

## 2000 Dignitaries

### 2000 Mr. Pat: Chip Michel



Charles J. (Chip) Michel is a lifelong Twin Cities business and community leader. Chip is the grandson of Marie O'Connell and Joseph T. O'Neill and the son, one of nine children, of Dolly O'Neill and Charles Michel. Like his parents and grandparents, Chip has resided in St. Paul all his life. After graduation from the University of St. Thomas, Chip served in the US Army as a Communications Officer. After his military service, Chip joined his father, Chuck, at the Michel Sales Company as a salesman. Now President and CEO of the company, Chip employs 83 families. Chip, serving on many boards, for St. Gregory's his church, and his community, does find time for fishing and golf. He resides at his St. Paul home with his wife Mary and their children, Bridget and Charles III.

### 2000 Miss Shamrock: Kelly Jo Kennedy



Kelly Jo, a native of Coon Rapids, was selected as Miss Shamrock 2000 Wednesday March 15 at Mancini's Char House. After being out and about in the Saint Paul community for the past six weeks, she calls Saint Paul home. Her father Casey and her mother Val are very proud parents and are excited and happy that she has obtained this honor. Kelly works as a General Ledger Accountant at Northwestern Travel and was looking forward to returning back to school to obtain her CPA. The 21-year old hails from a large Irish Catholic family from NE Minneapolis. The 50 + clan often gets together to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries and their favorite past time Karaoke!

## 2000 Distinguished Irish Woman: the Honorable Kathleen Gearin



Judge Gearin has been a District Court Judge since January 1987. Her activities on the bench include National Association of Women Judges/Women Judges Fund for Justice Board of Directors. She is currently presiding as President of the Minnesota District Judges Association and is a member of the Project Reconnect Advisory Board. The St. Patrick's Association is honored in having Judge Gearin as our Distinguished Irishwoman of 2000

## 2000 Grand Marshals: Good Day Minnesota Morning Show



Celebrity Grand Marshal's were from KMSP Channel 9, and are the Good Day Minnesota morning show. The team included Mike Tsolina, Alix Kendall, Tim Sherno and Robin Wolfram.

## 2000 Honorary Irishman: Chris Karr



Chris Karr was from Minnesota's Favorite Country Music station, K102.