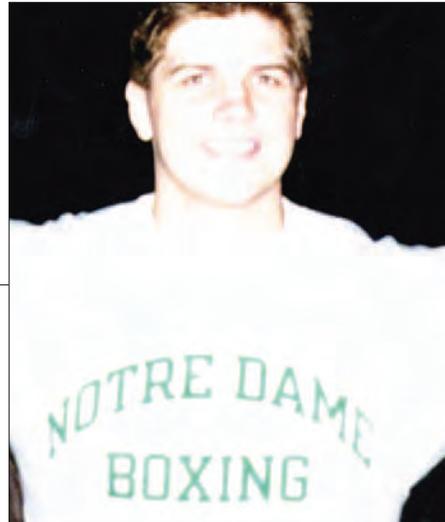


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THE DANIEL J. ADAM MEMORIAL AWARD

On October 25, 2003, a tragedy befell the Class of 2001, when our beloved friend Daniel J. Adam sadly passed away at 28 years old. His passing broke the hearts of the entire Class of 2001 and his loss still reverberates with all of us today. As anyone who was lucky enough to share a part of his joyous life can attest, Dan was committed to the betterment of society by helping the weakest among us. Whether it was charitable work in Montana on a Native American reservation or volunteer work at soup kitchens at Harvard, Dan gave of himself to help those in the community who

could not help themselves.

His spirit of charity and compassion propelled him to join one of Notre Dame's most respected charitable efforts, Notre Dame Bengal Bouts, where he was a two-time heavyweight finalist. The Notre Dame Bengal Bouts is a boxing tournament which, for more than 70 years, has raised funds to

support the Holy Cross Missions

in Bangladesh. Bangladesh is one of the poorest nations in the world, where the people subsist on a per capita income of \$285 a year. All funds raised by Bengal Bouts benefit the Holy Cross Missions and support various endeavors throughout Bangladesh. To learn more about the Bengal Bouts or to donate, please see the official Bengal Bouts Web site at <http://bengalbouts.nd.edu>.

In an effort to honor his life and cherish his memory, Dan's classmates came together to create a Bengal Bouts award in his honor, the Daniel J. Adam Memorial Award. This award will be presented annually to the most outstanding law school boxer in each year's Bengal Bouts Tournament. Through the generosity of his classmates, \$2,000 was raised to endow the award and an additional \$2,100 was raised for a donation to the Bengal Bouts charity in Dan's honor. An elegant plaque currently hangs in the Law School building and will have the name of the annual winner added to it each year. Also, the Bengal Bouts will present a trophy to the recipient at the annual banquet. The first annual recipient of the Daniel J. Adam Memorial Award is Brian Nicholson; he was presented the award in the Law School before the Notre Dame vs. Michigan game on September 11, 2004.

This award would not have become a reality without the insights and assistance of a number of people. I wish I could acknowledge everyone who contributed to the award in so many ways. I would like to extend my sincerest appreciation to Professor Emeritus Charles Rice, who provided invaluable guidance and support; William McMurtrie, who did an outstanding job designing the beautiful plaque which hangs in the Law School; and Jonell Lucca, who was a tireless fund-raiser.

May this award be an annual reminder of a life lost too soon and an inspiration to future generations of Notre Dame law students to embrace the motto of the Bengal Bouts: "Strong bodies fight, that weak bodies may be nourished."*

— JonMarc P. Buffa '01 J.D.

*Dominic Napolitano, Bengal Bouts, legendary director