meter dash at the 1995 and 1997 NCAA indoor track championships and hurdler Errol Williams was an All-American in both indoor (55-meter hurdles) and outdoor track (110-meter hurdles) in 1998.

Millar has also developed a strong group in the women's sprint lane. Currently, he has worked closely with Maryann Erigha and Okechi Ogbuokiri, both of whom won their first individual BIG EAST titles in 2005 (Erigha in the outdoor 100 meters, and Ogbuokiri in the indoor 400 meters). Both sprinters went on to qualify for the NCAA Championships for the first time in their respective careers.

Prior to his current proteges, Millar helped cultivate '02 graduate Liz Grow into Notre Dame's first women's All-American sprinter, as Grow was a fixture at the NCAA indoor



and outdoor meets during her four years on the team.

Millar's sprint group made a huge splash on the national scene in 2002. The women's 4x400 relay unit consisting of Ayesha Boyd, Kristen Dodd, Grow and Kymia Love qualified for the NCAA Indoor Championships, becoming the first Irish women's sprint relay to achieve that distinction. In the outdoor season, the same group took a step further, earning

All-America honors by finishing fifth in the nation at the NCAA Championships in Baton Rouge, La. Millar's 4x100, 4x400 (outdoor) and 4x400

(indoor) all set school records in the past four seasons and the 4x100 group won BIG EAST Championships in 2003 and 2004.

The development of the sprint group allowed Notre Dame to capture its first-ever BIG EAST team title in 2002 at the league indoor meet. Millar and his fellow Irish coaches were named the BIG EAST Indoor Coaching Staff of the Year.

Even after losing Grow to graduation in 2002, Millar helped the women's 4x400 team return to both the NCAA indoor and outdoor meets in 2003. The squad of Tiffany Gunn, Kristen Dodd, Ayesha Boyd and Kymia Love just missed out on a repeat All-America effort at the outdoor meet, finishing ninth. Boyd, Dodd and Love joined Tameisha King in the 4x100 relay at the outdoor meet as well.

The native of Toronto, Canada, took a break from his coaching duties at Notre Dame in early March of 1999 to serve as the head coach of the USA women's track squad, which earned eight medals at the 1999 World Indoor Championships in Maebashi, Japan.

Millar is a seasoned veteran of coaching athletes both on the national and international levels. During a six-year stint at Texas, he coached 96 NCAA All-Americans, including 10 national champions, and helped guide the Lady Longhorns to four national titles. He has followed up by guiding Notre Dame athletes to 16 different All-America finishes since 1990.

Prior to his position at Texas, Millar was an assistant at Tennessee for two years where he worked with 1984 Olympic gold-medal hurdler Benita Fitzgerald-Brown. In addition, he served as an assistant coach on the Canadian Olympic track staff and assisted in training world-class hurdler Mark McCoy. He also served as USA Track and Field's national women's hurdle coordinator, coach of the North team at the 1992 U.S. Olympic Festival and assistant coach of the USA Junior National Team at the 1993 Pan-Am Junior Championships.

Millar was head coach at York University in Toronto from 1981 to 1983 where he served as chief director for both the men's and women's programs in track and field. He led the school to a Canadian national championship in 1981.

He also traveled to the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia, as a member of the Canadian track and field coaching staff.

Millar, a graduate of Western Ontario and master's degree recipient from Arizona State, and his wife, the former Lynn Haan, have a 19-year-old son, James, who is a sophomore cross country and middle distance runner at Notre Dame.



Assistant

Coaches

A veteran with two decades of coaching experience under his belt, Scott Winsor begins his 18th year as an assistant coach with the Notre Dame track and field program, working directly with the Irish jumps group. Widely recognized as one of the top jumps coaches in the country, Winsor focuses his efforts on grooming Notre Dame's participants in the high jump, long jump, triple jump and pole vault, as well as the multi-event specialists.

Winsor's record of success is an impressive one. During his tenure, he has helped guide Irish competitors to 13 All-America certificates, 21 BIG EAST championships and 93 all-conference honors. In addition, Winsor's pupils have qualified for the NCAA Championships 19 times, finishing among the top 10 in the country on 10 occasions.

What's more, the Notre Dame record book is covered with marks set by Irish athletes working under Winsor's watchful eye. In fact, 24 school records have been set by athletes he has coached, including 16 of the 18 current record holders in the jumps and multi-events at Notre Dame, as well as the current BIG EAST standard bearer in the women's indoor pole vault, 2003 graduate Jaime Volkmer.

Some of Winsor's more notable proteges on the men's side have been two-time long jump All-American Marshaun West, as well as 1999 indoor pole vault All-American Mike Brown, 1993 NCAA indoor high jump qualifier Todd Herman, and Godwin Mbagwu, the Outstanding Field Performer at the 2004 BIG EAST Outdoor Championship, which was won by Notre Dame.

As for the women, Winsor helped 2003 graduate Tameisha King to long jump All-America honors four times, including top-eight finishes in both the indoor and outdoor events in '03. King is now considered one of the top long jumpers in the United States and is in prime position for a berth on the 2008 U.S. Olympic Team.

Winsor's guidance also helped Volkmer evolve as the pioneer in women's pole vault at Notre Dame, winning seven all-BIG EAST citations and becoming the first Irish female vaulter to clear the 13-foot barrier.

Thanks to Winsor, Notre Dame broke new ground in 1997 as Jennifer Engelhardt became the first member of the Irish women's track and field team to qualify for the NCAA Championships in a field event. Engelhardt placed ninth in the indoor high jump en route



Scott Winsor

Assistant
Track & Field Coach

Jumps



Prior to his arrival in South Bend in 1988, Winsor spent two years (1983-84) as the varsity track coach at Fulton High School in Middleton, Mich., as well as one season (1987) as an assistant at his alma mater, Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa.

A 1987 graduate of Loras with a bachelor's degree in physical education (K-12), Winsor was a stand-out performer on the track squad, specializing in the jumping events. He was the team's captain for his final two seasons, helping Loras win the 1987 Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference title. For the past 20 years, he also has held the school record in the outdoor high jump with a 7-0 leap.

Winsor went on to earn his master's of science in administration degree from Notre Dame in 1995.

to the first of her three All-America honors (also in 1999 and 2000), making her the first Notre Dame woman to accomplish that feat. In addition, Engelhardt was the first Irish female high jumper to clear six feet and she went on to compete at the 2000 U.S. Olympic Trials, where she finished tied for seventh.

Another high jumper, Stacey Cowan, is among Winsor's current trainees. Cowan has qualified for the NCAA Championships each of the past three years, earning All-America honors in 2004 with a 10th-place finish in the indoor high jump. Additionally, Cowan holds the school records in the indoor high jump (1.82m) and heptathlon (4,576 points) and she has earned six all-BIG EAST plaques.

Winsor's achievements have not gone unnoticed. He and the Notre Dame staff have earned six BIG EAST Coaching Staff of the Year awards, while helping lead the Irish to six conference championships.

In addition to his coaching responsibilities, Winsor designed the new Outdoor Throwing Facility at the University. He also is actively involved with all aspects of recruiting for the Irish track and field program, and he plays an integral role in the event management for all home track and cross country meets at Notre Dame.





B.J. Linnenbrink

**Assistant
Track & Field Coach**

Throws



One of the top young track and field throws coaches in the country, B.J. Linnenbrink is in his fourth season at Notre Dame. Since joining the Irish program just after the beginning of the 2002-03 season, Linnenbrink has coached 10 all-BIG EAST Conference selections, including 2005 BIG EAST hammer throw champion, Chip Roberts, and he has been a part of three BIG EAST Coaching Staffs of the Year (men's indoor and outdoor - 2003; men's indoor - 2005).

A former NCAA and USATF championship qualifier in the weight throw at Florida State, Linnenbrink also has seen eight of his pupils advance to the NCAA Mideast Regional during the past three years, including five during the 2005 season alone. In addition, under Linnenbrink's tutelage, Kate Duman extended the school javelin record in 2004, a year after Derek Goguen qualified for the USATF Junior Championships in the same event.

Linnenbrink and the Irish throwers will look to take the next step in 2005-06 and qualify for the NCAA Championships, with returning all-conference selections Meghan Horn and Kyle Annen, and '05 Mideast Regional qualifier Garet Koxlien leading the way.

A 2002 graduate of Florida State, Linnenbrink finished his career as the number two all-time hammer thrower in Seminole history. He earned all-Atlantic Coast Conference honors in '02 as well.

Before his two-year stint at FSU, Linnenbrink dominated at the junior college level, earning two NJCAA All-American awards at Johnson County Community College in Overland, Park, Kan. In his two years at Johnson, Linnenbrink collected seven all-Jayhawk East conference awards.

Linnenbrink graduated from Florida State with a bachelor of science in physical education. He and his wife, the former Monica Hardy, were married July 31, 2004.



The Notre Dame coaching staff runs two of the top meets in the country each season, the Meyo Invitational and the Alex Wilson Invitational.





Justin Kempe

*Assistant Cross Country
& Distance Coaching Staff*

Justin Kempe begins his first year at Notre Dame as a member of the Irish assistant coaching staff. He will focus his efforts on aiding head coach Joe Piane with Notre Dame's men's cross country and distance units.

Kempe spent the past two years on the cross country/track and field staff at Ohio University, helping the Bobcat men's cross country team improve from eighth to fourth in the Mid-American Conference and place 13th at the 2004 NCAA Great Lakes Regional.

Kempe also attended OU as an undergraduate, running cross country and track under the legendary Elmore "Mo" Banton from 1999-2003. He served as team captain during his final season and qualified for the '03 NCAA Mideast Regional in the 3,000-meter steeplechase.

Kempe earned his bachelor's degree in education from Ohio in 2003. He went on to receive his master's degree in coaching education from OU in 2005.

Born Sept. 29, 1980 in Youngstown, Ohio, Kempe now makes his home in South Bend.

Allison Baranay

Student Manager

Allison Baranay is in her second year as a student manager with the Notre Dame cross country and track and field programs.

Baranay is a sophomore enrolled in Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business, where she majors in marketing with a minor in education, schooling and society.

A native of South Bend, Baranay is a 2004 graduate of Marian High School in nearby Mishawaka, where she held numerous leadership positions and was active in community service. She also played soccer for the Knights before an injury led her to become the team manager. That experience led her to pursue a similar position upon entering Notre Dame.

Brigitte Sanchez

Student Manager

Brigitte Sanchez is now in her second season as a manager for the Irish cross country and track and field teams. She currently is enrolled in Notre Dame's College of Science as a science-business major, and she hopes to attend medical school and pursue her interests in either pediatrics or internal medicine.

Sanchez hails from Portage, Ind., and graduated from nearby Andean High School. While at Andrea, she competed on both the soccer and track squads.

Hy Pham

Student Manager

Hy Pham starts his first year as a student manager with the Irish cross country and track and field teams.

Pham is a freshman at Notre Dame, enrolled in the school's First Year of Studies program. He plans to major in chemistry and pre-professional studies and also is active in the Navy ROTC program at Notre Dame.

Pham hails from Houston, Texas, where he was a 2005 graduate of Cinco Ranch High School. While there, he spent three years as a manager for the basketball and track teams, helping win a pair of state titles in track during his final two years.

In addition, Pham was heavily involved with other extracurricular activities during his high school career. Most notably, he served multiple terms as his class president, spent time as an intern for Texas State Representative Glenn Hegar, and participated in various choral and theater productions.

Pham was born on April 30, 1987 in Houston, Texas, and is the older of two children.



*Student managers
(from left)
Allison Baranay,
Hy Pham and
Brigitte Sanchez.*

