Loras St. Patrick’s Day Parade

By Wendy Schuck (’07)

I was overwhelmed by the opportunities to stay involved in the Loras community after graduation. The alumni presence in Chicago is huge. You can’t wear a Loras shirt or hat in Chicago without someone saying “Go Duhawks!” I quickly became involved with the Loras Alumni Network of Chicago and began working with the group to plan activities to keep alumni in the area engaged. Last year we decided to bring back a Duhawk tradition and walk in the Annual Chicago St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

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Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade

Written by Wendy Schrunk ('07)

Chicago - there's just something about this great city that has caused it to be the topic of hundreds of songs and the backdrop for countless movies and books.

My love affair with the city of Chicago began when I was a little girl. The walls of my bedroom were covered with posters of Michael Jordan and I could recite every line from the movie *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* long before I ever stepped foot in the city that I now call home.

I'll never forget the first time I visited Chicago. It was November. I was 11 years old. I'd never experienced anything like it. The tall buildings, the hustle and bustle of Michigan Avenue, the restaurants and entertainment - I was hooked. After only two days I was sure that Chicago was in fact, 'my kind of town'. I remember telling my parents on the drive home that I was going to live there some day. Ten years later that dream became a reality.

I was fortunate to spend the summer between my junior and senior year of college in Chicago. During the eight weeks I spent living and working in the city, my love for all things Chicago grew. I knew when I returned to Loras in the fall that I wanted to move to Chicago after graduation. Things have a way of working themselves out and shortly after graduation I received a job offer from a financial institution in Chicago. A week later, one of my friends from Loras received an offer with an event production company in the city. It was perfect timing - not only did I land my dream job in my dream city, but I had a fellow Duhawk as a roommate.

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The overall response was amazing. We had over 75 alumni gather on one of the coldest days of the year to walk in the parade. As we walked down the parade route, with the city skyline in the background, the crowd cheered with us as we shouted 'Du-what? Du-hawks!' It was a surreal experience.
This year marks the 57th year of the Chicago St. Patrick's Day Parade. The parade will be held on Saturday, March 17, starting at noon. I invite you and your friends and family to join me and the Loras Network of Chicago as we gather to celebrate St. Patrick's Day. The parade is held on Columbus Drive and runs north from Balbo to Monroe. We'll meet at 11:00 AM near the beginning of the route. Just look for the purple and gold balloons! After the parade we'll gather at Cavanaugh's Bar and Restaurant to continue the celebration.

I hope that you can join us for this exciting event! Click on the link below to check out a video of last year's parade and to register to walk in the parade. Don't worry if you're not Irish - as they say, we may not all be Irish, but we're all Duhawks!
Misner bound for Chinese Taipei as part of FISU Forum
Wed, Feb. 1, 2012 - [Baseball]

Earlier this month in Indianapolis, Travis Misner participated in the NCAA Convention as the Iowa Conference representative for national Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC). Last week, he learned of his selection as an NCAA representative at the International University Sport Federation (FISU) Forum set for March 26-31 in Chinese Taipei.

After learning of the selection to represent the United States, Misner and Andrea Dalton of NCAA Division II Pittsburgh-Johnstown spoke with the NCAA in a story posted on ncaa.org.

Misner called the opportunity "priceless" and will spend his 21st birthday in the air en route to Taipei City.

This year's theme (the forum takes place every two years) is "University Sport: A Platform For Sustainable Development".

The 2012 Loras College baseball season begins today - and may include some time on the Rock Bowl turf with temperatures in Dubuque today expected to top out in the low to mid-40s.
Loras College Hosts Heritage Celebration

Each year, Loras College hosts Heritage week in celebration of our rich history and heritage as the oldest Catholic College in Iowa and second oldest Catholic College west of the Mississippi River. This year the theme of the Celebration will be focused on a "Journey of Faith and Liberal Arts Learning" as we will host events and activities for the campus community to learn more about our history as an institution. Each day of the week of March 19-23, 2012, there will be an event that will help showcase Loras' heritage. The following schedule highlights these activities:

Monday, March 19, 2012 - St. Joseph Day, Celebration of Loras' Patron Saint

Heritage Dinner - Guest speakers Fr. Scott Boone and Dr. David Salvaterra will share a brief presentation every 30 minutes during Cafeteria dinner hours on Loras History. Loras Cafeteria, 4-7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 20, 2012 - Estate Planning Seminar Sponsored by the Development Office

In honor of Heritage Month at Loras College, please join us for The Fundamentals of Estate Planning from 3:30-4:30 p.m., in Marie Graber Ballroom C, in the Alumni Campus Center. The presentation will be given by Mike Doyle, J.D., ('91) Associate Vice President for Institutional Advancement at Loras College. Following the seminar, you are welcome to join us for 5:15 p.m. Mass in Christ the King Chapel.

Wednesday, March 21, 2012 - Loras Employee Recognition Luncheon and Loras Trivia Game

The Loras Employee Recognition Luncheon will be held in the ACC Marie Graber Ballroom from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. The Loras Trivia Game Online will be an opportunity for the entire Campus Community to participate in a fun trivia quiz of Loras History. Watch your email for the quiz! There will be a prize for the winner. (Hint: some answers to the quiz may be given at the Loras Heritage Dinner on Monday night.)


Come and enjoy a cup of coffee and meet Bishop Loras from 9:15 a.m. - 11 a.m. Learn more about Loras' Heritage while sharing fellowship with faculty, staff, and students

Friday, March 23, 2012 - Heritage Week Mass with honored guest Archbishop Myers ('63)

The Most Reverend John J. Myers is the highest ranking Loras College graduate in the Catholic Church. Please join us for Mass at 5:15 p.m. which will feature Archbishop Myers as presider.
Luxembourg Jazz Trio to Perform in Dubuque

The R-D-W Jazz Trio from the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg will perform a concert at the Loras College Fieldhouse, Alta Vista Street, Dubuque on Sunday, March 11, at 3:00 p.m. This concert is one of ten concerts in a series sponsored by the Luxembourg American Cultural Society, based in Wisconsin, in partnership with Loras College.

The R-D-W Trio is composed of three young Luxembourg jazz musicians considered to be some of country's finest: Michel Reis (piano), Marc Demuth (bass), Paul Wiltgen (drums). The trio will also perform in St. Cloud and Rochester, Minnesota, Dubuque, Iowa, Chicago and Aurora, Illinois, La Crosse and Sheboygan, Wisconsin and New York City.

Reis, Demuth and Wiltgen formed the R-D-W Trio in 1998 while in high school. The group performed on a regular basis in and around Luxembourg for several years. In 2003, the Trio took a break from performing when the three musicians moved different places across Europe and the United States in order pursue their individual musical studies and careers. The musicians have all pursued graduate studies in music and have performed with some of the world's top jazz musicians. Now reunited, this impressive collection of individual talent is once again eager to share their musical gifts as well as their new compositions with their audiences.

The concert is free of charge and all are invited to attend.

For more information contact the Luxembourg American Cultural Society at 262-476-5086, email admin@luxamculturalsociety.org or visit luxamculturalsociety.org.
Distinguished Alumni Award Nominations

Loras College graduates have done some amazing things since leaving campus. In an effort to recognize some of their accomplishments, the National Alumni Board created the Distinguished Alumni Awards in 1989. The first recipients were recognized that next year at Homecoming. Help us to identify these amazing individuals by submitting a nomination today!

Award Categories include:

1. Outstanding Professional Achievements and Contributions Made to Loras College
3. Service Provided to Loras College as a Faculty, Staff or Administrative Member.
4. Contributions made in Public Service.
5. Young Alumni (presented to an alum or graduate of the last 10 years)

With the exception of Distinguished Alumni Award for Service provided to Loras College as a Faculty, Staff, or Administrative Member, the nominee must be a graduate of Loras College or have completed 30 credit hours at Loras.

Persons must exemplify one or more of the following criteria to be nominated for one of the categories.

- Has made significant achievements in chosen field or particular endeavor.
- Through personal or professional activities reflects honor to the College.
- Must have contributed to the College in outstanding ways or made significant contributions to the community at-large.
- Nominee’s activities must demonstrate particular professional accomplishment and exemplify the educational mission of the college. Service to the community is also important. In the case of the Public Service Award, the individual must show excellence in contribution of time and talents, to benefit the community (either local, state, or nationally) through volunteer work, government service, health agency assistance, etc.
- Must show exceptional personal commitment involving time and effort during time at Loras (service provided to Loras College as Faculty, Staff, or Administrative Member).
- The person’s daily life reflects the Christian ideals put forth by the College (Christian service and volunteer work).
Nominations must be returned to the Alumni Relations Office by May 1, by clicking here for the online form. You may also print the form and submit to the Office of Alumni Relations, 1450 Alta Vista Street, Dubuque, IA 52001. Please be as complete as you can. All nominations will be reviewed by the Executive Board of the National Alumni Board. The award winners will be selected in June and will be honored during Homecoming celebrations. Finalists not selected in a particular year will automatically be submitted for consideration the following year.
Loras Wins Mock Trial Civility Award at Midwest Regional Competition

Loras College Mock Trial will be advancing to the first round of national championships in March after an honorable mention finish at the Midwest Regional. **Sarah Dickhut ('13) Biology & English major** was named an Outstanding Attorney at the Cedar Rapids event held Feb. 3-5. The team also was honored with the American Mock Trial Civility Award voted by the other teams as the college that best exemplifies the spirit of professionalism and fair play.

"Loras has gained the reputation over the years as an ethical and friendly team. This is not the first time we have won the award, and I hope it is not the last," said Coach Mary Lynn Neuhaus. "We are not a program that stresses winning at all costs. Loras has a team that understands that professionalism and civility must be the core to a strong program."

Notre Dame took the regional crown as the only undefeated team in the field and will compete in St. Louis St. Patrick's Day weekend while Loras will wait for their assignment location to be announced on Mar. 1, 2012.

Loras College hosted colleges and universities across the country at the largest and oldest mock trial tournament in the nation at the 24th Annual National Invitational Tournament on Friday, Jan. 27 and Saturday, Jan. 28 held at Loras College in Dubuque. Loras Mock Trial Team placed fifth out of the 68 teams participating.
Is Anyone Here a Doctor?

by Erin White ('01)

If you had asked, "Is anyone here a doctor?" to the group of Duhawks celebrating their 10-year reunion at the Loras College homecoming this past fall, more than a half dozen people would have raised their hands. Nine Loras alumni from the class of 2001 have graduated from medical schools and are now practicing physicians. Nearly a dozen more from the class include dentists, physical therapists, chiropractors and medical researchers.

Having so many alums succeed in the medical field from one graduation year is exceptional, but Thomas Davis, chair of the Division of Molecular and Life Sciences in Biology program at Loras isn't surprised. He knew in 1997, when this class entered as freshman, that they were different, in the best possible way.

"They were an amazing group of students," Davis said. "Not only were they bright, with great GPAs, but they knew early in their education what they wanted, and that is rare. They also seemed to feed off of each other's success."

Interested in reading the full story? Read more about the doctors from the Class of 2001 in the upcoming Loras College Magazine!