



Head coach Tim Welsh (right) and assistant coach Matt Tallman (left) helped Notre Dame to its highest-ever point total in the BIG EAST Championships in 2004, a performance that garnered the BIG EAST Coach-of-the-Year award. Welsh, a former national coach of the year, has led teams to two Division III national championships and 24 conference titles, as well as seven consecutive top-four finishes in the BIG EAST meet.

Already one of the most respected coaches in the nation, Tim Welsh has the Notre Dame men's swimming and diving program poised to become a national force. Though the Irish are on the verge of making history this season, Welsh is not unaccustomed to success, as student-athletes and teams under his care have excelled throughout his 27-year career as a head coach.

Welsh's squads have experienced great team success over the years. In 1978 and '79, he helped Johns Hopkins to back-to-back Division III national championships, being named National Coach of the Year on the latter occasion. In all, Welsh has coached 24 teams that have claimed conference championships and 18 that have won nine or more dual meets in a season.

Since arriving at Notre Dame in 1985, Welsh has seen his teams post a 252-141 (.641) dual-meet record, while winning 16 league titles (15 Midwestern Collegiate, 1 North Star) and taking second place on five occasions (2 MCC, 3 BIG EAST). His student-athletes also have been accomplished, earning 11 invitations to the NCAA Championships, gaining All-America honors on three occasions, and capturing six BIG EAST individual titles.

The most apparent reality of the Welsh era at Notre Dame is the almost every-day occurrence that breaking University records has become. In his tenure, Welsh has seen his student-athletes break the Notre Dame record in every event -- on both the men's and women's sides -- on multiple occasions. In all, more than 200 University records have been set under Welsh's tutelage, with the bar continuing to be raised all the time. In the lists of the top 10 performers in each swimming event in Notre Dame men's history, only two names still remain from the pre-Welsh era.

The Irish swimming and diving program entered a new era under Welsh, as well. In his first 17 years at Notre Dame, the men's swimming and diving team had little access to scholarship aide. The Notre Dame Athletic Department decided in December 2002 to fully fund all of its varsity sports, giving the Irish a tool with which to compete with the best schools in the nation. Working now with a fully-funded program, Welsh has welcomed the top



Tim Welsh

Head Coach

20th Season

Providence '66

three freshman classes in the program's history over the last three years.

There is no doubt that the Irish program is on the rise. Notre Dame has finished in the top four at the BIG EAST Championships for seven consecutive seasons, including three runner-up results (1999, 2000, '04). All but one current University record has been set since 1999, and prospects are high that many more could fall this season.

The 2003-04 campaign provided a glimpse of the bright future of Notre Dame men's swimming and diving. The Irish faced their toughest schedule in school history and responded by setting eight school records. Notre Dame posted its highest-ever point total at the ultra-competitive BIG EAST Championships en route to finishing as the conference runner-up. Among the highlights of that meet were the first-ever Irish 1-2 finish in the meet, as Jamie Lutkus and David Moisan topped the field in the 400-yard individual medley. For his team's accomplishments, Welsh was named a BIG EAST Coach of the Year for the second time in five years.

Notre Dame also posted runner-up finishes in the 1999 and 2000 BIG EAST Championships. The Irish delivered a school-record time in '99 to win the final event of the meet, the 400 freestyle relay, to edge Syracuse by one point for second place. Notre Dame won its first three conference titles that year en route to its best-ever finish. Welsh was named the BIG EAST Coach of the Year, capping a season in which the Irish broke 16 of 19 University records.

Notre Dame reset eight varsity records in 1999-2000 in finishing second in the BIG EAST Championships once again.

Other highlights of Welsh's tenure as men's coach at Notre Dame are eight seasons with 10 or more dual-meet victories, including a 12-1 mark in 1989-90, the best record in school history. The Irish also were 11-1 in 1997-98 and set the school record for wins in a season in both 1987-88 and 1990-91 with identical 13-3 marks.

Prior to joining the BIG EAST in 1995-96, Welsh's Irish won six Midwestern Collegiate Conference championships in seven years (1986-92) and took six consecutive titles in the National Catholic Invitational (1989-94).

The Irish women's coach from 1985-86 through 1994-95, Welsh's teams won MCC titles every year



the Irish were in the conference, from 1987-95. His teams also claimed the Eastern Intercollegiate championship twice. The first title came in 1990 and the second in 1995, when the last women's program Welsh coached finished with the best record in school history, 14-1. During his 10 years at the helm of the women's program, Welsh sent 11 swimmers to the NCAA championships, including three-time All-American Tanya Williams. In that span, every Irish women's University record was broken.

Prior to coming to Notre Dame in 1985, Welsh spent eight years as the head men's and women's coach at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore, Md. The New York native led the men's squad to a mark of 65-36, including two NCAA Division III national championships and eight Middle Atlantic Conference titles. The women's team also was successful under

The Welsh File

Career Record:

374-231-1 (.618), 27 years

Career Men's Record:

224-126 (.640), 27 years

Record at Notre Dame:

252-141 (.641), 19 years

Men's Record at Notre Dame:

159-90 (.639), 19 years

Head Coaching Experience:

Johns Hopkins (men/women), 1977-85
 Notre Dame (women), 1985-95
 Notre Dame (men), 1985-present



The Welsh Factor

Since his arrival at Notre Dame in 1985, Tim Welsh has seen his student-athletes repeatedly break every University record, continually setting a new standard of excellence. A look at some of the most dramatic improvements in school-record performances is below.

Event	'85 Record	'04 Record
200 free	1:42.2	1:38.36
500 free	4:41.8	4:25.83
1000 free	9:51.1	9:15.52
1650 free	16:47.2	15:32.37
100 back	54.2	50.16
200 back	1:58.0	1:48.44
100 breast	1:01.4	55.35
200 breast	2:13.6	2:00.09
200 IM	1:57.8	1:49.68
400 IM	4:13.9	3:54.38
1m Diving	277.55	339.29
3m Diving	302.65	383.85
400 Medley Relay	3:32.9	3:19.45
800 Free Relay	6:57.1	6:42.55

Welsh, earning a Middle Atlantic Conference championship while achieving six seasons at .500 or better.

Welsh graduated *magna cum laude* from Providence College in 1966. He went on to earn his master's degree at the University of Virginia in 1967. Welsh became the men's assistant coach at Syracuse in 1974 after leaving Winthrop College (S.C.), where he had taught English. During his four years at Syracuse, Welsh continued to teach

English, as well as designed and ran the training program before joining the Hopkins swimming program.

Welsh is an active member of the American Swimming Coaches Association, serving on its Board of Directors for the eighth time in 2004-05 and being honored in '04 with the prestigious Ousley Award for his distinguished service. He was a speaker at the World Clinic in 1985, '87, '91, '92, '94, '95, '96 and '97. For three years, he served as the chairman of the NCAA Men's and Women's Swimming Committee, holding a spot on that committee from 1991-97. The committee is responsible for running NCAA championships and proposing rule changes. He currently serves as the president of the BIG EAST Swimming Coaches Committee.

Welsh was awarded the Richard E. Steadman Award by the College Swim Coaches Association in 1993. The award, given annually to a swimming or diving coach in the high school, club or university ranks who, in the opinion of the International Swimming Hall of Fame, Inc., and the College Swim Coaches Association, has done the most to spread joy and happiness in swimming.

Welsh will continue a career of world travel, as he first takes his team to Ireland during the winter of the 2004-05 season. Previously, he traveled to Bogota, Colombia in the spring of 1985 as a clinician and instructor for Sports America Program of the U.S. State Department and took his Irish squad to Portugal in the summer of 1991. Welsh and the 1996-97 Irish ventured to Brazil over Christmas break for a nationally-televised meet featuring international Olympic swimmers.

Welsh's student-athletes have been traditionally strong in the classroom, as well as in the Rolfs Aquatic Center. Perennially on Collegiate Swimming Coaches Association of America

(CSCAA) All-Academic list (which ranks teams according to grade-point average), the Irish claimed the top spot in the 1999 season and have been in the top 10 eight times since 1990.

In his 20th season as head coach at Notre Dame, Welsh ranks behind only track and field's Joe Piane as the longest-serving program leader at the University. He also was awarded an honorary monogram from Notre Dame's National Monogram Club and has seen four of his swimmers garner the Byron V. Kanaley Award, the most prestigious honor an Irish student-athlete can achieve.

In 2002, Welsh was featured in the ASCA newsletter in appreciation for his dedication as a member of the ASCA's Board of Directors. One of Welsh's key developments is the ASCA Fellows Program – which is designed to professionally and thoroughly prepare the next generation of coaching leaders.

A published writer and master motivator, Welsh and his wife, Jacqueline, are the parents of two sons. Tim, a 2002 Notre Dame graduate, participated in the University's Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program before enrolling in an English Ph.D. program at the University of Washington. John is a senior at Notre Dame.



The Welsh family: (clockwise from top left) John, Tim, Tim, and Jacqueline.

What his teams have done . . .

- Won two national titles (1978 & '79 in Division III)
- Won 24 conference championships (15 Midwestern Collegiate, 9 Middle Atlantic, 1 North Star)
- Finished in top four at BIG EAST Championships in each of last seven years (runner-up in 1999, 2000, '04)
- Finished in the top 10 in the nation in team GPA on eight occasions
- Won nine or more dual meets on 18 occasions
- Posted the most dual-meet wins in a season in Irish women's history (14-1, 1994-95)

What awards he has won . . .

- 1979 Division III National Coach of the Year
- 1999 & 2004 BIG EAST Coach of the Year
- 1993 CSCAA Richard E. Steadman Award
- Chairman of NCAA Men's and Women's Swimming Committee
- President of BIG EAST Swimming Coaches Committee
- American Swimming Coaches Association Board Member
- American Swimming Coaches Association Executive Committee
- 2004 ASCA Pusley Award
- ASCA World Clinic Speaker (1985, '87, '91, '92, 1994-97)

What his Notre Dame student-athletes have done . . .

- Earned All-America honors three times
- Earned 11 berths to the NCAA Championships
- Won 6 BIG EAST titles
- Set over 200 University records, including every men's and women's mark multiple times
- Won the Byron V. Kanaley Award four times



In his 27-year career as a diving coach, Caiming Xie has helped his protégés win BIG EAST titles, All-America honors, and gold medals. A proven winner, Caiming's experience reaches the world over, and he is in his 10th season as head men's and women's diving coach at Notre Dame.

During his tenure, he has coached two All-Americans on the women's side, as well as the top two men's divers in school history. Caiming's male divers have posted each of the top six scores in school history in one-meter diving, as well as seven of the top 10 off the three-meter board.

Caiming, the first full-time diving coach in Notre Dame history, recruited and developed three divers in the class of 2003. The group, which went undefeated in 2001-02, was a key to Notre Dame's dual-meet fortunes over a four-year span, and all three left among the best eight divers in school history on the one-meter board.

Andy Maggio was the most dominant Irish men's diver ever, holding three of the five University diving records. In 2002, he finished fourth at the NCAA Zone Diving Meet, missing by just six points Notre Dame's first berth to the NCAA Men's Championships in 27 years.

Joe Miller and Tong Xie, Caiming's son, each delivered career-best performances in their final seasons, a sign of Caiming's ability to help divers improve dramatically during their time with him.

Caiming also tutored 2001 graduate Herb Huesman throughout his career, which ended with him as the holder of three varsity records.

Caiming has been named his conference's top diving coach on three occasions, including in the BIG EAST in 1999 and 2004. On the women's side, Caiming was responsible for the development of Heather Mattingly and Meghan Perry-Eaton, the first two diving All-Americans in Notre Dame history.

The last three seasons have been the most successful in Irish women's diving history, featuring three BIG EAST titles, four All-America honors, and a pair of BIG EAST Championships Most Outstanding Diver



Caiming Xie

Diving Coach

10th Season

Beijing Institute of Physical Education '85



meter board, taking 12th. She was the first Notre Dame diver to qualify for the NCAAs in four consecutive years -- also earning honorable mention All-America in 2001 (13th in 3m) and 2000 (12th in 1m, 12th in 3m).

Before coming to Notre Dame, Caiming was the head diving coach for three years at the University of Toledo, earning Mid-American Conference diving coach-of-the-year laurels in each of his last two seasons. Prior to his stint with the Rockets, Caiming served as an assistant coach for the '91-92 season at Pittsburgh.

Boasting a wealth of international experience on his resume, Caiming served as the 1980 Chinese Olympic diving coach. He also has served as a technical consultant for United States Diving since 1994 and has held clinics and presentations for the United States Diving national team.

The Chinese national team coach from 1977-90, Caiming coached Sun Shu-Wei, a gold medalist in the men's platform competition at the '92 Olympics in Barcelona, Spain, and Zhu Jin-Hong, who finished fourth in the women's platform in Barcelona.

Caiming's divers also have earned medals at the Asian Games, World Cup, World University Games and World Championships.

A competitive diver in his own right, Caiming won the springboard competition at the Asian Games in 1974 and earned first place in the platform and second in the springboard competition at the National Games of China in 1975.

A 1985 graduate of the Beijing Institute of Physical Education, he also won numerous Chinese diving championships.

Caiming and his wife, Ping Tong, have one son, Tong, who graduated from Notre Dame in 2003 after a successful career as an Irish diver.

The Caiming File

- **1977-90**
Diving Coach, Chinese Olympic and National Team
* Two-time Chinese National Diving Coach of the Year (1986, 1987)
- **1991-92**
Assistant Diving Coach, University of Pittsburgh
- **1992-95**
Head Diving Coach, University of Toledo
* Two-time Mid-American Conference Diving Coach of the Year
- **1995 - current**
Head Diving Coach, University of Notre Dame
* 1999 & 2004 BIG EAST Diving Coach of the Year
* Irish divers have earned seven All-America accolades, three BIG EAST titles, and twice were named the BIG EAST Championships Most Outstanding Diver

awards. In 2003-04, Perry-Eaton turned in the most impressive campaign ever by an Irish diver, as she was beaten just one time during the regular season before sweeping the springboard events at the BIG EAST Championships by more than 40 points each en route to being tabbed the meet's top diver. Perry-Eaton then became the first Notre Dame diver ever to win a title at the NCAA Zone C Championships, taking first off the one-meter board. At the NCAA Championships, she delivered the highest-ever finish for a Notre Dame swimmer or diver, taking third in that event, ending up just 3.30 points behind the national champion and securing All-America honors.

In 2002-03, Meghan Perry-Eaton became the first Notre Dame diver -- and first non-University of Miami diver since 1996 -- to win a conference championship, placing first in the one-meter competition. She also was second on the three-meter board and was named the BIG EAST's top diver. Perry-Eaton then qualified for the NCAA Championships, where she placed ninth in the one-meter event and 20th on the three-meter board to earn honorable mention All-America honors.

In 2001-02, Heather Mattingly became the first Irish diver to earn All-America honors, finishing eighth in the three-meter competition at the NCAA Championships. Mattingly also earned honorable mention on the one-



Caiming Xie with his wife Ping Tong and son Tong, a 2003 graduate and diver at Notre Dame.





Matt Tallman

Assistant Coach

4th Season

Catholic '97

In his fourth year as an assistant men's swimming and diving coach at Notre Dame, Matt Tallman already has left his mark on the Irish program. Serving as recruiting coordinator, he has landed the top three classes in Notre Dame history.

Tallman joined the Irish staff shortly after the Notre Dame Athletic Department announced that all its sports would receive full funding. With increased scholarship aide, he has made the Irish competitive with the top programs in the nation on the recruiting front.

The efforts of Tallman have paid dividends in the pool, as the Irish have broken 21 University records over the last three years, and the current squad -- considered the most-talented in school history -- promises to set further all-time bests.

Tallman has been a key in the growth of the Irish program, and his first three seasons have seen a number of superlatives. In his first campaign, Notre Dame matched the third-highest win total in the history of the program, ending up 11-3 in dual meets. After failing to win their own Notre Dame Invitational for the first time in four years the season prior to Tallman's arrival, that meet has seen three Irish victories, including an impressive 2003 performance that featured Notre Dame setting a meet record for points scored and claiming a 710-point triumph over a talented second-place Harvard team. The Irish have similarly been dominant in the Notre Dame/Dennis Stark Relays, setting eight of 11 meet records since Tallman's arrival. The 2003-04 season also featured the Irish posting their highest-ever point total in the BIG EAST Championships, en route to their first runner-up result in four years.



Head Coach Tim Welsh on Matt Tallman ...

"The guys love him and fear him, and I think that would be exactly what he wants. There is no room for us anywhere but at the top in Matt's eyes. He feels there is no reason to give anything but 100% in anything we do. At the same time, he is a good teacher and a good stroke technician. Matt is very passionate, and I think we have had a good partnership since he joined our program."

Among the high points of that meet was Notre Dame's first-ever 1-2 finish in the meet, which took place in the 400 IM.

In addition to recruiting, Tallman assists head coach Tim Welsh in all facets of the Irish swimming and diving program, including on-deck coaching and teaching, training, supervising dry-land workouts, and day-to-day operations.

Prior to his stint at Notre Dame, Tallman served as an assistant at the University of Maryland in 2000-01. He helped the Terrapins send a school-record number of female qualifiers to the NCAA Championships. Maryland peaked at 16th in the national rankings that season, its highest listing in school history.

Before his season at Maryland, Tallman spent two years as the head swimming coach at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. While at IUP, he was selected as the Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference Coach of the Year in 1999 after helping the women's team to the PSAC title, ending Clarion University's 23-year stranglehold on the championship. He also helped the IUP women's team to sixth- and seventh-place finishes at the NCAA Division II championships. In his two seasons at IUP, the women's squad was 18-0 in dual meets.

Fifteen IUP swimmers achieved All-America honors under Tallman's tutelage while 18 swimmers earned all-PSAC accolades and five student-athletes were named academic All-Americans.

A 1997 graduate of Catholic University, Tallman swam for four seasons and captured 11 titles at the Capital Athletic Conference Championships. He set school and conference records in the 100 and 200 breaststroke, along with the 200 and 400 medley relays.

Born Sept. 24, 1973, in Camden, N.J., Tallman has a number of Notre Dame connections. His father Dennis is a '73 graduate and his grandfather, Edgar F. Bailey, played football for the Irish in the 1940s.

Tallman is single and resides in Mishawaka.

The Tallman File

- **1995-97**
Assistant Swimming Coach
Marymount University
- **1997-98**
Assistant Swimming Coach
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- **1998-2000**
Head Men's and Women's
Swimming Coach
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
* 1999 PSAC Coach of the Year
* 1999 PSAC Women's Champions
- **2000-01**
Assistant Swimming Coach
University of Maryland
- **2001- Present**
Assistant Swimming Coach
University of Notre Dame





Josh Skube

**Volunteer Assistant Coach
Indiana '98**

Josh Skube is in his fifth season as a volunteer assistant coach for Notre Dame swimming and diving, but his first working with the men's team. Also in his fifth year as a faculty member in the physical education department, Skube assists in all aspects of home practices and meets.

Skube swam collegiately for Ball State University from 1994-96 before earning a bachelor's degree in kinesiology ('98) and a master's degree in exercise physiology from Indiana University.

A member of the American College of Sport Medicine, Skube also has served as an assistant coach for Bloomington North High School (1999-2000) and the Duneland Swim Club (1995-97). Known for his deep technical knowledge of the sport, he also has been published in *Swim Technique* magazine.

A distance freestyle specialist, Skube is from Chesterton, Ind., and he swam for Chesterton High School, earning team MVP honors in leading the Trojans to Duneland Conference titles in his final two seasons.

Skube comes from a family with strong Notre Dame roots, as his father Thomas ('70), uncle Charles ('60), and cousins Mara ('86) and Steve ('90) are all graduates of the University.

Born Nov. 30, 1975, in Crown Point, Ind., Skube and his wife, Susan, live in South Bend with their two-year-old daughter, Ivie.



Matt Obringer

**Student Volunteer Assistant Coach
Notre Dame '04**

After completing an outstanding four-year career as a middle-distance freestyler at Notre Dame, Matt Obringer has maintained involvement with the Irish men's swimming and diving program by serving as a student volunteer assistant coach in 2004-05. After graduating *cum laude* in May 2004 with a degree in accounting, he enrolled in the master's of science in accountancy graduate program in the Mendoza College of Business and assists with home practices and meets.

A four-year monogram winner and team co-captain in his final campaign, Obringer finished his Irish career among the top four swimmers in school history in each of his three main events: the 200 free (2nd), the 500 free (3rd), and the 100 free (4th). He also was a member of the fastest 800 freestyle relay team in school history. Named team MVP as the squad's high point scorer in 2002-03, Obringer won 21 dual-meet races, registered a dozen top-six finishes at the BIG EAST meet, and twice posted NCAA "B" cuts in the 200 free. He also was tabbed honorable mention Academic All-America by the College Swim Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) in his final season.

Born July 31, 1982, Obringer is a native of Jacksonville, Fla., and a 2000 graduate of the Bolles School, where he was a four-time All-American for a team that won two national championships.



Jenny Scherer

**Senior Manager
Notre Dame '05**

Jenny Scherer is in her second year with the men's swimming and diving program, serving as the team's senior manager in 2004-05. A native of Florissant, Mo., and graduate of McCluer North High School, Scherer handles travel arrangements, equipment distribution, and the day-to-day operations of the office.

Prior to her involvement with the men's swimming and diving program, Scherer worked with the Irish football team, in 2003.

Born May 10, 1983, and the daughter of Larry and Rosemary Scherer, she is enrolled in the Mendoza College of Business and will graduate in May '05 with a degree in accountancy.

**Additional
Men's
Swimming
and Diving
Support
Staff**



Mike Danch
Assistant Athletics
Director



Alicia Roane
Athletic Training



Lisa Shall
Strength &
Conditioning



Colleen Fitzgerald
Academic Services



John Saylor
Aquatics Facilities
Manager



Rev. J. Steele, C.S.C.
Team Chaplain



Jeannie Schultheis
Administrative Assistant



Mandy Clark
Sports Nutritionist



Bo Rottenborn
Sports Information

