

# 2011 notre dame softball

**22 consecutive winning seasons • 12 consecutive ncaa appearances  
6 big east tournament titles (1999, 2000, 2002, 2003, 2006, 2009)**

**notre dame media relations • alan george • w. 574.631.3397 • c. 574.340.3977 • ageorge2@nd.edu**

## gameday central

<p><b>no. 24/19 notre dame fighting irish</b> [und.com • bigeast.org]</p> <p><b>no. 23/21 kentucky wildcats</b> [ukathletics.com • secsports.com] series: notre dame leads, 1-0 series streak: notre dame, w1 first / last meeting: 3.5.00 – notre dame, 8-0 (state line classic – bristol, tenn.)</p> <p><b>no. 2/2 michigan wolverines</b> [mgoblue.com • bigten.org] series: michigan leads, 14-4 series streak: michigan, w10 first meeting: 3.30.94 – notre dame, 2-1 last meeting: 3.19.11 – michigan, 9-4 (judi garman classic – fullerton, calif.)</p> <p><b>western michigan broncos</b> [wmubroncos.com • mac-sports.com] series: notre dame leads, 23-6 series streak: western michigan, w1 first meeting: 4.8.92 – western michigan, 7-2 last meeting: 3.29.11 – western michigan, 3-2</p>	<p><b>irish alert text message updates: und.com</b> twitter: @und_com / @ndsoftball facebook: facebook.com/unddotcom</p> <p><b>friday, may 20</b> game 1 notre dame vs. kentucky - 5:30 p.m. (espn2) game 2 michigan vs. w. michigan - 8:00 p.m. (espn)</p> <p><b>saturday, may 21</b> game 3 game 1 winner vs. game 2 winner - noon game 4 game 1 loser vs. game 2 loser - 2:30 p.m. game 5 game 3 loser vs. game 4 winner - 5:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>sunday, may 22</b> game 6 game 3 winner vs. game 5 winner - 1:00 p.m. game 7 (if necessary) game 6 winner vs. game 6 loser - 3:30 p.m.</p>
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## 2011 schedule / results

2.18 (fri.)	(1) vs. miami (ohio)	w, 3-2
	(1) at ucf	w, 5-3
2.19 (sat.)	(1) vs. illinois-chicago	w, 4-1
	(1) vs. delaware	w, 11-1 (5)
2.20 (sun.)	(1) vs. miami (ohio)	w, 4-1
2.26 (sat.)	(2) at college of charleston	w, 2-0
	(2) vs. iowa state	w, 1-0
2.27 (sun.)	(2) vs. marist	w, 10-1
	(2) vs. liberty	w, 6-4
3.4 (fri.)	(3) vs. longwood	l, 0-2
	(3) vs. #1 alabama	l, 1-4
3.5 (sat.)	(3) vs. north carolina	w, 4-3 (8)
	(3) vs. maryland (espn3)	w, 5-3
3.6 (sun.)	(3) vs. fordham	w, 6-0
3.13 (sun.)	at cal poly	w, 4-1
	at cal poly	w, 2-0
3.16 (wed.)	(4) vs. #9 oklahoma	w, 2-1
	(4) at cal state fullerton	l, 0-10 (5)
3.17 (thurs.)	(4) vs. #19 louisiana-lafayette	l, 1-5
3.18 (fri.)	(4) vs. new mexico	w, 5-0
	(4) vs. #4 washington	l, 4-7
3.19 (sat.)	(4) vs. #5 michigan	l, 4-9
<b>3.25 (fri.)</b>	<b>northern illinois</b>	<b>w, 4-1</b>
<b>3.29 (tues.)</b>	<b>western michigan</b>	<b>l, 2-3</b>
<b>3.31 (thurs.)</b>	<b>purdue</b>	<b>w, 7-5</b>
<b>4.2 (sat.)</b>	<b>providence*</b>	<b>w, 12-4 (5)</b>
<b>4.2 (sat.)</b>	<b>providence*</b>	<b>w, 7-3</b>
<b>4.3 (sun.)</b>	<b>providence*</b>	<b>w, 9-0 (5)</b>
4.5 (tues.)	at wisconsin	w, 9-1 (6)
<b>4.7 (thurs.)</b>	<b>butler</b>	<b>w, 5-0</b>
<b>4.7 (thurs.)</b>	<b>butler</b>	<b>w, 6-1</b>
4.10 (sun.)	at syracuse*	w, 9-2
4.10 (sun.)	at syracuse*	w, 7-4
<b>4.12 (tues.)</b>	<b>bowling green</b>	<b>w, 10-2 (6)</b>
<b>4.12 (tues.)</b>	<b>bowling green</b>	<b>w, 8-5</b>
<b>4.13 (wed.)</b>	<b>loyola-chicago</b>	<b>w, 8-0 (6)</b>
<b>4.16 (sat.)</b>	<b>louisville*</b>	<b>w, 8-5</b>
<b>4.17 (sun.)</b>	<b>louisville*</b>	<b>w, 4-3</b>
<b>4.17 (sun.)</b>	<b>louisville*</b>	<b>l, 6-9</b>
4.21 (thurs.)	at villanova*	w, 2-1
4.21 (thurs.)	at villanova*	w, 10-8
4.27 (wed.)	at usf* (bright house sports)	w, 1-0
4.27 (wed.)	at usf* (bright house sports)	w, 5-0
<b>4.30 (sat.)</b>	<b>st. john's*</b>	<b>w, 10-3</b>
<b>4.30 (sat.)</b>	<b>st. john's*</b>	<b>w, 11-1 (5)</b>
<b>5.1 (sun.)</b>	<b>st. john's*</b>	<b>w, 14-0 (5)</b>
<b>5.3 (tues.)</b>	<b>valparaiso</b>	<b>w, 10-2 (6)</b>
<b>5.4 (wed.)</b>	<b>pittsburgh* (espn)</b>	<b>w, 8-1</b>
<b>5.4 (wed.)</b>	<b>pittsburgh* (espn)</b>	<b>w, 8-0 (6)</b>
5.7 (sat.)	at connecticut*	w, 8-4
5.7 (sat.)	at connecticut*	w, 9-0 (5)
5.8 (sun.)	at connecticut*	w, 14-11
5.12 (thurs.)	(5) vs. providence	w, 6-4
5.13 (fri.)	(5) at louisville	l, 0-6
5.20-5.22	ncaa ann arbor regional	--

- (1) ucf invitational – orlando, fla.
- (2) cougar classic – mt. pleasant, s.c.
- (3) diamond 9 events citrus classic – kissimmee, fla.
- (4) judi garman classic – fullerton, calif.
- (5) big east conference championship - louisville, ky.

## probable irish starters

pos.	number - name	class	hometown / high school
p	9 - jody valdivia	sr.	anaheim hills, calif. / canyon
	[2.81 era, 10-4 ... combined with shannon kelly for five-inning no-hitter vs. st. john's (may 1)]		
p	28 - brittany o'donnell	so.	avon, n.j. / red bank catholic
	[3.07 era, 10-1 ... 10-0 during regular season ... took no-hitter into 6th inn. at usf (april 27)]		
p	15 - jackie bowe	so.	galesburg, mich. / galesburg-augusta
	[2.10 era, 1-1 ... 18 strikeouts in 16.2 innings]		
p	44 - laura winter	fr.	san diego, calif. / rancho bernardo
	[2.22 era, 24-3 ... school record holder with 9.45 k/bb ratio ... first career no-hitter at usf (april 27)]		
c	27 - alexia clay	sr.	rochester, ind. / culver academy
	[fifth-year senior ... second all-time with .992 fielding pct. ... first team all-big east]		
1b	17 - dani miller	jr.	huntington beach, calif. / edison
	[steady slugger with seven doubles and 10 home runs ... lone everyday starter without an error]		
2b	19 - erin marrone	sr.	alexandria, va. / bishop o'connell
	[back in starting lineup after knee injury ... hitting .333 with three doubles ... 3.976 gpa]		
3b	3 - heather johnson	sr.	los alamos, calif. / mater dei
	[21-game hitting streak from march 17-april 17 ... big east player of the year]		
ss	12 - katie fleury	sr.	san jose, calif. / archbishop mitty
	[batting .269 with five doubles, two triples and six homers ... 2010 nfca third-team all-american]		
lf	24 - brianna jorgensborg	sr.	thousand oaks, calif. / la reina
	[slugging at a .543 rate ... 11 stolen bases in 11 attempts ... three-time all-big east choice]		
cf	13 - alexa maldonado	jr.	short hills, n.j. / millburn
	[consistent slapper with .420 average ... leads team with 52 runs ... 22 multi-hit games]		
rf	7 - sadie pitzenberger	sr.	tomball, texas / tomball
	[suffered three acl tears throughout career ... first team all-big east choice]		
dp	40 - amy buntin	so.	franklin, tenn. / brentwood
	[swings a reliable stick for a .315 average ... three doubles, two triples, three homers]		

## one-hitters

- heading into the ncaa regionals, notre dame has won 14 of its last 15 contest and 27 of its last 29.
- after winning the big east conference regular season crown, notre dame was eliminated from the league tournament following a 6-0 semifinal loss to host louisville ... previously, louisville handed notre dame its last defeat (april 17) before the irish rattled off 14 straight wins until the tournament defeat to the cardinals ... in fact, each of notre dame's last three losses have been to louisville (2) and western michigan (1).
- during last year's ann arbor regional, the fighting irish went 2-2 as both losses came at the hands of host michigan ... notre dame's wins came over wright state and illinois state.
- senior heather johnson homered once against michigan during ncaa regional play in both 2009 and 2010.

quick facts

university

location .....notre dame, ind. 46556  
 founded ..... 1842  
 enrollment .....8,352 (undergraduate)  
 11,603 (total)  
 nickname..... fighting irish  
 colors .....gold and blue  
 fight song.....notre dame victory march  
 conference ..... big east  
 facility .....melissa cook stadium (850)  
 president .....rev. john i. jenkins, c.s.c.

athletics department

director of athletics.....jack swarbrick  
 softball administrator .....monica cundiff

coaching staff

head coach ..... deanna gumpf  
 alma mater.....nebraska '93  
 record at notre dame .. 424-174-1 (.709)  
 overall career record.... 424-174-1 (.709)  
 assistant coach ..... kris ganef  
 alma mater.....notre dame '99  
 assistant coach ..... lizzy lemire  
 alma mater..... notre dame '01  
 volunteer assistant coach.... dawn austin  
 alma mater..... penn state '93

media relations

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preseason softball information

overall record (2010) .....47-12  
 home..... 19-0  
 road ..... 12-7  
 neutral ..... 16-5  
 big east regular season ..... 18-3  
 big east tournament finish ..... 3rd  
 final ranking ..... rv (nfca / espn.com)  
 last postseason appearance ..... 2010  
 starters returning / lost ..... 8 / 1  
 pitchers returning / lost ..... 3 / 0  
 letterwinners returning / lost..... 17 / 1  
 newcomers ..... 4  
 all-big east returnees ..... 6

program history

first season ..... 1989 / 23rd season  
 overall record ..... 936-420-3 (.690)  
 total games..... 1,359  
 ncaa championship appearances ..... 16  
 ncaa championship ..... 23-30 (.434)  
 big east regular season ..... 262-47 (.848)  
 big east regular season titles..... 13  
 big east championship..... 33-19 (.640)  
 big east championship titles ..... 6  
 undefeated big east regular seasons .... 2  
 all-big east accolades..... 109

in the polls

nfca / usa today  
(may 17)

rank	school
1	arizona state (29)
2	michigan (1)
3	florida
4	alabama
5	tennessee
6	texas
7	california
8	missouri
9	georgia
10	arizona
11	stanford
12	oregon
13	oklahoma
14	ucla
15	washington
16	nebraska
17	baylor
18	texas a&m
19	georgia tech
20	lsu
21	auburn
22	oklahoma state
23	kentucky
24	<b>notre dame</b>
25	louisiana-lafayette

rv: syracuse 15, indiana 7, pacific 7, tulsa 4, east carolina 2, new mexico st 2, byu 1, texas tech 1

usa softball / espn.com  
(may 17)

rank	school
1	arizona state (20)
2	michigan
3	alabama
4	missouri
t5	california
t5	florida
7	tennessee
8	georgia
9	texas
10	arizona
11	oregon
t12	oklahoma
t12	stanford
14	washington
15	baylor
16	ucla
17	texas a&m
18	georgia tech
19	<b>notre dame</b>
20	nebraska
21	kentucky
22	lsu
23	auburn
24	louisiana-lafayette
25	oklahoma state

rv: syracuse 25, tulsa 13, houston 9, indiana 7, byu 6, north carolina 6, maryland 5, fordham 2, new mexico state 1, texas tech 1, longwood 1

last time out

louisville upsets irish in big east semifinal contest

may 13 - louisville, ky. - for the fourth time in five seasons at the big east conference softball championship, louisville proved to be a thorn in notre dame's side ... this time the cardinals put together a 6-0 win last friday at ulmer stadium to eliminate no. 18 notre dame from the league tournament for the second straight campaign ... sandwiched between a 2009 win en route to winning the tournament crown, notre dame's last four losses at the event have been at the hands of the cardinals, who were this year's fifth-seeded squad

the big east conference

2011 standings  
(thru may 17)

	big east	pct.	overall	pct.
<b>notre dame</b>	19 - 1	.950	45 - 9 - 0	.833
depaul	19 - 2	.905	39 - 13 - 0	.750
syracuse	15 - 5	.750	44 - 11 - 0	.800
usf	13 - 5	.722	33 - 21 - 0	.611
louisville	12 - 7	.632	36 - 18 - 0	.667
pittsburgh	13 - 8	.619	34 - 17 - 0	.667
rutgers	7 - 12	.368	19 - 30 - 0	.388
providence	7 - 13	.350	23 - 30 - 0	.434
st. john's	6 - 12	.333	20 - 30 - 0	.400
georgetown	6 - 12	.333	13 - 40 - 0	.245
connecticut	6 - 15	.286	19 - 30 - 0	.388
villanova	3 - 18	.143	16 - 32 - 1	.337
seton hall	3 - 19	.136	16 - 35 - 0	.314

2011 big east preseason poll

	2010 overall record	league record	2010 finish
1. <b>notre dame</b>	47-12	18-3	1st
2. depaul	39-18	18-3	1st
3. louisville	41-19	16-6	3rd
4. syracuse	32-26	10-10	5th
5. pittsburgh	27-25	10-11	6th
6. usf	24-29	9-13	9th
7. villanova	27-28	12-10	4th
8. providence	22-28	10-12	6th
9. connecticut	21-30	7-15	9th
10. rutgers	24-31	9-12	4th
11. st. john's	18-33	6-16	13th
12. seton hall	19-31	8-14	10th
13. georgetown	18-34	7-15	11th

after claiming a share of the 2010 big east regular season title, notre dame took top honors in the 2011 edition of the preseason league coaches' poll ... the irish earned an impressive 10 first-place votes and 141 total points ... depaul, which shared the league's 2010 regular season championship, was picked second with three first-place votes ... louisville garnered the third spot while syracuse, the reigning big east champion, was picked to finish fourth ... notre dame lived up to its billing by winning the regular season title, while syracuse won the conference tournament for the second straight season last week at louisville's ulmer stadium.

big east media relations • katie parker • kparker@bigeast.org

## notre dame roster

## alphabetical

no.	name	year	position	height	b / t	hometown / high school
15	bowe, jackie	so.	pitcher	5-7	r/r	galesburg, mich. / galesburg-augusta
40	buntin, amy	so.	catcher/utility	5-8	r/r	franklin, tenn. / brentwood
27	clay, alexia	sr.	catcher	5-6	r/r	rochester, ind. / culver academy
12	fleury, katie	sr.	infield	5-5	r/r	san jose, calif. / archbishop mitty
3	johnson, heather	sr.	infield	5-8	r/r	los alamitos, calif / mater dei
24	jorgensborg, brianna	sr.	outfield	5-11	r/r	thousand oaks, calif. / la reina
5	kelly, shannon	sr.	pitcher/utility	5-7	r/r	pembroke pines, fla. / hollywood christian
22	lux, kathryn	so.	infield	5-10	r/r	glendale heights, ill. / glenbard west
13	maldonado, alexa	jr.	outfield	5-6	l/l	short hills, n.j. / millburn
19	marrone, erin	sr.	infield/outfield	5-9	r/r	alexandria, va. / bishop o'connell
17	miller, dani	jr.	infield	5-9	r/r	huntington beach, calif. / edison
6	o'connor, kasey	jr.	infield	6-0	r/r	yorktown heights, n.y. / yorktown
28	o'donnell, brittany	so.	pitcher	5-9	r/r	avon, n.j. / red bank catholic
7	pitzenberger, sadie	sr.	infield/outfield	5-7	l/r	tomball, texas / tomball
42	saganowich, chloe	fr.	infield	5-9	r/r	treasure island, fla. / st. petersburg catholic
4	stuhr, lauren	fr.	outfield	5-6	b/r	huntington beach, calif. / huntington
1	thornton, kelsey	so.	outfield	5-6	l/r	sugar land, texas / elkins
14	torres, monica	fr.	outfield	5-7	r/r	winter springs, fla. / winter springs
9	valdivia, jody	sr.	pitcher	5-8	r/r	anaheim hills, calif. / canyon
44	winter, laura	fr.	pitcher/infield	6-1	r/r	san diego, calif. / rancho bernardo
35	wright, kristina	jr.	catcher	5-9	r/r	ramona, calif. / ramona

## numerical

no.	name	year	position	height	b / t	hometown / high school
1	thornton, kelsey	so.	outfield	5-6	l/r	sugar land, texas / elkins
3	johnson, heather	sr.	infield	5-8	r/r	los alamitos, calif. / mater dei
4	stuhr, lauren	fr.	outfield	5-6	b/r	huntington beach, calif. / huntington
5	kelly, shannon	sr.	pitcher/utility	5-7	r/r	pembroke pines, fla. / hollywood christian
6	o'connor, kasey	jr.	infield	6-0	r/r	yorktown heights, n.y. / yorktown
7	pitzenberger, sadie	sr.	infield/outfield	5-7	l/r	tomball, texas / tomball
9	valdivia, jody	sr.	pitcher	5-8	r/r	anaheim hills, calif. / canyon
12	fleury, katie	sr.	infield	5-5	r/r	san jose, calif. / archbishop mitty
13	maldonado, alexa	jr.	outfield	5-6	l/l	short hills, n.j. / millburn
14	torres, monica	fr.	outfield	5-7	r/r	winter springs, fla. / winter springs
15	bowe, jackie	so.	pitcher	5-7	r/r	galesburg, mich. / galesburg-augusta
17	miller, dani	jr.	infield	5-9	r/r	huntington beach, calif. / edison
19	marrone, erin	sr.	infield/outfield	5-9	r/r	alexandria, va. / bishop o'connell
22	lux, kathryn	so.	infield	5-10	r/r	glendale heights, ill. / glenbard west
24	jorgensborg, brianna	sr.	outfield	5-11	r/r	thousand oaks, calif. / la reina
27	clay, alexia	sr.	catcher	5-6	r/r	rochester, ind. / culver academy
28	o'donnell, brittany	so.	pitcher	5-9	r/r	avon, n.j. / red bank catholic
35	wright, kristina	jr.	catcher	5-9	r/r	ramona, calif. / ramona
40	buntin, amy	so.	catcher/utility	5-8	r/r	franklin, tenn. / brentwood
42	saganowich, chloe	fr.	infield	5-9	r/r	treasure island, fla. / st. petersburg catholic
44	winter, laura	fr.	pitcher/infield	6-1	r/r	san diego, calif. / rancho bernardo

**head coach:** deanna gumpf (10th season / nebraska '93)

**assistant coaches:** kris ganef (10th season / notre dame '99), lizzy lemire (6th season / notre dame '01)

**volunteer assistant:** dawn austin (6th season / penn state '93)

**athletic trainer:** nicole alexander (3rd season / florida '05)

**student manager:** sean rober (notre dame '11)

**[media credentials]** credentials are only issued to accredited members of the working media ... admission will be granted to media members holding a notre dame softball credential only ... spouses, children and guests are not permitted in the pressbox area ... work space in the pressbox can be limited and passes will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis ... requests for credentials should be directed to alan george of the notre dame sports information office.

**[in-season interview policy]** all requests for notre dame player or coach interviews must be made through alan george at 574.631.3397 ... please provide at least 24 hours notice for all interview requests and be aware that the student-athlete's academic obligations will always take precedence ... interviews may also be done in person before or after practice ... since practice times vary, please contact alan george for an updated schedule ... on game days, no interviews will be granted prior to competition.

**[melissa cook stadium]** notre dame plays all of its home games at melissa cook stadium on the university of notre dame campus.

**[post-game press conferences]** notre dame head coach deanna gumpf and players, along with the visiting head coach and players, will be available to the media following a 10-minute "cooling off" period ... media members should submit player requests for post-game interviews to alan george within an appropriate time frame.

**[photo credentials]** photo passes will be issued by alan george to accredited members of the media and those individuals on special assignment ... all requests must be made at least 24 hours prior to each game.

**[radio broadcasts]** visiting radio stations planning to originate from melissa cook stadium must contact alan george at least 72 hours prior to each game in order to obtain approval for the broadcast and proper credentials ... additional broadcast lines should be ordered through notre dame telecommunications (carolyn rush - 574.631.7205) ... und.com provides live audio for selected home matches.

**[stats]** box score and statistics will be posted on und.com immediately after each game.



## road to oklahoma city starts at ncaa softball regionals

a fourth straight trip to ann arbor awaits the notre dame softball team this week as the program treks to alumni field as host michigan welcomes the fighting irish along with kentucky and western michigan in the opening weekend of the 2011 ncaa softball championship.

the fighting irish are making their 16th appearance in the ncaa tournament – and 13th consecutive – while carrying a championship record of 23-30 (.434).

under the direction of 10th-year head coach deanna gumpf, the 2011 big east conference regular season champions have made 10 straight trips to the postseason dance.

one of only two first-round tournament sites set to be covered by the espn family of networks, notre dame will open the tournament at ann arbor against kentucky live on espn2 at 5:30 p.m. (et) on friday.

along with the other 15 regional brackets, the ann arbor regional is a four-team, double-elimination event.

in what will perhaps feature some of the most competitive opening-weekend bouts, the ann arbor site is the only four-team pod of the 16 regionals that features three teams ranked in the ncaa's top 25 (no. 2 michigan, no. 23 kentucky and no. 24 notre dame).

second-seeded notre dame is not only familiar with the surroundings provided by the host site – having played there in ncaa regional action following the 1995, 1996, 1999, 2000, 2003, 2004, 2008, 2009 and 2010 seasons – but also two of the three schools competing this weekend.

the irish played both michigan and western michigan earlier this season, falling to both by respective scores of 9-4 and 3-2. notre dame has fallen to michigan in each of the last 10 meetings, with seven of those coming at the ann arbor regional since 2003.

notre dame had previously won 10 straight over western michigan before the broncos handed the irish a regular-season home loss back in march.

kentucky and notre dame have met just once, with the irish prevailing at the 2000 state line classic in bristol, tenn., by an 8-0 margin.

now under the direction of head coach rachel lawson, who has led the third-seeded wildcats to three straight at-large tournament berths, kentucky matched a program record with 36 wins and has been ranked for 13 consecutive weeks. kentucky also claimed five series against southeastern conference opponents during the league slate for the first time in school history.

michigan, the tournament's 10th overall seed and top seed in the region, carries a 51-4 record into the fray on the heels of winning its fourth straight big ten title. notre dame and michigan met in march at cal state fullerton's judi garman classic with the wolverines pulling out the 9-4 victory.

not to be misled by its 22-28 overall record, a surging western michigan team closed the season on fire by winning the mid-american conference regular season and tournament crowns. the broncos are the region's fourth-seeded team.

**it's becoming a regularity ...**

the 2011 big east conference regular season title is the second straight - and 13th overall - for the irish since joining the big east in 1996 ... notre dame's 19 league wins in 2011 matched the second-highest total in program history ... notre dame is currently 262-47 (.843) in big east conference regular-season competition ... notre dame is one of only three big east teams that have won at least 18 league games in a single season ... the irish have accomplished the feat on four occasions since 2001, after first reaching the 18-win mark in 1996 then again in 2010 ... in 2009, both notre dame (19-4) and louisville (19-5) reached the 19-win mark ... depaul won 18 games in 2010, with both the irish and blue demons hitting the 19-win level in 2011.

**irish hold court at big east banquet ...**

notre dame ran through the big east conference softball regular season schedule in commanding fashion, and its efforts were recognized during the league's annual softball banquet ... **heather johnson** was named player of the year, **deanna gumpf** and her assistants were tabbed coaching staff of the year, and notre dame had eight players earn all-league honors ... notre dame can now claim 109 all-big east team members since joining the league in 1996 ... even more, 11 of the active 21 players on this year's roster have

earned an all-big east honor at least once in the past four years.

• flanked by assistants **kristina ganef** and **lizzy lemire**, **gumpf** and company earned the league's award for coaching staff of the year for the third time overall ... **gumpf's** staffs also won the award in 2002 and 2004 ... under **gumpf's** watch, notre dame won its seventh big east regular season title this year as the 10th-year skipper also shelved her 400th career victory earlier in the season.

• **johnson**, the nation's active leader with 240 consecutive starts, is the seventh irish softball student-athlete to be named player of the year and the first since megan ciolli copped the hardware in 2004 ... also a first-team selection, **johnson** is the big east record holder with 82 career rbi in league play. she is also seventh in doubles (19) and home runs (15).

• the second-team all-league citation is the third for **brianna jorgensborg**, who was a second-team performer in both 2008 and 2010 ... **jorgensborg**, a senior outfielder, turned the corner during the three-game series with st. john's to cap off a week that saw her hit .600 with a 1.800 slugging pct.

• **sadie pitzenberger**, a first-team choice, would have also won the league's comeback player of the year award had there been one ... after recovering from a third acl surgery before the season, **pitzenberger** led the league with a .561 batting average and was the only player to hit over .500 ... her 32 hits were a league high and her .542 on-base pct. was sixth ... she recorded at least one hit in all but one of 20 league contests ... the senior outfielder was named to the big east all-tournament team in 2010 and 2011

• one of two freshman pitchers named to the first team, the highlight of **laura winter's** first year in the circle for notre dame came during a near-perfect no-hitter at usf in which she walked and beamed the first two batters while retiring the rest for the remainder of the game ... **winter** boasted a 2.96 era with a 9-1 record ... **winter** struck out 88 in 71.0 innings of work, walking only seven over that stretch.

• **brittany o'donnell**, who was named to the second team, provided a reliable one-two kick for notre dame from inside the lines along with winter by posting a perfect 7-0 record in nine appearances ... **o'donnell** struck out 35 batters in 32.2 frames and was one of two league pitchers without a conference loss on the year.

• the crafty **alexa maldonado**, who brought home first-team honors as a sophomore, was equally impressive in the outfield during her junior season while claiming the same honor tonight ... she was seventh overall with a .433 batting average and tied for second with both 29 hits and seven doubles.

• first-team honoree **alexia clay**, a senior catcher, carried a big stick throughout league play with a .482 batting average, which trailed only **pitzenberger's** ... her .571 on-base pct. was the best in the league as were her 23 runs scored ... **clay** was one of the main reasons why notre dame earned the top seed heading into the tournament, as her seventh-inning grand slam last week at connecticut secured the league title en route to a 14-11 road win.

• **katie fleury** earned the third all-big east honor of her career by being named to the second team ... the shortstop scored 22 runs to tie the big east career record of 68 ... **fleury** also stole 10 bags in 2011 to bring her league total to a perfect 20-of-20, the highest career pct. of any player in league history.

**nationally speaking ...**

notre dame's team batting average (.334) is seventh and its winning pct. (.833) ranks seventh nationally ... its fielding pct. (.972) is 17th, scoring (5.94) is 16th, and slugging pct. (.515) is 16th ... individually, **alexa maldonado** and her .420 batting avg. is 35th, **heather johnson** is 14th with 1.15 rbi/game, and **laura winter** is 33rd with 23 wins, 13th with four saves and sixth with 0.91 walks/game.

**rub some clay on it ...**

one day after her two-out, seventh-inning grand slam at connecticut proved to be the game-winner en route to leading notre dame to a second straight regular season crown, **alexia clay** was named the big east player of the week (may 9) ... of the 12 player of the week awards handed out by the league this season, six of those have been awarded to four different notre dame players (**heather johnson** - 3, **alexa maldonado** - 1, **brianna jorgensborg** - 1, **clay** - 1) ... **clay**, notre dame's everyday catcher, homered twice on the week while leading notre dame to six victories while extending the team's winning streak to 13 games.

**jump for jorgensborg ...**

**brianna jorgensborg** was named the big east softball player of the week on april 30 ... **jorgensborg's** bat was a big reason no. 22 notre dame was able to win five conference games on the week, including a three-game home sweep of st. john's ... **jorgensborg** batted .600 on the week with a mighty 1.800 slugging pct. she went 6-for-10 at the dish as each of her hits were good for extra bases (three doubles, three home runs).

**if you're not first, you're last ...**

the irish strutted their stuff throughout the 20-game big east slate by finishing among the top in the following team categories:

\*note: notre dame was sixth overall with 530 official at-bats and fifth with 129.0 ip

batting avg.  
1. notre dame (.385)  
2. louisville (.338)

slugging pct.  
1. notre dame (.636)  
2. syracuse (.579)

on-base pct.  
1. notre dame (.459)  
2. depaul (.431)

runs scored  
1. notre dame (162)  
2. depaul (140)

hits  
1. notre dame (204)  
2. louisville (185)

rbi  
1. notre dame (145)  
2. syracuse (125)

doubles  
1. notre dame (39)  
2. depaul / syracuse (28)

triples  
1. pittsburgh (6)  
2. notre dame (5)

home runs  
1. syracuse (37)  
2. notre dame (28)

total bases  
1. notre dame (337)  
2. syracuse (312)

sacrifice bunts  
1. notre dame (20)  
2. depaul (19)

sacrifice flies  
1. usf (9)  
t2. notre dame (7)

stolen bases  
1. notre dame (37)  
2. pittsburgh (34)

strikeouts  
1. depaul (50)  
2. notre dame (57)

grounded into double play  
t1. notre dame (0)

pitching – era  
1. usf (1.27)  
4. notre dame (2.93)

fielding  
1. depaul (.986)  
t2. notre dame (.971)

individual batting  
1. sadie pitzenberger (.561)  
2. alexia clay (.482)  
5. heather johnson (.475)  
7. alexa maldonado (.433)  
9. brianna jorgensborg (.429)

hits  
1. sadie pitzenberger (32)  
t2. heather johnson  
alexia maldonado (29)  
t5. alexia clay (27)

runs scored  
t1. alexia clay (23)  
t3. brianna jorgensborg  
katie fleury (22)  
7. alexa maldonado (20)

rbi  
1. heather johnson (29)  
t6. alexia clay (22)

home runs  
1. heather johnson (8)

doubles  
t2. alexia clay  
alexia maldonado (7)  
t4. brianna jorgensborg  
heather johnson (6)

total bases  
1. heather johnson (59)  
6. alexia clay (48)

on-base pct.  
t1. alexia clay (.571)  
3. heather johnson (.556)  
6. sadie pitzenberger (.542)  
8. brianna jorgensborg (.525)

slugging pct.  
1. heather johnson (.967)  
5. alexia clay (.857)  
8. brianna jorgensborg (.796)

stolen bases  
2. katie fleury (10-10)  
5. brianna jorgensborg (8-8)

wins  
t3. laura winter (9-1)  
6. brittany o'donnell (7-0)

strikeouts  
2. laura winter (88)

opponent batting avg.  
3. brittany o'donnell (.195)  
8. laura winter (.239)

**no means no ...**

notre dame sent its eight seniors out in style with a 14-0 win over st. john's (may 1) on senior day ... **jody valdivia** and **shannon kelly** combined for a five-inning no-hitter ... even more, notre dame started each of its eight seniors to begin the game ... the brilliant pitching effort came just four days after **laura winter** notched the first no-hitter of her career during a 1-0 win at usf ... **winter** punched out nine bulls as 51 of her 77 offerings went for strikes ... usf, winners of five straight entering the doubleheader, was also blanked in the closing game by a 5-0 count ... in game two, **brittany o'donnell** took a no-hitter into the sixth as usf ended its 10.0 inning hitless drought with a single but left three runners on the pond in the inning ... **o'donnell** earned her seventh win behind a one-hit effort in 6.0 frames.

**irish strike out cancer ...**

notre dame played host to louisville during its strike out cancer weekend (april 16-17), as the irish will showed their support of head coach **deanna gumpf's** five-year old daughter, **tatum**, who is battling acute lymphoblastic leukemia ... tatum was diagnosed with a.l.l. last summer and is currently undergoing treatment ... notre dame raised over \$11,000 (and counting), as proceeds from the event will help raise funds and awareness for pediatric leukemia, benefitting the south bend memorial children's hospital pediatric oncology clinic.

**johnson's jaunt ...**

what lasts one month and is nothing short of remarkable? you're correct if you answered '**heather johnson's** hitting streak' ... spanning from march 17 – april 17, johnson's 21-game streak tied **dani miller** for second on the school's all-time list (**sadie pitzenberger's** 27-game streak in 2010 tops the chart) ... at the time, **johnson's** streak was the nation's second-longest this season ... prior to the start of the streak, which also included an ncaa-best feat with at least one rbi in 17 straight games, **johnson** had a .204 batting average and four of her 11 hits went for extra bases ... when the extraordinary effort ended in the first game of a doubleheader at villanova (april 21), the slugger boasted a batting average of .385 with 50 hits, 50 rbi, seven doubles and 11 home runs for a .692 slugging pct.

**johnson, johnson and johnson ...**

for the third straight week – and fifth time in her notre dame career – **heather johnson** was named big east player of the week on april 18 ... since the league began handing out the weekly award in 1992, **johnson** is the only player to earn the honor on three consecutive occasions.

**notre dame leads the way on 2011 ncaa apr honors list ...**

the university of notre dame ranked number one among all 120 football bowl subdivision institutions with 17 of its athletics programs receiving 2011 academic progress rate public recognition awards, as the ncaa honored division i sports teams for their latest multi-year apr scores ... these 17 irish teams posted multi-year apr scores in the top 10 percent of all squads in their respective sports ... the public recognition awards are part of the broad division i academic reform effort ... these awards are based on the most recent apr numbers that represent the combination of scores from the 2006-07, 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 academic years.

• here are the 17 notre dame programs honored this year for the multi-year achievement:

• men's sports (9) - baseball, basketball, cross country, golf, ice hockey, lacrosse, tennis, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field

• women's sports (8) - cross country, golf, rowing, soccer, softball, tennis, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field

• notre dame had a previous high of 15 programs honored a year ago in 2010, after 14 programs were honored in 2009 ... eleven irish programs were honored each of the previous two years, in both 2007 and 2008.

**winning is contagious ...**

across the board, notre dame has excelled in a number of national competitions during the 2010-11 season:

- ncaa champions: women's soccer, fencing
- ncaa runners-up: women's basketball, men's lacrosse (2010)
- ncaa semifinalists: hockey, women's tennis (2010)
- post-season bowl champion: football

- notre dame has appeared in the ncaa tournament 16 times overall and will be making its 13th consecutive appearance following the 2011 regular season ... the irish have advanced to the final day of regional action six times ... they were eliminated on the final day by iowa in 2001, northwestern in 2005 and 2006 and michigan in 1995, 2009 and 2010.
- liz miller guided the irish to their first ncaa appearance and returned five more times ... deanna gumpf has steered her irish squads to 10 ncaa trips in as many seasons.
- notre dame has an overall record of 23-30 (.434) in the ncaa tournament through 15 trips ... the program registered three of those wins in one of the more memorable showdowns at the ncaas in 2001.
- the irish have traveled exclusively to big ten regional sites since it began to qualify for ncaa regional play ... indiana (1994), iowa (2001-02), michigan (1995-96, 1999-2000, 2003-04, 2008-11) and northwestern (2006-07) have hosted the irish in regional competition ... notre dame played host to its first regional at ivy field in 2005.
- first appearance (1994 - bloomington, ind.) - the irish faced top-seeded indiana in the first game of the tournament and dealt the hoosiers a 3-0 defeat in eight innings ... the host team avenged the loss one day later with an 8-0 victory.
- first pitching victory (1994 - terri kobata) - arguably the greatest pitcher in notre dame softball history, kobata won the first ncaa tournament game for the irish with a two-hit, nine strikeout performance against indiana in 1994.
- first no. 1 seed (2001) - notre dame was ranked as high as seventh in the nation during the 2001 campaign and earned the team's first ncaa tournament number-one seed ... the team could not host the event that season, however, and would bow out on the final day of the tournament to no. 2 iowa on the hawkeye's home field.
- first no-hitter (2008) - nine runs on seven hits by the irish offense and pitcher brittney bargar's second no-hitter in as many weeks gave the second-seeded irish a victory over third-seeded kent state in six innings to open the 2008 tournament in ann arbor ... the 9-1 decision marked the fourth no-hitter of bargar's career but the second in which the hurler allowed a run ... it was the 36th no-hitter in school history and the first for notre dame in the ncaa tournament, also giving bargar the honor of becoming the first irish pitcher to record 30 wins in a season.
- three-in-one (2008) - in the 2008 opener against kent state, linda kohan and katie fleury were joined in the home run department by christine lux, with each of the three bombs coming in the game's third inning ... it was the second time in school history the irish hit three home runs in the same inning - a feat last accomplished exactly one month prior against wisconsin (april 16) by the same trio.

### notre dame ncaa single-game records

innings pitched			
12.0	1994	terri kobata	vs. illinois-chicago
8.0	2003	heather booth	vs. missouri
8.0	1994	terri kobata	vs. indiana (1)
7.2	2008	brittney bargar	vs. kent state (2)
7.0	2005	heather booth	vs. northwestern (1)
7.0	2004	heather booth	vs. depaul
7.0	2002	steffany stenglein	vs. oregon state (2)
7.0	2002	steffany stenglein	vs. iowa
7.0	2001	kristin schmidt	vs. depaul
7.0	2001	kristin schmidt	vs. illinois state
7.0	1999	jennifer sharron	vs. michigan
7.0	2000	jennifer sharron	vs. illinois-chicago
7.0	2006	heather booth	vs. uc santa barbara
7.0	2006	heather booth	vs. southern illinois
strikeouts			
15 (12.0 ip)	1994	terri kobata	vs. illinois-chicago
12 (7.0 ip)	2006	heather booth	vs. southern illinois
11 (7.0 ip)	2001	kristin schmidt	vs. illinois state
9 (8.0 ip)	1994	terri kobata	vs. indiana (1)
8 (8.0 ip)	2010	jody valdivia	vs. illinois state
7 (7.2 ip)	1995	terri kobata	vs. illinois-chicago (2)
6 (5.0 ip)	2001	jennifer sharron	vs. western illinois
hits allowed			
0 (6.0 ip)	2008	brittney bargar	vs. kent state (1)
1 (5.0 ip)	2001	jennifer sharron	vs. western illinois
2 (7.0 ip)	2002	steffany stenglein	vs. oregon state (2)
2 (7.0 ip)	2001	kristin schmidt	vs. depaul
2 (8.0 ip)	1994	terri kobata	vs. indiana (1)
2 (5.0 ip)	2003	heather booth	vs. oakland
3 (7.0 ip)	2000	jennifer sharron	vs. illinois-chicago
3 (7.0 ip)	1999	jennifer sharron	vs. michigan
3 (6.1 ip)	2002	steffany stenglein	vs. nebraska
3 (6.0 ip)	2004	heather booth	vs. illinois-chicago
3 (6.0 ip)	2000	jennifer sharron	vs. depaul

hits			
4	2006	meagan ruthrauff	vs. northwestern (2)
4	1995	andrea keys	vs. illinois-chicago (2)
rbi			
4	2008	linda kohan	vs. kent state (1)
4	2006	meagan ruthrauff	vs. uc santa barbara
4	2001	melanie alkire	vs. western illinois
3	2007	linda kohan	vs. wright state
3	1995	jenna knudson	vs. illinois-chicago (2)
home runs			
1	2010	heather johnson	vs. michigan (2)
1	2009	heather johnson	vs. michigan (1)
1	2009	erin marrone	vs. miami (ohio)
1	2009	dani miller	vs. cleveland state
1	2008	christine lux	vs. kent state (1)
1	2008	linda kohan	vs. kent state (1)
1	2008	katie fleury	vs. kent state (1)
1	2006	katie laing	vs. northwestern (2)
1	2006	meagan ruthrauff	vs. northwestern (2)
1	2006	meagan ruthrauff	vs. uc santa barbara
1	2005	mallorie lynn	vs. northwestern (3)
1	2003	liz hartmann	vs. michigan
1	2003	andrea loman	vs. oakland
1	2003	mallorie lynn	vs. oakland
1	2002	lisa mattison	vs. nebraska
1	2002	jarrah myers	vs. oregon state (2)
1	2002	andrea loman	vs. iowa
1	2001	jennifer sharron	vs. iowa (2)
1	2001	melanie alkire	vs. western illinois
stolen bases			
2	2008	beth northway	vs. kent state (2)
2	1995	katie marten	vs. illinois-chicago (1)
walks			
2	2008	linda kohan	vs. kent state (1)
2	1995	elizabeth perkins	vs. michigan (2)
2	1995	sara hayes	vs. illinois-chicago (2)

(x) - indicates first, second or third game played against team

**career records**

**games played**

1. meagan ruthrauff (2003-06).....	247
2. jarrah myers (1999-2002).....	245
t3. stephanie brown (2004-07).....	242
megan ciolli (2002-05).....	242
jenny krieche (1999-2002).....	242

**at-bats**

1. jenny krieche (1999-2002).....	790
2. stephanie brown (2004-07).....	778
3. megan ciolli (2002-05).....	771

**batting average (minimum 100 at-bats)**

1. <i>sadie pitzenberger</i> (2008-current).....	.389
2. megan murray (1994-97).....	.380
3. megan ciolli (2002-05).....	.368
6. <i>heather johnson</i> (2007-current).....	.356

**runs**

1. stephanie brown (2004-07).....	166
2. andrea loman (2000-03).....	164
t3. <i>katie fleury</i> (2008-current).....	161
megan ciolli (2002-05).....	161

**hits**

1. megan ciolli (2002-05).....	284
2. stephanie brown (2004-07).....	277
3. jenny krieche (1999-2002).....	268
7. <i>heather johnson</i> (2007-current).....	247

**doubles**

1. katie laing (2005-08).....	55
2. <i>heather johnson</i> (2007-current).....	51

**triples**

1. jenny krieche (1999-2002).....	19
2. katie marten (1994-97).....	13
3. megan murray (1994-97).....	12
t7. <i>alexa maldonado</i> (2009-current).....	9
<i>sadie pitzenberger</i> (2008-current).....	9

**home runs**

1. christine lux (2007-10).....	50
2. jarrah myers (1999-2002).....	36
3. <i>heather johnson</i> (2007-current).....	35
t4. <i>dani miller</i> (2009-current).....	31
13. <i>katie fleury</i> (2008-current).....	20
t14. <i>brianna jorgensborg</i> (2008-current).....	19

**rbi**

1. <i>heather johnson</i> (2007-current).....	212
t2. christine lux (2007-10).....	174
jarrah myers (1999-2002).....	174

**total bases**

1. jarrah myers (1999-2002).....	409
2. <i>heather johnson</i> (2007-current).....	405
3. melanie alkire (1998-2001).....	403

**slugging percentage (minimum 150 at bats)**

1. christine lux (2007-10).....	.654
2. andria bledsoe (2000-03).....	.613
3. <i>dani miller</i> (2009-current).....	.608
4. <i>heather johnson</i> (2007-current).....	.585

**walks**

1. meagan ruthrauff (2003-06).....	112
2. <i>katie fleury</i> (2008-current).....	99
3. linda kohan (2006-2009).....	90
4. andrea loman (2000-2003).....	87
t5. <i>heather johnson</i> (2007-current).....	76

**stolen bases**

1. megan ciolli (2002-05).....	76
2. andrea loman (2000-03).....	60
3. katie marten (1994-97).....	58
6. <i>katie fleury</i> (2008-current).....	46

**putouts**

1. christine lux (2007-10).....	1,544
2. jarrah myers (1999-2002).....	1,337
3. mallorie lenn (2003-06).....	1,309

**assists**

1. katie laing (2005-2008).....	483
2. ruth kmak (1989-92).....	467
3. <i>heather johnson</i> (2007-current).....	399

**fielding percentage (minimum 150 chances)**

1. <i>kristina wright</i> (2008-current).....	.995
2. <i>alexia clay</i> (2009-current).....	.992
3. mallorie lenn (2003-06).....	.992
4. amy folsom (1989-92).....	.992

**appearances**

1. brittney bargar (2006-09).....	172
2. heather booth (2003-06).....	167
3. steffany stenglein (2002-05).....	154
5. <i>jody valdivia</i> (2008-current).....	136

**games started**

1. brittney bargar (2006-09).....	137
2. heather booth (2003-06).....	135
3. steffany stenglein (2002-05).....	132
5. <i>jody valdivia</i> (2008-current).....	110

**wins**

1. heather booth (2003-06).....	96
2. brittney bargar (2006-09).....	92
3. jennifer sharron (1998-2001).....	88
6. <i>jody valdivia</i> (2008-current).....	75

**complete games**

1. brittney bargar (2006-09).....	99
2. heather booth (2003-06).....	87
3. jennifer sharron (1998-2001).....	76
6. <i>jody valdivia</i> (2008-current).....	62

**shutouts**

1. terri kobata (1993-96).....	42
2. jennifer sharron (1998-2001).....	38
3. heather booth (2003-06).....	32
6. <i>jody valdivia</i> (2008-current).....	24

**combined shutouts**

1. steffany stenglein (2002-05).....	18
2. carrie wisen (2002-05).....	14
3. heather booth (2003-06).....	11

**innings pitched**

1. brittney bargar (2006-09).....	931.0
2. heather booth (2003-06).....	901.1
3. jennifer sharron (1998-2001).....	772.1
7. <i>jody valdivia</i> (2008-current).....	635.2

**winning percentage (minimum 15 decisions)**

1. kristin schmidt (2001).....	.900
2. <i>laura winter</i> (2011-current).....	.870
3. terri kobata (1993-96).....	.840
7. <i>jody valdivia</i> (2008-current).....	.765

**earned run average (minimum 150.0 innings)**

1. kristin schmidt (2001).....	0.55
2. terri kobata (1993-96).....	0.63
3. jennifer sharron (1998-2001).....	1.22

**strikeouts**

1. terri kobata (1993-96).....	907
2. heather booth (2003-06).....	845
3. brittney bargar (2006-09).....	819
6. <i>jody valdivia</i> (2008-current).....	678

**hits per 7.0 innings (minimum 150.0 innings)**

1. terri kobata (1993-96).....	3.16
2. kristin schmidt (2001).....	3.71
3. steffany stenglein (2002-05).....	4.58

**walks per 7.0 innings (minimum 150.0 innings)**

1. staci alford (1990-93).....	0.81
2. <i>laura winter</i> (2011-current).....	0.91
3. missy linn (1989-92).....	1.07
4. jennifer sharron (1998-2001).....	1.30
10. <i>jody valdivia</i> (2008-current).....	2.40

**strikeouts per seven innings (minimum 150.0 innings)**

1. terri kobata (1993-96).....	10.07
2. <i>laura winter</i> (2011-current).....	8.56
3. kristin schmidt (2001).....	8.48
4. michelle moschel (1999-2000).....	7.78
5. <i>jody valdivia</i> (2008-current).....	7.45

**strikeout-to-walk ratio (minimum 150.0 innings)**

1. <i>laura winter</i> (2011-current).....	9.45
2. terri kobata (1993-96).....	6.43
3. kristin schmidt (2001).....	5.88
4. staci alford (1990-93).....	5.59
8. <i>jody valdivia</i> (2008-current).....	3.10