

**NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL**  
*Athletic Hall of Fame Induction - Class of 2020*

## **Jessica Cocco Paulin '05**

Jessie Cocco '05 was a stellar 3 sport student-athlete as a member of Fighting Irish Cross Country, Swimming and Track and Field teams during her 4 years at ND [2002 - 2005] and was named the 2005 ND "Female Athlete of the Year".

As a member of the Girls Cross Country program, she was a key member of 3 Genesee Region [GR] League Championship teams ['01 - '03] as well as 3 NYSPHSAA Section V Class D Championship teams during the same years.

She served as team Captain for 2 years and finished first in the 2003 GR Championship meet, and was a 4 time Top 10 finisher during Sectionals throughout her Cross Country career at ND. She led her team to 3 consecutive NYSPHSAA meet appearances during which time ND finished 6th twice and 5th once in overall NYSPHSAA state competition.

Her individual honors included attaining GR League and NYSPHSAA Section V All-Star team recognition during all 4 years [2002-2005] of competition, as well as being named to the All-Section V 2nd Team [2002, 2003] on 2 occasions and as a 3rd Team All-State Cross Country member in 2002.

In the pool, she was a member of 5 [2001 - 2005] ND Girls GR League Swim Champions and won individual and relay championships swimming multiple events each season, setting a GR League Meet record in the 100 butterfly along the way! She was a member of 2 NYSPHSAA Section 5 relay championship teams [2004, 2005] and an individual [100 breaststroke] Sectional championship [2005] - the first time that a female had won a Sectional event in more than 20 years swimming against boys! She also placed 2nd in the 100 breaststroke in the 2004 Sectional meet.

Her individual honors in swimming included a team MVP award [2005], 6 time GR League All-Star [2000-2005], Section V All-Star [2005] and 2 time HAC Invitational "Swimmer of the Meet" [2003, 2005]. She held every single ND school swim record at one time or another during her career and graduated holding 8 individual ND pool records. Her excellent performances in swim competition over her career as a ND Swim team member resulted her receiving a Division I scholarship to St. Bonaventure University after her senior swim season.

She served as team Captain of the ND Girls Track and Field team her senior year [2005] and set school records in the high jump and pentathlon along the way. Her NYSPHSAA Section V pentathlon record still stands today! She was 2 time GR League individual champion and a 4 time Section V NYSPHSAA individual champion [once as an 8th grader in 2001!]. She was also a member of NYSPHSAA Section V Champion relay. As a junior [2004], she was a member of a Super-Sectional relay team that qualified for states and finished in 6th place in the NYSPHSAA state meet!

Individual honors in Track and Field included being named a 5 time GR League All-Star and a 4 time NYSPHSAA All-Star.

Academic honors recognition at ND included serving as the President of the ND Chapter of the National Honor Society and being identified as a "Commended Student" by the National Merit Scholarship Program as a senior [2005]. She was very active in numerous theatrical productions and placed 2nd in the 2005 Genesee County Junior Miss competition.

She attended St. Bonaventure University on a Division I swimming scholarship her freshman year of college and transferred to SUNY Geneseo for her final 3 years of college earning a B.A. degree in History and graduating Magna Cum Laude. She attended the University of Pittsburgh School of Law following Geneseo where she earned her Juris Doctor degree cum laude.

While at SUNY Geneseo, she was a 3 time member of the SUNYAC All-Academic and All-Conference [2007 -2009] collegiate swim teams. She captained the Geneseo Swimming and Diving team and earned 3 individual All-America swim team recognitions while setting multiple team and SUNYAC conference records during her 3 years in the Geneseo pool.

Jessie currently serves as the Assistant General Counsel and Vice President at M and T Bank. She and her husband Doug currently reside in Amherst, NY and are the proud parents of 2 children - Adeline [5] and Quinn [5]!

