

2004 Notre Dame
Women's Soccer
(12-0-0)

August

27 Baylor W, 7-2
29 Eastern Illinois W, 3-0

September

Notre Dame Adidas Classic

5 Santa Clara 2, SMU 1
ND 1, #13 Stanford 0
7 SMU 2, Stanford 1
ND 5, #4 Santa Clara 2
10 at #11 Arizona State W, 2-1
12 at Texas Tech W, 3-0
17 at Connecticut* W, 1-0
19 at Syracuse* W, 2-1
24 Pittsburgh* W, 3-1
26 Wis.-Green Bay W, 4-0

October

1 at #20 West Virginia* W, 3-1
3 Providence* W, 3-0
8 at Villanova* 4:00
10 at Georgetown* 1:00
16 Boston College* 7:30
22 Rutgers* 7:30
24 Seton Hall* 1:00
28 at Michigan 3:00
30 BIG EAST Quarterfinals
(campus sites)

November

BIG EAST Champ. (@UConn)

5 Semifinals
7 Final
12 NCAA First Round
(campus sites)
14 NCAA Second Rd (1:00)
(campus sites)
19- NCAA Third Round TBA
21 (campus sites)
26- NCAA Quarterfinals TBA
28 (campus sites)

December

NCAA College Cup
(SAS Stadium; Cary, NC)

3 Semifinals
5 Final

* – BIG EAST Conf. Game

All times local to site

Rankings indicate highest poll

NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S SOCCER

at Villanova and Georgetown (Oct. 8 and 10, 2004)

The No. 1-ranked Notre Dame women's soccer team (12-0-0, 5-0-0 BIG EAST) will complete a stretch of 7-of-10 games on the road, with BIG EAST matchups at Villanova (Oct. 8; 4:00 EDT) and Georgetown (Oct. 10, 1:00) ... ND is the nation's only unbeaten/untied team and is 32-1-1 in its last 34 regular-season games ... wins over VU and GU would produce ND's 2nd-best undefeated start (the 2000 team opened 16-0) ... the Irish actually have played 18 games this fall, going 5-0-1 on the preseason Brazil trip ... since a rare deficit vs. Pittsburgh on Sept. 24, ND has outscored the opposition 13-1 ... since joining the conference in '95, ND is 100-9-2 in all games vs. BIG EAST teams, including 52 straight home wins vs. BIG EAST teams ... the Irish have not allowed a corner kick in the last 3 home games, with 19 opponent CKs all season ... ND has been ranked 1st or 2nd in the NSCAA coaches poll during eight of 11 seasons since '94 (all but '99, '01 and '02; also #1 in '94, '95, '96 and '00) ... the Irish posted a pair of impressive wins at the ND Adidas Classic (1-0 vs. #13 Stanford, 5-2 vs. #4 Santa Clara) ... 6th-year Irish head coach **Randy Waldrum** registered his 100th win with the Irish (now **106-19-4**/.835) in the Sept. 12 Texas Tech game ... senior F and All-America candidate **Mary Boland** suffered a broken leg midway through the SCU game and will miss the rest of the season ... the Irish recently received a big piece of good news as junior F and national player-of-the-year frontrunner **Katie Thorlakson** announced she will remain at ND for the entire 2004 season, rather than leaving to play with Canada at the Under-19 World Championship (Nov. 10-27, in Thailand) ... Thorlakson has combined with 5th-year D **Melissa Tancredi** and senior **Candace Chapman** (formerly right back with the Irish who has played mostly forward in '04) as ND's potent "Canadian Connection."

INFORMATION HIGHWAY – Gametracker livestats for all ND home games can be accessed via the main page at www.und.com ... **internet audio** broadcasts also are planned for all remaining ND games, home and away, and are available to College Sports Pass subscribers (see audio/video link on und.com main page) ... game recaps are available via the ND Sports **Hotline** at (574) 631-3000 (press "4" for soccer information and then "2" for women's soccer).

THORLAKSON CONTINUES TO PAD RESUME – Here's a quick look at junior F Katie Thorlakson's ever-growing national player-of-the-year credentials:

- * Leads nation in points (34) and assists (12), 7th in goals (11)
- * Three-time BIG EAST player of the week (Aug. 30, Sept. 6, Oct. 4)
- * Three 8-point weekends and one with 6 points
- * Has helped overcome loss of several top offensive players due to graduation, injuries and national-team duty
- * Has played a role in nearly 70% of team's goals in 2004 (25 of 37), with many of the other goals coming when she has been on the bench cheering on the Irish reserves
- * Riding 5-game goal streak (4 GWGs in that stretch)
- * Owns half (6 of 12) of the team's GWGs, two shy of ND record (8, set in '94)
- * Her 34 points this season have nearly matched her combined total (42) from her freshman and sophomore seasons.
- * Currently the only player in the nation with 11-plus points and 11-plus assists
- * Leads BIG EAST in points, goals, assists, GWGs and total shots (52)
- * Owns .212 shot pct. and is averaging 4.7 shots per goal scored (rest of team is just .120/8.3); she is converting 1G for every three shots on goal (11 of 31, or 2.8)
- * In four games vs. nationally-ranked teams, she has totaled 4G-4A assists
- * 3G-2A vs. #4 Santa Clara (only player in nation with 8-plus pts vs. top-25 team)
- * 16th ND player to total 25-plus goals and 25-plus assists in career (25G-26A)
- * Averaging 2.83 points/game in '04 and would total 76 with 9 postseason games (ND record is 72 points by Cindy Daws in '96 national player-of-the-year season)
- * 12 career GWGs already rank 9th in ND record book (also 20th in points, with 76)
- * Only three players in the nation have totaled more assists in a game this season than her three vs. Baylor.

ND WOMEN'S SOCCER
BY THE NUMBERS

967-02

Erika Bohn's shutout streak in 2003 (5th in NCAA history)

.716 (26-10-1)

ND's all-time NCAA Tournament winning pct. (2nd in women's soccer history)

286-9-11 (.952)

ND's all-time record when holding opponent to 0-1 goals (90-3-4 since Sept. 9, 1999)

207-3-1 (.983)

ND's all-time record when scoring 3-plus goals (111-1-0 since Oct. 6, 1995)

106-19-4 (.835)

Randy Waldrum's record at Notre Dame

52

Home win streak vs. BIG EAST teams ('95-)

40-7

1st-half goalscoring edge in '03 (19-2 in '04)

34

Consecutive wins when scoring first (active)

32-1-1

ND's record in its last 34 reg.-season games

28

All-Americans (since 1994)

26-11-3

ND vs. NSCAA top-25 teams, since 1999

24

ND-record streak w/out all. 2+ gls ('00 and '03)

22

Players who posted GPA of 3.0-plus in 2004 spring semester (13 with 3.4-plus)

19-3-2

All-time record in home tournaments

17

Number of home states and provinces (plus Iceland and Finland) on 2004 ND roster

16

ND's current unbeaten OT streak (12-0-4)

16

Team record for consecutive games without facing a deficit (2003)

13

Academic All-Americans (since 1995)

12

Notre Dame alums in the WUSA ('01-'03)

8

Players with multiple-goal games in 2003

8

Katie Thorlakson's points (3G-2A) in '04 vs. Santa Clara (most at ND vs. top-10 opp.)

5

National ranking for ND's 2003 freshman class

3.23

Team's cumulative GPA, as of '04 spring term

3

All-time postseason home losses (30 Ws)

2

National ranking for ND's 2004 freshman class

THAT WAS THEN ... THIS IS NOW

As shown in the below chart, Notre Dame's current stats include similar scoring numbers when compared to the 2003 season ... despite the loss of several top forwards (to graduation, injuries and national-team duty), the Irish have generated more shots per game but have not been as accurate as the 2003 team ... corner kicks and 1st-half defense also are improved but the Irish nearly have equaled their 2nd-half goals allowed (5) from 2003 (6) ... here's a comparison of the '03 and '04 stats:

	2003	2004
Record	20-3-1	12-0-0
Goals Per Game	3.04	3.08
Goals-Against Avg.	0.49	0.67
Avg. Scoring Margin	+2.55	+2.41
Shots Per Game	19.0	22.3
Shots Allowed/Gm	4.8	5.8
Shot Margin	+14.2	+16.5
Shooting Pct.	.160	.138
Shots Per Goal	6.2	7.2
Shots on Goal per Goal	3.4	3.6
Corner Kicks/Gm	4.7	6.3
CKs Allowed/GM	3.1	1.6
Average CK Margin	+1.6	+4.7
Save Pct.	.774	.765
Shutouts	15	6
Games w/ 0-1 GA	22	8
Games w/ 2 GA	1	2
Games w/ 3-plus GA	1	0
Overtime Record	2-0-1	0-0-0
One-Goal Gm Record	4-3	5-0
Wins By 3-Plus Goals	11	6
Home Games	13-2-0	7-0-0
All Road Games	7-1-1	5-0-0
1st-Half Scoring	40-7	19-2
2nd-Half Scoring	31-5	18-6
Fouls Per Game	14.2	11.1
Yellow Cards (Red)	12 (0)	7 (0)

ONE-TWO PUNCH – Notre Dame boasts possibly the best forward/defender combination in the nation, as junior F **Katie Thorlakson** (Langley, B.C.) and 5th-year central D **Melissa Tancredi** (Ancaster, Ont.) have led the Irish domination from their respective positions ... Thorlakson (11 goals, 12 assists, 34 points, 6 gamewinning goals) entered the week ranked 1st in the nation for points and assists, plus 7th in goals ... Thorlakson has been the BIG EAST player of the week three times (also named to *Soccer America* and *Soccer Buzz* national teams of the week twice each) and already has posted three 8-point weekends (2G-3A vs. Baylor, 1A vs. Eastern Illinois; 3G-2A vs. Santa Clara; 1G-1A vs. Pittsburgh, 2G-1A vs. UW Green Bay) ... Tancredi, a 2003 All-American and the reigning BIG EAST defensive player of the year, has earned thee BIG EAST defensive player-of-the-week honors this season (she also was one of 15 final candidates for the 2003 MAC Hermann national player-of-the-year award) ... see more below in Canadian Connection note.

IN THE BIG EAST RANKINGS

Notre Dame – 1st in goals per game (3.1; 7th in nation), shots per game (22.3); 2nd in shutouts (5); 2nd in goals-against avg. (0.67; 27th in nation); 2nd in corner kicks per game (6.3)

Villanova – 1st in goals-against avg. (0.58) and shutouts (7); 7th in shots per game (12.2) and corner kicks per game (3.8); 9th in goals per game (1.42)

Georgetown – 3rd in goals per game (2.3); 4th in shots per game (17.7), 5th in corner kicks per game (6.0); 10th in shutouts (3); 11th in goals-against average (1.60)

Notre Dame Players

Katie Thorlakson – 1st in points (34; 1st nationally), goals (11; 7th nat.), assists (12, 1st nat.), shots (52), GWGs (6)

Candace Chapman – 3rd in points (17), 5th in goals (6), 6th in assists (5)

Amanda Cinalli – 7th in goals (5), 7th in shots (39), 9th in points (13),

Jen Buczkowski – 6th in assists (5), 9th in points (13)

Annie Schefter – 4th in gamewinning goals (2)

Erika Bohn – 1st in goals-against avg. (0.56; 20th nationally), 7th in save pct. (.765) and 10th in solo shutouts (2)

Villanova Players

Laura Johnson – 2nd in GWGs (3), 6th in shots (40), 9th in assists (4)

Stacia Hartung – 9th in assists (4) Jillian Loyden – 1st in save pct. (.877), shutouts (6), 2nd in GAA (0.59)

Georgetown Players

Shara McNeill – 4th in GWGs (2), 6th in assists (5), 9th in points (13)

Casey McCann – 9th in assists (4) Jade Higgins – 7th in solo shutouts (3), 10th in save pct. (.704)

OPPONENT NOTES – Villanova (9-3-0, 3-2-0) owns BIG EAST wins over Boston College, at West Virginia and at Seton Hall (all 1-0) but fell out of the national rankings with losses last week to Rutgers (0-2) and at St. John's (0-1) ... VU's other wins have come at Charleston (4-2), at Loyola, Md. (1-0), vs. St. Joseph's (1-0) and Bucknell (3-0), at Pennsylvania (2-1, OT) and vs. Towson (2-0), plus a 1-0 loss to Princeton (at Penn) ... the Wildcats returned 7 starters from their '03 team that went 15-5-5 (3-2-1 BIG EAST), won the BIG EAST Tournament (final two games in PKs) and advance to the NCAA round of 16 (BYU advanced on PKs) ... Georgetown (5-5-0, 2-1-0) owns BIG EAST wins vs. St. John's (3-0) and at Providence (1-0), plus a 3-1 loss at UConn ... GU's other wins have come vs. Howard (7-1), at Bucknell (4-0) and vs. Quinnipiac (5-1), with losses vs. Dartmouth (0-2), at William & Mary (0-3), at George Mason (1-3) and at American (1-3) ... the Hoyas returned 7 starters and 17 of 21 starters from their 2003 team that went 7-11-1 (0-6-0 in BIG EAST) ... see www.villanova.com and www.guhoyas.com for additional info. on this weekend's opponents.

SERIES NOTES – Notre Dame owns a 10-1-0 series record vs. Villanova (44-5 scoring edge, 40-2 pre-'01), winning last season's overtime matchup on Katie Thorlakson's low, lefftfooted kick from outside the box, after a free-kick tap from Kimberly Carpenter (ND held a 16-5 shot edge, 8-1 in shots on goal, 3-2 in corner kicks) ... ND's last trip to Villanova (in '02) included an early 2nd-half goal from Amanda Guertin but VU scored twice in 72 seconds (by Julie Batista and Laura Johnson) en route to the 2-1 win (ND had a 24-12 shot edge and 17-10 in SOG but VU had the 6-3 CK edge and Chrissy Dolan made 16 saves) ... ND played without several top defensive players in that '02 game, including Vanessa Pruzinsky, Gudrun Gunnarsdottir and Ashley Dryer (all out with existing injuries) and Melissa Tancredi (injured in 2nd half) ... ND holds an 8-1-0 series edge vs. Georgetown (64-5 scoring edge, 55-1 pre-'02), including a 6-0 game at ND last season ... the '03 win over GU included 2G by Guertin and 1G by Carpenter, Maggie Manning, Amy Warner and Annie Schefter (18-5 shots, 11-1 SOG) ... the '02 loss at GU (4-3) again saw Pruzinsky, Gunnarsdottir, Dryer and Tancredi all out of the lineup ... Warner's hat trick had given ND a 3-2 lead in the 63rd minute of the '02 game vs. GU but Jessie Beers-Altman completed her own hat trick with goals in the 80th and 90th minutes (89:36) for the upset (ND held 17-13 shot edge, 5-2 on CKs, GU owned 10-7 SOG margin).

ND Career Stats vs. Villanova

Katie Thorlakson	1 GWG, 2 GS, 2 Shots
Candace Chapman	1A, 2 GS, 5 Shots
Melissa Tancredi	3 GS, 3 Shots
Gudrun Gunnarsdottir	2 GP/1 GS
Jen Buczkowski	1 GS, 7 Shots
Annie Schefter	1 GS
Miranda Ford	1 GS
Lizzie Reed	1 GS
Maggie Manning	1 GS
Jill Krivacek	1 GS, 1 Shot
Christie Shaner	1 GP
Maggie Manning	1 GP
Kate Tulisiak	1 GP
Kim Lorenzen	1 GP
Erika Bohn	2 GS (1-1-0), 8 SV, 2 GA, 187:22

ND Career Stats vs. Georgetown

Annie Schefter	1G, 1 GS
Jen Buczkowski	1A, 1 GS
Maggie Manning	1A, 2 GP/1 GS, 6 Shots
Jill Krivacek	1A, 1 GP
Candace Chapman	1A, 2 GS, 3 Shots
Melissa Tancredi	2 GP/1 GS
Gudrun Gunnarsdottir	2 GP/1 GS
Katie Thorlakson	2 GS, 3 Shots
Kate Tulisiak	2 GP
Lizzie Reed	1 GP
Kim Lorenzen	1 GS
Christie Shaner	1 GS
Claire Gallerano	1 GP
Molly Iarocci	1 GP
Jenny Walz	1 GP
Erica Bohn	2 GS (1-1-0), 6 SV, 4 GA, 164:34

FRIEND OR FOE? – Notre Dame sophomore D **Christie Shaner** (Ambler, PA) played alongside two Villanova players (Lindsey Finnegan and Laura Koch) with the F.C. Parkwood club team ... ND sophomore F **Molly Iarocci** and Villanova's Nikki Mayberry were teammates on the Sereno Eagles club team in Arizona.

THORLAKSON TO STAY – Notre Dame junior F Katie Thorlakson (Langley, B.C.), a top contender for NCAA player of the year, recently announced her intention to remain with the Irish for the entire '04 season, foregoing the previous plan to leave for three weeks to compete with Canadian side at the Under-19 World Championship (Nov. 10-27, in Thailand) ... that event overlaps with the first three rounds of the NCAAs and could prevent players from returning for the fourth/quarterfinal round (Nov. 26-28) ... several other players – including ND sophomore M Jen Buczkowski (Elk Grove, Ill.) – have made similar decisions in recent months ... Buczkowski is the playmaker of the Irish midfield and has been a starting defender with the U.S. U-19 squad ... unlike their Canadian counterparts, the U.S. federation instituted a residency training camp for the months leading up to the U-19 World Championship, meaning team members had to sit out the entire semester from their respective colleges or high schools (ND signee Kerri Hanks is the leading scorer for the U.S. U-19s and has delayed her enrollment until the '05 spring semester) .. Buczkowski made a surprise announcement at the team's '04 spring banquet, informing the team she would be returning to Notre Dame for the fall of '04.

KATIE THORLAKSON ON REMAINING AT ND FOR ENTIRE '04 SEASON – "It was a really hard decision. I thought about all the stress and decisions I've had to make the last three years and the positions I've put myself in, never really feeling like I was part of something and going back and forth from one team to another. This year has been so special with ND and I just decided to forego going to the U-19 World Championships. With that team, a number of girls will step up and be leaders and maybe it will be a good opportunity for them. ... I could have gone for just a couple of weeks to Thailand and coach (Waldrum) allowed me to do that and gave me a lot of space in this process. When it came down to it, I just realized that I needed to be at school and playing soccer here. (At Syracuse) there was an incident where I could have gotten into a scuffle and that's something I might have done in the past, but then I probably would have been kicked out and would not have been able to score the winning goal. It's all become a matter of putting the team over myself. I've worked hard at showing more restraint in my emotions. ... Playing for the National Team is an awesome experience. Most of my best friends are from that team that played in 2002. Playing with them every day is awesome. They are the best players in your country and you are best friends. ... At the same time, we are even more like family here at Notre Dame. We are together just about all year-round. Our team concept really came together during the Brazil trip, always playing hard and playing to win."

NOTRE DAME HEAD COACH RANDY WALDRUM – "We now have had two players on this team make the decision to forego the Under-19 World Championships, as Jen Buczkowski earlier this summer was one of several U.S. players who have opted out of that great experience. Katie and Jen both love their national teams but they also love this team here at Notre Dame, so it's a tremendously difficult decision for them. But I also think it shows how both have matured so much in the past year. It says a lot about them as people and teammates and shows how much they care about this program and this school. Katie's attitude, intensity and leadership this season have been just as phenomenal as her performance on the field. She has made a great commitment to being a great player and I can't think that anyone in the college game is playing as well as she is right now. This is a huge moment for our program because it shows the commitment of an elite player who is willing to stay and help lead us to a national championship."

WINDY-CITY TRIO – The "Canadian Connection" is not the only noteworthy trio on the ND women's soccer team, as three Chicago-area natives have played key roles ... the three sophomores – M **Jen Buczkowski** (Elk Grove HS), D/M **Kim Lorenzen** (Naperville North HS) and defensive M **Jill Krivacek** (Geneva; Rosary HS) – led the Illinois team to the 2003 Olympic Development national title before starting their Notre Dame careers ... each of the Chicago natives play key, but subtle, roles on the Irish squad, with Lorenzen's great versatility allowing her to play anywhere on the field (she scored the gamewinning goal in the 74th minute at #20 West Virginia) ... the 5-foot-10 Krivacek has fortified the defensive midfield spot while Buczkowski is the classic field general and is tied for 3rd on the team in scoring with 13 points (4G-5A).

QUICK NOTES ON THE IRISH – ND again is on pace to total more goals (currently with 37) than opponent shots on goal (32) ... in addition to a 37-8 season scoring edge, the Irish also hold a 268-70 edge in total shots (avg. 22-6), 132-32 in shots on goal (11-3) and 75-19 in corner kicks (6-2) ... ND has faced just two deficits in '04 and has trailed for just 238 total minutes the past two-plus seasons (7% of the total minutes, spanning 41 games) ... the Irish own a 19-2 first-half scoring edge and have allowed just 24 first-half goals in the past four seasons (77 games) ... ND has limited 28 of its last 33 overall opponents to 0-3 shots on goal and has won its last 34 games when scoring first (dating back to a 3-2 loss to BYU on 10/19/02; ND is 2-3-0 in that span when the opponent scores first) ... the Irish have seen just five of the last 41 opponents come back to tie the game ... ND is the nation's only unbeaten/untied team, out of 308 in Division I.

CONFERENCE CALL – Notre Dame's all-time record in regular-season conference games is 100-7-2 (.927; 81-7-2/.911 in BIG EAST) ... the Irish are 55-1 in home games vs. BIG EAST teams, with 52 straight home wins over BIG EAST teams since a 5-4 OT loss to UConn in '95 (241-17 scoring edge, 36 shutouts, 14 with 1 GA) ... since '95, ND's overall record in all games vs. BIG EAST teams now is 100-9-2 (.909; 1-1-0 vs. UConn in NCAAs).

WEEKLY HONORS – Notre Dame players have combined to earn seven of the 13 BIG EAST offensive (3) and defensive (4) player-of-the-week honors this season, with fifth-year D **Melissa Tancredi** earning three of the defensive honors (Sept. 6, 13 and 27) while senior left back Kate Tulisiak was the Sept. 20 honoree ... junior F **Katie Thorlakson** has picked up three BIG EAST weekly offensive honors (Aug. 30, Sept. 6, Oct. 4 ... Rutgers is the only other team with more than one offensive/defensive award from the BIG EAST this season (2 def.), with four teams producing one honoree.

NOTRE DAME PLAYER QUICK-FACT SHEET

Pos.	Player (Yr.; Hometown)	Notes
F	#7 Katie Thorlakson (Jr.; Langley, BC)	Leads nation in points and assists (7th in goals), with three 8-point weekends
	'04 stats: 11G-12A (34 pts), 6 GWG, 12 GP/11 GS	1st ND player to score/assist on team's first 5 goals in gm (vs. Baylor and SCU)
	'03 stats: 10G-11A (31 pts), 4 GWG, 24 GP/19 GS	1st ND repeat BIG EAST Offensive Player of Week (now 3); GWG vs. PC
	career: 25G-26A (76 pts), 11 GWG, 55 GP/48 GS	BIG EAST player of week (Aug. 30; 2G-3A vs. Baylor, set up 3G vs. EIU)
		8 pts vs. #4 SCU (3G-2A) most ever by ND player vs. top-25 tm (3rd ND player with hat trick vs. top-10 team); GWA at ASU
		Tied ND record with 7 points in a half vs. Baylor (2G-3A), also SCU (3G-1A); 3 straight GWGs vs. SYR, Pitt (A), UWGB (2G-A)
F	#5 Amanda Cinalli (Fr.; Maple Hts, OH)	6th ND freshmen to score opening goal; 6th ND player to score first 2 gls (BAY)
	'04: 5G-3A (13 pts), 12 GP/11 GS	BIG EAST rookie of week after GWG vs. UConn and 1A vs. SYR (2-1); 1G vs. TT and UWGB
		5th in BIG EAST for goals, 6th in pts; prep All-American (37G as sr. at Laurel HS); member of U.S. Under-17 Nat'l Team
F/D	#8 Candace Chapman (Sr.; Ajax, ONT)	2G vs. BAY, 1G vs. EIU/SCU/ASU/Pitt; GWA vs. SYR ... Preseason All-Amer./Hermann list
	'04 stats: 6G-5A (17 pts), 12 GP/5 GS	'02 honors included NSCAA 2nd team All-American and BIG EAST Def. Player of Year
	'02 stats: 3G-5A (11 pts), GWG, 19 GS	Member of Canadian Nat'l Team (starting flank mid.); led ND with 4G in Brazil (sum. '04)
	Career (inj. in '03): 11G-11A (33 pts), 3 GWG, 50 GP/43 GS	Missed '03 season due to ACL knee injury while training w/ Canada
F	#13 Maggie Manning (Jr.; Lake Oswego, OR)	2G in 2003 opener vs. Hartford and 2004 win at Texas Tech (3-0)
	'04 stats: 2G, 8 GP, GWG ... '03: 4G-2A (10 pts), 22 GP/3 GS	Played some M in '02, now part of regular F rotation
	career: 7G-4A (18 pts), GWG, 48 GP/6 GS	Oregon player of the year at Jesuit HS (90G in three prep seasons)
M	#9 Jen Buczkowski (So.; Elk Grove, IL)	All-ND Classic ('04); 1G-2A vs. BAY, 1G vs. EIU/SYR, 1G-1A vs. SCU, 1A at WVU
	'04 stats: 4G-5A (13 pts), 12 GP/11 GS	Preseason all-BIG EAST pick for 2004 ... '03 Freshman All-American (SA)
	'03 stats: 4G-6A (14 pts), 24 GP/23 GS	2003 honors included ND Classic Offensive MVP (2G-3A; vs. ASU and Okla.)
	career: 8G-11A (27 pts), 36 GP/34 GS	69G-52A in 3-yr HS career; rated #6 recruit in '03 (SA); prep All-American, U.S. U-19 team
M	#11 Annie Scheffter (Jr.; Yakima, WA)	GWG vs. EIU, STAN (PK); 1A vs. SCU. 1G vs. GB/PC; dad Rob ND tennis player
	'04: 4G-3A (9 pts), 2 GWG, 12 GP/10 GS ... '03: 4G-5A (13 pts), GWG, 24 GP/19 GS	U.S. U-19 Nat'l Team ('02), #11 recruit (SA)
	career (inj. in '02): 8G-8A (24 pts), 2 GWG, 36 GP/29 GS	47G-21A as senior at West Valley HS (Gatorade WA player of the year)
M	#12 Ashley Jones (Fr.; Westlake Village, CA)	ND's 3rd-leading scorer on Brazil trip (2G-3A)
	'04: 1A (vs. TT), 12 GP/3 GS	Won '04 national titles with state ODP (Cal-South) and club team (Southern Calif. United)
F/M	#3 Jannica Tjeder (Fr.; Espoo, Finland)	2nd-leading scorer in Brazil (3G-2A); missed 5 gms (ankle); 1G vs. PC
	'04: 1G-1A, 7 GP/4 GS	Member of Finland's U-21 nat'l team; MVP of '03 Finnish Women's Champ. league (9G-13A, 18 GP)
DM	#24 Jill Krivacek (So.; Geneva, IL)	All-Tournament at '04 ND Classic; 2nd-half GWG vs. Wake Forest in '03(3-0)
	'04: 12 GP/8 GS ... '03: 2G-2A, GWG, 23 GP/6 GS ... car: 2G-2A, 35 GP/14 GS	78 goals at Rosary HS; strong def. mid. skills
M/F	#15 Lizzie Reed (So.; Franklin Lakes, NJ)	GWA at WVU (3-1); scored in '03 win over UConn (as F)
	'04 stats: 1A, 12 GP/6 GS ... '03 stats: 2G-1A, 23 GP/8 GS	Prep All-American (126 career G); member of ODP nat'l runner-up (NJ)
DM	#21 Claire Gallerano (So.; Dallas, TX)	Surging defensive midfielder known for tenacious tackling and ball-winning
	'04: 7 GP/1 GS (vs. TT) ... '03: 6 GP	One of four Dallas Texans products ('03 national champs) to join ND in last two seasons
D	#18 Christie Shaner (So.; Ambler, PA)	2nd Team all-BIG EAST/Co- Rookie of Year, SCU Classic Def. MVP (all '03)
	'04 stats: 1G (@WVU), 12 GP/11 GS	All-Tourn. '04 ND Classic; U.S. U-21 camps ('04); #22 recruit (SA)
	'03: 1G-3A, 23 GP/20 GS ... car.: 2G-3A (7 pts), 35 GP/31 GS	Prep All-American; member of national semifinalist Bucks Challenge
D/M	#4 Kim Lorenzen (So.; Naperville, IL)	GWG at WVU (3-1); ND Classic all-tournament ('03); has trained at D, M and F
	'04: 1G-1A, GWG, 12 GP/7 GS ... '03: 25 GP/22 GS	Teamed with Buczkowski and Krivacek on '03 ODP nat'l champs (IL)
D	#17 Melissa Tancredi (Sr.; Ancaster, ONT)	GWG at ASU, GTG vs. Pitt (A); '03 All-American, BIG EAST Def. Player of Year
	'04: 2G-2A (6 pts), GWG (vs. ASU), 12 GS ... '03: 4G-5A (13 pts), GWG, 21 GP/20 GS	Starting central back with Canadian Nat'l Team
	Car.: 14G-11A (39 pts), 3 GWG, 67 GP/58 GS	Converted F; all 9G from '02-'04 have come on headers/volleys (7 on set pieces)
D	#2 Gudrun Gunnarsdottir (Sr.; Seltjarnarnes, Iceland)	Member of Icelandic National Team; dnp vs. SYR/PITT/UWGB
	'04: 9 GS ... '03: 18 GP/11 GS ... career: 51 GP/30 GS	Slowed by knee/ankle inj. in '02, broken arm in '03 (missed 4 gms)
D	#20 Kate Tulisniak (Sr.; Medina, Ohio)	1A at UConn (1-0); strong '04 spring and summer (W-League, Ohio Internationals)
	'04: 1A, 9 GP/4 GS (vs. SCU/Syr/GB/PC) ... '03: 2 GP (inj.) ... career: 1A, 30 GP/8 GS	Sister Kelly was F with Irish from '98-'01
D/M	#14 Jenny Walz (Jr.; Bloomington, Illinois)	Named W-League all-star in summer of '04 (with Fort Wayne Fever)
	'04: 1A, 9 GP/4 GS ... '03: dnp (inj.) ... car: 2A, 26 GP/6 GS	Missed '03 due to ACL injury; prep M making move to outside back
G	#1 Erika Bohn (Jr.; Brookfield, CT)	All-Tour. '04 ND Classic; 2nd Team Acad. All-American in '03 (3.63 GPA, design)
	'04 stats: 0.56 GAA, 13 SV, 4 GA, 10 GP/8 GS (8-0-0)	set ND-record with 967-minute shutout streak in '03 (5th in NCAA history)
	'03 stats: 0.49 GAA, 35 SV, 11 GA, 24 GS (20-3-1), 11 solo ShO	Called into U.S. Under-21 training camps ('04)
	car.: 0.81 GA, 105 SV, 38 GA, 55 GP/51 GS (40-10-1), 18 solo ShO	38-4-1 with 22 GA in last 44 starts for ND (5-0-0 spring '03)
G	#6 Lauren Karas (Fr.; Flower Mound, TX)	Wins as starter vs. ASU (2-1), TX Tech (3-0), UWGB (4-0), off bench vs. Pitt (3-1)
	'04 stats: 1.01 GAA, 4 GA, 11 SV, 7 GP/4 GS (4-0-0)	Earned Golden Glove Award with North Texas ODP at 2004 Nationals

WALDRUM PICKS UP 100TH ND WIN – Sixth-year ND head coach Randy Waldrum posted his 200th career win as a Division I women's head coach in the 2-1 game vs. Miami on Nov. 2, 2003, and recently registered his 100th win at Notre Dame in the 3-0 game at Texas Tech ... Waldrum also coached eight seasons as college men's soccer head coach and is 13 wins shy of his next milestone: 300 combined wins as a men's and women's college head coach (**289-124-23**/.689, in 23 seasons) ... Waldrum now owns a **213-69-16** mark (.742) in 15 combined seasons as the women's head coach at Tulsa, Baylor and Notre Dame ... the Irish are **106-19-4** (.837) in the Waldrum era, including 90-15-3 in the past 106 games (since losing 4-2 at SCU on Oct. 17, 1999) ... Waldrum repeated as BIG EAST coach of the year in 2000 and then became the first three-time BIG EAST women's soccer coach of the year (in '03) ... in '99, he became the only coach in the history of the NCAA women's soccer championship to lead a team to the title game in his first season as that team's head coach ... he was the fourth 1st-year coach to take his team to the NCAA semifinals, beating top-ranked and unbeaten Santa Clara in San Jose ... his women's soccer record includes 61-36-9 in six years at Tulsa, 46-14-3 in three seasons at Baylor ... Waldrum ranks 8th among active women's coaches for career win pct. (min. 10 Div. I seasons).

SCOUTING THE IRISH – The 2004 Notre Dame squad features 23 former letterwinners and nine with significant starting experience, among them senior F/D **Candace Chapman** (missed '03 season due to injury) ... the Irish spent most of '03 ranked No. 2 in the nation and raced out to an 18-0-1 record before losing to Michigan in the regular-season finale (3-2), Boston College in the BIG EAST semifinals (2-1) and Michigan again in the 2nd round of the NAACAs (1-0, UM converting its only shot on goal) ... returning starters include senior **Mary Boland** (Academic All-American, 12G-4A in '03; now out for '04 after broken leg vs. SCU on Sept. 5) and junior **Katie Thorlakson** (Canadian U-19 National Team; 10G-11A in '03) at the forward positions, plus a pair of proven midfielders who are former U.S. U-19 National Team standouts – junior **Annie Schefter** (4G-5A in '03) and sophomore **Jen Buczkowski** (4G-6A in '03) – to go along with junior G **Erika Bohn** (Academic All-American; 0.49 GAA, 967-minute shutout streak in '03) and three defenders: 5th-year **Melissa Tancredi** (All-American; 4G-5A in '03) and the sophomore duo of **Christie Shaner** ('03 BIG EAST rookie of the year, 1G-3A) and **Kim Lorenzen** (20 GS in '03; also has played M in '04) ... other top returners include senior D **Gudrun Gunnarsdottir** (Icelandic National Team), sophomore M/F **Lizzie Reed** (2G-1A in '03) and sophomore defensive M **Jill Krivacek** (2G-3A in '03) ... the four lost from the '03 senior class included F **Amy Warner** (All-American; 37G-25A career, 10G-12A in '03) and **Amanda Guertin** (48G-27A in career, 11G-6A in '03), attacking M **Kimberly Carpenter** (6G-5A in '03) and left back **Vanessa Pruzinsky** (94 career GS) ... ND's domination in '04 included 20 more goals (73) than opponent shots on goal (53) ... ND's freshman class is rated No. 2 by *Soccer Buzz*, 4th by *Soccer America* ... four freshmen had impressive debuts on the preseason Brazil trip: F **Amanda Cinalli** (prep All-American, U.S. U-17 National Team), F/M **Jannica Tjeder** (Finland U-21 National Team), M **Ashley Jones** and G **Lauren Karas** ... top scorers on the Brazil tour (5-0-1; 16-3 scoring edge) included Chapman (4G), Thorlakson (6A), Tjeder (3G-2A) and Jones (2G-3A) ... leading scorers after 12 games: Thorlakson (11G-12A), Chapman (6G-5A), Buczkowski (4G-5A), Cinalli (5G-3A) and Schefter (4G-3A).

CANADIAN CONNECTION CLICKING – Notre Dame's three Canadian natives – 5th-year D **Melissa Tancredi** (Ancaster, Ont.), senior F/D **Candace Chapman** (Ajax, Ont.) and junior F **Katie Thorlakson** (Langley, B.C.) – have been key leaders of the '04 Irish squad ... Thorlakson, the first ND player ever to repeat as BIG EAST offensive player of the week, entered the week 1st in the nation (among players from 308 Division I teams) with 34 points and 12 assists, plus 6th in goals (11) ... her 8 points vs. #4 Santa Clara (3G-2A; most ever by ND player vs. top-25 team) are 5th-most in the nation this year and made her the 3rd ND player ever to post a hat trick vs. a top-10 opponent ... Thorlakson became the only ND player ever to score/assist on ND's first 5 goals in a game, doing so in the opener vs. Baylor (2G-3A) and then again in the SCU game ... Chapman is 2nd on the team in goals (6G-5A) despite starting just 5 games and playing a reduced number of minutes as she returns from '03 ACL surgery (she can apply for a 5th year in '05) ... Tancredi, coming off an All-America season in '03, is the leader of ND's back line from her central defender spot and has helped the Irish limit the opposition to 70 total shots (5.8/gm), 32 shots on goal (2.7/gm) and 19 corner kicks (1.6/gm) ... Chapman, who started at right back for ND in '01 and '02, has started with the Canadian National Team (mostly at flank midfielder) while Tancredi emerged as a starting central D with Canada after the '03 college season ... Thorlakson recently made her first appearance with Canada's full national team and is a standout with the Canadian Under-19 National Team.

ACCURACY ADJUSTMENT – Notre Dame recently had struggled with its shot efficiency, scoring just three times on 45 shots spanning games at Connecticut and Syracuse and most of the 3-1 win over Pittsburgh ... Melissa Tancredi's game-tying goal vs. Pittsburgh sparked a flurry of shot accuracy for Notre Dame, as 7 of 12 shots found the back of the net over the course of the next 60 minutes of game time (final 29 vs. Pittsburgh, and 31 vs. UWGB) ... those seven goals included three by Katie Thorlakson and one each from Tancredi, Candace Chapman, Amanda Cinalli and Annie Schefter ... the Irish then totaled 6 goals on 55 total shots (25 on goal) in last week's games vs. West Virginia and Providence.

TULISIAK TAKES CHARGE – Senior D **Kate Tulisiak** played a reserve role her first two seasons and missed most of '03 due to a back injury, but she picked an ideal time for the first point of her career after intercepting a pass and providing the endline cross as Amanda Cinalli scored in the 84th minute for the 1-0 win at UConn ... she also helped allow UConn (1-0) and Syracuse (2-1) to just 14 combined shots, 4 shots on goal and 3 corner kicks en route to earning BIG EAST defensive player-of-the-week honors.

CINALLI TOP ROOKIE – Freshman F Amanda Cinalli scored the late GWG at UConn and had the primary assist on the first goal (by Jen Buczkowski) at Syracuse, earning BIG EAST rookie of the week honors for Sept. 13-19... Cinalli is tied for 3rd on the team in scoring (5G-3A) with 13 points, just two behind Candace Chapman.

SOCCER "BUZZ" – Sophomore M Jen Buczkowski opened the scoring in the 2-1 win at Syracuse, matching her goal total (4) from all of '03 after playing just eight games in '04 ... she now is tied for 3rd on the team with 13 points (4G-5A).

SEEING 20-20 – Junior F Katie Thorlakson's GWG at Syracuse on Sept. 19 made her the 19th player in ND's storied history to total 20-plus goals and 20-plus assists in her career ... last week she became the program's 16th player to reach 25G and 25A (25G-26A), doing so over the course of 54 games (9 previous ND players reached 30G-30A) ... Thorlakson is on pace for 51 points (which would best her 42 combined points in '02 and '03) in the 18-game regular season and would become the first ND player with 50-plus points in a season since Jenny Streiffer had 53 in the first year of the Randy Waldrum era ('99) ... Thorlakson already has 6 GWGs in '04 (6th in ND history) and 12 in her career, good for 9th in the ND record book (one behind '01 grad. Meotis Erikson) ... her 76 career points would rank near the top of many school's record books but she is 20th in ND career scoring ... the other 15 ND players in the 25-goal, 25-assist club include: Shannon Boxx (39G-57A), Cindy Daws (61-67), Erikson (59-46), Monica Gerardo (73-44), Rosella Guerrero (55-32), Amanda Guertin (48-27), Jodi Hartwig (27-33), Jenny Heft (80-29), Alison Lester (45-36), Anne Makinen (65-56), Michelle McCarthy (59-38), Streiffer (70-71), Tiffany Thompson (27-37), Amy Warner (37-25) and Suzie Zilvitis (43-26).

TURNAROUND SUCCESS – Notre Dame is **16-0** the past two seasons (10-0 in '03, 6-0 in '04) when playing a regular-season game two days after a previous game (44-5 scoring edge) ... that's a big improvement from '02, when the Irish were just 4-5 (18-16 scoring edge) in regular-season "bounceback" games ... the 2003 bounceback games included the big 2-1 win at Santa Clara while the '04 season has yielded a 5-2 bounceback win over that same SCU team.

NUMBER-ONE NOTES – This marks the 5th season in the last 11 that the Irish have been No. 1 (also '94, '95, '96 and '00), with all but the '95 team earning the top ranking prior to the final poll (the '95 team never reached No. 1 before winning the NCAA title) ... two familiar landmarks have returned to campus, as the lighted No. 1 sign can be seen atop the Grace Hall tower on the northwest corner of campus while the No. 1 flag now waves in front of the Joyce Center ... both displays reappear any time an ND team earns the nation's top ranking (or wins a national title) ... ND now has been ranked No. 1 in 20 NSCAA polls, plus 39 all-time appearances at No. 2 in the NSCAA poll ... during the past 12 years, the Irish have been ranked 1st or 2nd in the NSCAA poll during 10 different seasons while appearing in the top five of 96 of 124 NSCAA polls (77%) over that 12-year span (plus 1st-3rd in 73 NSCAA polls since '93) ... only five weekly polls in the past 12 seasons have seen ND outside the top eight of the NSCAA rankings ... the Irish spent most of '03 and the first few weeks of '04 ranked No. 2 in the national polls ... ND owns an all-time record of 40-4-1 as the top-ranked team in the NSCAA poll (24-1-1 in regular-season play).

No. 1 SIGN RETURNS - The eight-foot No. 1 sign perched atop the Grace Hall tower dates back to the 1974, when it was built by Fr. Bob Malone and a group of seminarians in recognition of the 1973 national championship football team ... the sign was placed atop Moreau Seminary and later moved to Howard Hall before shifting high in the sky to the roof of Grace Hall ... the sign was displayed during the 1988 national-title football season and returned in parts of the '89, '90 and '93 football seasons ... it shone brightly in recognition of ND's 1994 fencing and 1995 women's soccer national championships, followed by No. 1 rankings for the women's soccer program in '96 and '00 and for the fencing teams in 2001, '02, '03 (also national champs) and '04 – plus the '00-'01 academic year saw an unprecedented four Notre Dame teams earn the No. 1 ranking: women's soccer, women's basketball (also national champs), baseball and men's fencing.

BEWARE OF THOR! – Junior F **Katie Thorlakson** has emerged as a frontrunner for national player-of-the-year honors, entering the week atop the national points (34) and assist lists (12) while ranking 7th in goals (11) ... two of her Canadian national teammates own 33-plus points (Nebraska's Brittany Timko has 34, Portland's Christine Sinclair 33) ... Thorlakson entered last week as the nation's only player with 11-plus goals and 11-plus assists ... her eight points vs. #4 Santa Clara on Sept. 5 (3G-2A) are 5th-most by a Division I player this season (among players from 308 schools) and most vs. a top-25 opponent while her seven points in the opener vs. Baylor (2G-3A) rank 13th on that list ... only three players in the nation have totaled more assists in a game this season than Thorlakson's three vs. Baylor.

NCAA Division I Leaders for Total Points

1. **Katie Thorlakson (Notre Dame) 11G-12A34 points**
Brittany Timko (Nebraska)..... 12G-10A.....34 points
3. Christine Sinclair (Portland)..... 13G-7A.....33 points

NCAA Division I Leaders for Assists

1. **Katie Thorlakson (Notre Dame) 12 assists**
Nikki Wojtowicz (Oklahoma State) 12 assists

NCAA Division I Leaders for Goals

1. Christine Sinclair (Portland) 13
2. Tiffany Weimer (Penn State)..... 12
Brittany Timko (Nebraska) 12
Franny Iacuzzi (Colgate) 12
Casey McCluskey (Duke)..... 12
Leanna Woodworth (Gardner Webb) 12
7. **Katie Thorlakson (Notre Dame) 11**

Players with 11-Plus Goals and 11-Plus Assists

- Katie Thorlakson (Notre Dame) 11G-12A34 points**

BACK OF THE NET – Despite the absence of several top offensive players, Notre Dame ranks 7th in the nation with 3.08 goals per game ... only one team in the national top-25 polls (Duke, with 41) has more goals than ND's 37 and the Irish are 3rd overall in total goals (also behind Central Florida's 39) ... ND entered the week with a deceiving 0.67 team goals-against avg. (27th in nation) but has dominated opposing offenses, allowing just 70 total shots (5.8/gm), 32 shots on goal (2.7/gm) and 19 corner kicks (1.6/gm) ... ND is one of just six teams ranked among the NCAA top-30 in scoring and GAA ... Virginia, UNC and Cal are the only other teams in the top-25 of the national polls that also are in the top-30 of the NCAA scoring and defense stat charts (others are UC Riverside and UCF) ... ND is the only unbeaten/untied team among 308 in Division I ... there are two unbeaten teams with one tie (UNC and UCR, both 10-0-1) while only five have one loss/no ties (10-1-0 Dayton, 9-1-0 teams UVa and Washington, 8-1-0 Chattanooga, 7-1-0 Princeton).

TANCREDI TABBED THREE TIMES FOR WEEKLY DEFENSIVE HONORS – Another leader of Notre Dame's Canadian connection, fifth-year D **Melissa Tancredi**, picked up defensive MVP honors at the Adidas Classic (and BIG EAST defensive player of the week), after leading the Irish squad that allowed just 2 goals, 11 shots, 6 shots on goal and 8 corner kicks in action vs. two top teams ... she combined with fellow backline veterans Gudrun Gunnarsdottir and Christie Shaner and defensive M Jill Krivacek in neutralizing Stanford All-America F Marcie Ward before shutting out Santa Clara for the first 60 minutes and not allowing the second SCU goal until the 82nd minute ... Tancredi repeated the BIG EAST weekly honor after wins at #11 ASU (2-1) and Texas Tech (3-0), with ND allowing just 11 shots, 5 SOG and 2 CKs over the weekend ... Tancredi picked the perfect time for her first goal of '04, on a classic leaping volley via a free-kick service from fellow Canadian Katie Thorlakson for the gamewinner at ASU ... she picked up the BIG EAST honor for the third time after playing a lead role in wins over Pittsburgh (3-1) and Wisconsin-Green Bay (4-0) ... Tancredi scored the game-tying goal and had the primary assist on the final goal (by Candace Chapman) vs. the Panthers while helping the Irish allow just 7 total shots (one inside the 18-yard box), 5 SOG no CKs over the weekend games.

GREAT STARTS – The '03 season saw ND go unbeaten after 19 games for the fourth time in the program's history while the 2004 team is the 7th Irish team in the past 13 years to go unbeaten after 12 games ... the '04 season marks the 3rd time an ND team has won the first 12 games of the season (the 2000 team started 16-0-0, the '96 team was 13-0-0) ... here's a look at the other longest season-opening unbeaten and unbeaten/untied streaks in the ND record book:

TOP STARTS WITH NO LOSSES OR TIES IN NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S SOCCER HISTORY

Year	Start (Scoring)	First loss/tie and notes
2000	16 games (56-5)	play to scoreless tie at UConn ... later 23-0-1 ... end up 23-1-1 as NCAA semifinalist
1996	13 games (66-6)	lose 3-1 at Santa Clara ... end up 24-2-0 as NCAA runner-up
2004	12 games (37-8)	current 12-0-0 start, including wins over #13 Stanford, #4 Santa Clara, #11 ASU, #20 WVU
1994	9 games (41-5)	play to scoreless tie vs. UNC in St. Louis ... later 23-0-1 ... end 23-1-1 as NCAA runner-up
1995	8 games (36-0)	play to 2-2 tie at Cincinnati ... later 9-0-1 ... end 21-2-2 as NCAA champion
1997	6 games (25-1)	play to 2-2 tie with UNC ... later 23-0-1 ... end 23-1-1 as NCAA semifinalist
2003	6 games (27-3)	scoreless tie vs. Stanford ... later 18-0-1 ... end 20-3-1 in NCAA 2nd round

TOP UNDEFEATED STARTS IN NOTRE DAME WOMEN'S SOCCER HISTORY

Year	Start (Scoring)	Unbeaten record, first loss and notes
1994	24 games (104-11)	open 23-0-1 before losing to UNC in NCAA title game (5-0)
1997	24 games (134-7)	again fashion 23-0-1 record before losing to UConn in NCAA semifinals (2-1)
2000	24 games (75-8)	another familiar record (23-0-1) precedes 2-1 loss to UNC in the NCAA semifinals
2003	19 games (63-5)	tie vs. Stanford (0-0) only non-win in 18-0-1 start, then 3-2 loss to Michigan ... end 20-3-1/NCAA 2nd rd
1996	13 games (66-6)	start 13-0-0 prior to 3-1 loss at Santa Clara ... end 24-2-0 as NCAA runner-up
2004	12 games (37-8)	current 12-0-0 start, including wins over #13 Stanford, #4 Santa Clara, #11 ASU, #20 WVU
1991	12 games (40-6)	twice-tied team (10-0-2) drops 1-0 game at UMass ... end season 15-2-3
1995	10 games (40-3)	open 9-0-1 before losing to UConn (5-4 in OT) ... end 21-2-2 as NCAA champion
2001	9 games (19-7)	start 8-0-1 prior to 2-1 loss at Rutgers ... end 17-3-1/NCAA second round

FIRST-HALF FORTRESS – The Notre Dame defense has been particularly stingy in the first half the past four seasons, **allowing just 24 goals in the first half of those 77 games** (0.31/gm) ... the first half in '02 featured little scoring (12-10 ND edge), compared to a 40-7 first-half edge in 2003 (plus 19-2 in '04) ... the Irish have been **equally dominant in the first (56-12) and second half (46-14)** the past two seasons ('03-'04).

GOALS-A-PLENTY – Stretching from '92-'04, the Irish have scored in 94.9% of their games (281 of 296) ... since '94, the Irish have scored in 240 of 252 (.952; three shutouts in NCAA title games) – with goals in 186 of 193 regular-season games (.964) over that 11-year stretch ... ND saw its 31-game scoring streak (3rd-best in Irish history) end in '02.

PLAYING THE BEST – Notre Dame has played some of its best soccer vs. ranked opponents, going 26-11-3 vs. NSCAA top-25 teams in the Waldrum era (since '99) ... that trend held true in '01 (5-1-0): 2-1 vs. Penn State, 2-0 vs. Hartford, 2-1 vs. West Virginia, 3-0 vs. Miami, 0-3 at UConn, 2-1 vs. Michigan ... the Irish had '02 wins over #25 Maryland (5-2), #8 UConn (3-1), #13 Michigan (1-0) and #14 Purdue (3-1) ... over the course of '01-'04, ND has owned a 12-7-1 record vs. NSCAA top-25 teams (50-7-1 vs. unranked teams), including 2003 wins over #16 Santa Clara (2-1), #8 West Virginia (2-0) and #15 UConn (2-0) and a scoreless tie vs. #24 Stanford – plus '04 wins over #2 SCU (5-2) and #24 WVU (3-1).

PRIMETIME PLAYERS – Notre Dame has won more than 75 percent of its “big games” during the Randy Waldrum era ('99-'04), posting a 40-12-3 record (.755) when facing an NSCAA top-25 or postseason opponent.

GOAL PATROL – Notre Dame players have combined for **17 multiple-goal games** over 36 games in the past two seasons ('03-'04; compared to just five in all of '02), by 10 different players: **Mary Boland** vs. Hartford (3) and ASU (2) in '03, **Maggie Manning** and **Amanda Guertin** vs. Hartford in '03 (both with 2, with Guertin doing so again vs. Georgetown), **Jen Buczkowski** vs. Oklahoma in '03 (2), **Katie Thorlakson** and **Annie Schefter** vs. Western Kentucky in '03 (both with 2, then Thorlakson at Rutgers), **Melissa Tancredi** vs. North Texas in '03 (2), **Amy Warner** at Seton Hall in '03 (3) – and most recently three different players with two goals in the 2004 opener vs. Baylor – **Amanda Cinalli**, Thorlakson (also 3G vs. Santa Clara, 2G vs. UWGB) and **Candace Chapman** – with Manning adding 2G at Texas Tech.

MAGIC NUMBERS – The 3-goal mark has been virtually an automatic win in ND history, with the Irish 207-3-1 all-time (.983) when scoring 3-plus, losing to N.C. State in the '92 opener (4-3), UConn in '95 (5-4, OT) and at Georgetown in '02 (4-3), plus a 3-3 tie vs. Vanderbilt in '91... the Irish had won 88 straight when scoring 3-plus, before the GU loss (now 111-1-0 since Oct. 6, 1995) ... ND is 286-9-11 (.953) in all-time games when holding the opponent to 0-1 goals, including tough 1-0 losses in '02 to eventual NCAA champ Portland and top-ranked Stanford ... prior to the UP loss, the Irish had been 56-0-3 in the previous 59 games when allowing 0-1 GA (dating back to 1-0 loss to SMU in '99, playing minus Finnish national teamer Anne Makinen) ... the program's 17-year history includes just 296 goals allowed in 376 games (0.79 GA per game) ... the Irish have allowed more than one goal in only 72 all-time games (19%) and have yielded 3-plus goals in just 33 all-time games (9%; including two 6-goal games by the opponent, four 5-goal and six 4-goal) ... 91% of ND's all-time games have seen the Irish hold the opponent to 0-2 goals (ND is just 4-28-1 all-time when allowing 3-plus).

QUICK-STRIKE ARTISTS – Notre Dame has scored in the first seven minutes of 11 games the past two seasons ('03-'04; total of 12 “quick-strike” goals in that 36-game span) ... **Mary Boland** is responsible for three of those early scores while **Katie Thorlakson** has two and seven others each have scored one quick goal in '03 or '04 ... the quickest goals in '03 came vs. West Virginia (1:24; Boland volley on long serve from Melissa Tancredi), at Seton Hall (1:30; **Amy Warner** near-post shot after taking pass from Jill Krivacek) and twice at Rutgers (2:44 by Thorlakson from close range, after leftside pass from Warner; and at 3:53 on **Tancredi** header, via Thorlakson corner kick) ... the second game of '04 saw **Annie Schefter** score vs. Eastern Illinois at 4:35 (20-yard shot after short CK) while Thorlakson scored at 2:54 in the 4-0 win over Wisconsin-Green Bay (volleyed in Schefter free kick) and **Christie Shaner** headed in a Thorlakson corner at 2:38 of the 3-1 win at WVU ... other quick-strike goals by ND in 2003 came vs. Hartford (6:32; **Boland** rebound after 5-player combination, with right-endline cross from Warner), vs. Oklahoma (5:58; **Jen Buczkowski** rebound after flurry), at Santa Clara (5:03; **Boland** lunging poke, leftside service from Thorlakson), vs. North Texas (4:28; **Amanda Guertin** top of box, short pass from Warner) and vs. Georgetown (5:39; **Kimberly Carpenter** redirects Vanessa Pruzinsky shot).

GOING THE DISTANCE – ND is **unbeaten in its last 16 overtime** games (12-0-4), since the 3-2, double-OT loss to UNC in the '99 opener ... the Irish actually have played 15 straight non-overtime games, the longest streak without OT since the 1997 and '98 teams combined for 31 straight non-OT games ... after the opening '99 loss to UNC, that Irish team went on to post a 2-1, double-OT win at UConn and played to a 1-1 tie at Nebraska in the NCAA quarter's (adv. on PKs) ... the 2000 team then had OT wins over Stanford, at West Virginia and vs. Santa Clara in the NCAA quarterfinals (all 2-1) while also playing to 0-0 at UConn ... '01 featured an unprecedented five OT games (2-1 vs. Indiana, Villanova, WVU and Michigan; 2-2 vs. Wisconsin) while the '02 team added 1-0 OT wins over Rutgers and BC ... the '03 team had a scoreless tie with Stanford (at SCU), plus OT wins over Villanova (1-0) and Miami (2-1, BIG EAST quarter's).

SHARING THE WEALTH IN OT – ND's 11 overtime wins in the six-year Randy Waldrum era include goals from seven players (own goal vs. Stanford in '00): **Anne Makinen** (vs. UConn in '99), **Amanda Guertin** (ND record 4; vs. WVU in '00, Michigan in '01, BC in '02 and Miami in '03), **Meotis Erikson** (vs. SCU in '00 NCAA quarter's), **Kelly Tulisiak** (vs. IU in '01), **Amy Warner** (2; vs. VU in '01, Rutgers in '02), **Mia Sarkesian** (vs. WVU in '01), **Katie Thorlakson** (vs. Vill. in '03).

FRONTRUNNERS – Since a 3-2 loss to BYU (10/19/02), ND has trailed in just seven of 41 games for 238:11 (6.4% of 3,729:29), going 36-4-1 in those games ... teams to lead ND in that span: Stanford (9:02; '02 NCAA 3rd-round at Maloney Field, 1-0), Arizona State (1-0 for 7:18 in '03, ND wins 3-1), Michigan (1-0 for 1:01, then retake lead for final 58:17 and 3-1 win), Boston College (2-1 win in BIG EAST semifinals, lead for 82:28), Michigan again in 2nd round of '03 NAAs (lead for 28:22, 1-0), ASU again in '04 (lead for 11:26, ND wins 2-1) and Pittsburgh in '04 (lead for 40:18, ND wins 3-1) ... prior to the first goal by Michigan in '03, ND **had not faced a deficit for nearly two months and 16-plus games**, the longest streak in the program's history ... Santa Clara and Miami (BIG EAST quarterfinal) were the only teams to come back and tie the Irish in '03 (ND retook the lead for good 12 minutes later vs. SCU) while SCU, Syracuse and West Virginia have forged ties vs. ND in '04 ... the previous team record for longest streak without a deficit was 14 games in '97, starting with a 5-0 win over Duke (9/21, after trailing two days earlier in a 2-2 tie vs. UNC) ... the '97 streak continued vs. UConn (6-1, BIG EAST title game; 11/9) and ended when Cincinnati opened the scoring in a 1st-round NCAA Tournament game (ND won 7-1) ... the '97 team spent all season ranked No. 2 in the NSCAA poll ... ND's 2000 squad earned the top ranking after seven games, did not face a deficit the first 13 games (BC then led for 28 minutes, in a 3-1 ND win) and added six more games without trailing before falling behind UNC in the 82nd minute of the NCAA semifinals (2-1 loss).

THORLAKSON BIG EAST PLAYER OF THE WEEK ... AGAIN ... AND AGAIN – Junior F Katie Thorlakson was named BIG EAST offensive player of the week, after playing a role in eight of ND's 10 goals during wins over Baylor (7-2) and Eastern Illinois (3-0) ... she became the first ND player ever to repeat that honor after a strong all-around game vs. #13 Stanford (1-0) and 3G-2A vs. #4 Santa Clara (5-2) ... her 7 points in the 1st half vs. Baylor game ranks as one of the top performances in ND's storied history and she duplicated the 7 points in the 2nd half vs. Santa Clara (3G-1A) ... Thorlakson was one of 11 players named to *Soccer Buzz* "Elite Feet" national team of the week and the *Soccer America* team of the week (both weeks) ... she was the only player to repeat on the SA list and joined three others who were named to both the SA and SB weekly teams for Aug. 30-Sept. 5 ... Thorlakson became the first ND women's soccer player ever to score or assist on the team's first five goals in a game (vs. both Baylor and SCU) ... she then picked up her third BIG EAST player-of-the-week honor after totaling 1G-1A in both wins last week (at #20 West Virginia and at home vs. Providence) ... a standout with Canada's Under-19 National Team, Thorlakson totaled had team-best six assists in ND's preseason training trip to Brazil.

RECORD-SETTING START – Here's a look at the historical significance behind Katie Thorlakson's early fireworks:

- Her 7 points vs. Baylor at the time tied for most by a ND player in the six-year Randy Waldrum era ... just two other Waldrum-era players had totaled seven points in a game (both 3G-1A): Jenny Streiffer vs. Miami on Oct. 24, 1999, and current senior F Mary Boland in the '03 opener vs. Hartford (Aug. 29, at the UConn Classic).
- She is the first ND player to score or assist on 5-plus goals during a game since Anne Makinen's 8-point game vs. Syracuse in '98 ... the Irish had played 123 straight games without seeing an ND player factor into 5-plus goals.
- It had been six years since an ND player had 7 points in a half, as current Pittsburgh assistant coach Monica Gerardo scored goals 2-4 and assisted on the 5th (by Jenny Heft) as part of the 6-0 halftime lead at Providence on Oct. 11, 1998 (8-0) ... Tasha Strawbridge had 7 points in the second half of a 12-1 win over Valparaiso on Sept. 14, 1990 ... Strawbridge scored the first goal of the half (7-1), assisted on the 9th goal (by Denise Chabot) and added goals 10-11.
- It had been five years since an ND player even had opened a game with points on the team's first four goals (done eight times): Suzie Zilvitis vs. Alma (10/13/89; G-G-A-A; 6-0 final); Alison Lester at Indiana (9/14/93; G-G-A-A for 4-0 lead; 5-1 final); Rosella Guerrero one week later (9/17/93) vs. Michigan State (A-A-G-G; 6-0); Lester again that season at Ohio State (10/23/93; G-G-A-G; 6-0); Michelle McCarthy vs. St. John's (9/3/95; A-G-A-G; 9-0); Holly Manthei vs. Ohio State (11/1/96; A-A-G-A; 7-0), and at Villanova (9/28/9; A-A-A-A; 4-0); and Meotis Erikson vs. Seton Hall, in the BIG EAST semifinals at Rutgers (11/5/99; A-G-G-A; 5-0).
- She then was an easy choice the next week for offensive MVP honors at the ND Adidas Classic, after a primetime effort vs. #4 Santa Clara (3G-2A) as she again factored into ND's first 5 goals (5-2 win) ... the 8 eight points vs. the Broncos (3G-2A) are the most ever by an Irish player vs. a team ranked in the top 25 and seven of her points came in the 2nd half (3G-1A), tying another ND record that she already had shared with two others (after the 2G-3A vs. Baylor) ... she now has scored or assisted on all 7 goals ND has scored vs. SCU the past two seasons, also setting up a Mary Boland goal and scoring the late GWG at SCU in '03 (2-1).
- She had the first hat trick of her career and added assists on the 1st and 4th goals vs. SCU ... it marks just the 9th time in the program's storied history that an ND player has registered a hat trick vs. a top-25 opponent – and first since Jenny Heft in '98 vs. #25 Wake Forest (3-0) ... two previous ND players had a hat trick vs. a top-10 team: Rosella Guerrero at #5 N.C. State in the '92 opener (4-3 loss) and Anne Makinen vs. #4 UConn in '97 BIG EAST title game (6-1, at RU).
- Her output is all the more noteworthy due to the fact that the '04 squad was looking to replace graduated top goalscorers Amy Warner and Amanda Guertin while coping with the absence of two freshman frontrunners who were prep All-Americans (Kerri Hanks is training with the U.S. Under-19 National Team; Susan Pinnick was injured in a summer team van accident with her club team) ... another top rookie, Finnish national Jannica Tjeder, injured her ankle vs. Baylor and missed five games while senior F Mary Boland suffered a season-ending broken leg in through the '04 SCU game.
- With the above limits at forward, Thorlakson took it upon herself to factor into nearly every goal the Irish scored ... in the first two weeks, she totaled 5G-6A and two other plays where she directly set up goals (no official assist) – meaning she played a lead role in 13 of 16 goals (now 25 of 37, or 68%) ... she did not play the 2nd half vs. Baylor, when two of the other goals were scored, and was taking a short breather when the late PK was scored vs. Stanford ... that all shakes out to 13 goals scored by the Irish in the first four games with Thorlakson on the field – and she played a lead role in all 13.
- Her 8 points vs. SCU are most by an Irish player in six years and one shy of the ND record, shared by '96 teammates Jenny Streiffer (2G-5A, vs. Providence, Aug. 31) and Monica Gerardo (4G-1A vs. Seton Hall, Oct. 27) ... ND players have combined for seven other 8-point games, the last coming when Makinen had 3G-2A vs. Syracuse (Nov. 1, 1998) ... the other eight-point games: Stacia Masters vs. Loyola (3G-2A, 12-0, 10/20/93), Michelle McCarthy vs. St. John's (3G-2A, 9-0, 9/3/95), Gerardo's four-goal game at Indiana (7-0, 9/7/95), Streiffer in the game where Gerardo also had nine points vs. Seton Hall (3G-2A, 10-0, 10/27/96), Cindy Daws vs. Villanova (3G-2A, 10-1, 11/3/96), Meotis Erikson vs. SHU (3G-2A, 7-1, 10/24/97) and Streiffer's four-goal game at Georgetown (10/11/97).

BOHN IN THE NETS – Junior G Erika Bohn is **38-4-1 in her last 44 starts** with the Irish (since a 3-2 loss to BYU on Oct. 19, 2002), allowing just 23 goals in that 44-game stretch (26 games with 0 GA, 15 with 1 GA) ... that 44-game span includes a 4-1 mark to close the 2002 season, a 5-0 showing in the 2003 spring season (dnp in '04 spring), the 20-3-1 record in the fall of '03 and nine wins this fall (two in Brazil) ... her only losses in that stretch: the final '02 loss at #1 Stanford (0-1, goal in 81st minute); the 3-2 loss to Michigan in the final game of the '03 regular season (UM's final two goals came on corner-kick breakdowns by the ND defense), a 2-1 loss to Boston College in the '03 BIG EAST semifinals and the 1-0 loss to Michigan in the '03 NCAAAs ... prior to the first '03 loss to Michigan, Bohn had logged 29 consecutive games with the Irish (24 fall, 5 spring) without allowing multiple goals (previously done by BYU in '02) ... her 51 official starts at ND (in fall games) include 28 in which she did not allow a goal, 14 games with one goal allowed, four with two goals allowed and just five with three-plus goals (3-4 at Georgetown, 0-3 vs. West Virginia, 1-3 vs. Purdue and 2-3 vs. BYU in '02, plus 2-3 vs. Michigan in '03) ... since the BYU game, Bohn has limited the opponent to 0-1 goals in 34 of her last 37 fall starts (23 with 0 GA, 10 with 1 GA, 2-1 loss to BC, 3-2 loss to UM, 5-2 win over Santa Clara).

OPENING-DAY RECORDS – **Amanda Cinalli's** opening goal vs. Baylor made her just the 4th freshman ever to score ND's first goal of a season, with others including Margaret Jarc ('89; 4-1 vs. St. Joseph's), Rosella Guerrero ('92; 3-4 vs. N.C. State) and current senior Mary Boland ('01; 2-1 vs. Penn State) ... Cinalli then became the 4th ND player ever to score the team's first two goals in a season, with others including Alison Lester ('91; 2-0 vs. Mercyhurst) and Guerrero ('92; 3-4 vs. N.C. St.; '93, 12-0 vs. LaSalle) ... **Katie Thorlakson's** 2G-3A vs. Baylor tied the ND record for points in a half (7) shared by Tasha Strawbridge (3G-1A vs. Valparaiso in '90) and Monica Gerardo (3G-1A at Providence in '98).

CLUTCH CANADIAN – Sophomore F **Katie Thorlakson** (Langley, B.C.) picked key times for all four of her game-winning goals in 2003 ... two of her GWGs in '03 came vs. top-15 teams (#10 Santa Clara and #15 Connecticut), plus the overtime goal vs. Villanova and the early strike at Rutgers (3-0) ... she is the only current ND player with multiple career goals vs. UConn (her goal tied the '02 game, 1-1, in a 3-1 win) ... the '02 ND-UConn game proved to be a key turning point for the program, with current 5th-year senior **Melissa Tancredi** making the full-time move from F to central D while Thorlakson shifted permanently from M to F ... since those **key shifts**, the Irish are **38-5-1** in their past 44 games.

HOME SWEET HOME – The Irish own a 157-14-2 all-time record (.913) record at Alumni Field (133-10-2 in last 145) – with a 29-game home winning streak (5th NCAA history) from '99-'01 ... eight of ND's last 10 home losses have been by a single goal ... ND's Alumni Field record vs. teams not in the NSCAA top-25 is 112-4-1 (45-10-1 vs. ranked teams) ... junior F **Katie Thorlakson** has totaled 45 pts at Alumni Field the past two seasons (16G-13A, 7 GWG in 22 GP) while junior M **Annie Scheffter** has scored all 8 of her career goals (4 GWG) at home (also 3 of her 5 assists) ... sophomore M **Jen Buczkowski** (7G-8A) has notched 22 of her 27 career points with ND in the confines of Alumni Field.

FIRST-TIME VISITORS – Since 1993, Notre Dame opponents making their first visit to Alumni Field now have lost to the Irish 37 times, with just three wins for the opposition and one tie in that 12-year stretch (37-3-1; .915) ... ND's all-time record in series openers is 68-25-2, including 35-5-0 since '93 and 47-8-0 in all series openers at home (21-3-0 since '93).

TOURNAMENT TOUGH – Notre Dame owns an 85-25-7 all-time record (.756) in tournament action, including 37-13-6 in regular-season tournaments (19-3-2 at home, with 61-23 scoring edge), 23-1-0 in conference tournaments and 25-11-1 in the NCAAAs ... since '94, ND is 25-6-3 in regular-season tournaments – with 18 wins vs. NSCAA top-25 teams ... since '94, the Irish have lost just six regular-season tournament games: vs. UNC (2-0 in '95, in Houston); 3-2 at the '99 KBC, vs. SCU in '96 and '02 (3-1 at Duke, 4-0 at ND), vs. SMU in '99 (1-0; in Klein, Texas, minus star player Anne Makinen) and vs. Portland in '02 (1-0, at ND) – with ties vs. UNC (0-0 in '94, in St. Louis; 2-2 in '97 at ND), Duke (2-2 in '95, in Houston) and Stanford in '03 (0-0, at SCU) ... from '97-'04, the Irish went 20-4-2 in regular-season tournaments.

20-SOMETHING – Notre Dame has posted 20-plus wins in eight of the previous 10 seasons ... the 1996 team racked up an ND-record 24 wins, with 23 wins in 1994, '97 and '00, 21 wins in '95, '98 and '99, and 20 in 2003.

GREAT GRADES – The Notre Dame women's soccer team consistently has performed at a high level on the field and in the classroom and that certainly was the case in '03-'04, with a 20-3-1 record followed by a 3.28 team GPA in the '03 fall semester and then a 3.32 GPA in the spring of '04 (when 22 of 25 players posted a GPA of 3.0 or better, with 13 at 3.4-plus) ... the '04 team includes two Academic All-Americans – senior F **Mary Boland** (3.90 cumulative GPA, psychology major) and junior G **Erika Bohn** (3.63, design) – with other candidates for that honor in '04 including junior M **Annie Scheffter** (3.73, pre-professional studies and psychology) and senior D **Gudrun Gunnarsdottir** (3.31, finance).

TANCREDI, CHAPMAN TABBED FOR TOP NATIONAL HONORS – Two ND players received top preseason billing from various national organizations, as 5th-year central D **Melissa Tancredi** (Ancaster, Ont.) and F/D **Candace Chapman** (Ajax, Ont.) were among 12 named to the *Soccer Buzz* preseason All-America squad while both were among 25 named to the 2004 preseason watch list for the Missouri Athletic Club's Hermann Trophy national player-of-the-year award ... Tancredi was one of 11 named to *Soccer America's* 2004 preseason All-America team ... Tancredi was a *Soccer Buzz* 1st team All-American in '03 and 2nd team All-American from the NSCAA ... Chapman was an NSCAA 2nd team All-American in '02 before missing '03 with an ACL knee injury ... Tancredi – who like Chapman has starred for the Canadian National Team – could prove to be the nation's top defensive player in 2004, with Tennessee senior Keeley Dowling representing the only other D on both the SA and SB preseason All-America teams ... Tancredi, Chapman, Dowling and Virginia's Becky Sauerbrunn were the only defenders on the MAC Hermann Trophy watch list ... Tancredi was one of nine listed on both the SA and SB preseason All-America teams, the others: Dowling, M Carli Lloyd (Rutgers), Lindsey Huie (Portland), Leslie Osborne (Santa Clara) and Lori Chalupny (UNC), Portland F Christine Sinclair and the UNC forward tandem of Lindsay Tarpley and Heather O'Reilly ... ND joined UNC and Portland as teams with multiple players on the SB "Elite 12" preseason All-America team while the Irish were one of five with multiple players on Hermann watch list (also UNC, Portland, Texas, UVA) ... Chapman was on the '03 watch list (prior to injury) while Tancredi and former ND forward Amy Warner were on the list of the final 15 candidates for the 2003 MAC Hermann Trophy.

FAR & WIDE – Notre Dame's 2004 roster includes players from 13 states, two Canadian provinces, Iceland and Finland ... the program's all-time roster canvasses 30 states and three foreign countries ... ND's student-athlete population in the '02-'03 academic year included nearly 800 individuals from 47 states (all but Idaho, Mississippi, Nevada) and 20 countries.

IRISH PICKED TO WIN BIG EAST; TANCREDI, BUCZKOWSKI TAKE PRESEASON HONORS – Notre Dame was the preseason favorite to win the 2004 BIG EAST Conference regular-season title, with the Irish previously winning eight regular-season and seven tournament titles in nine BIG EAST seasons ... 5th-year All-America central D **Melissa Tancredi** was picked to repeat as BIG EAST defensive player of the year and was joined by sophomore M **Jen Buczkowski** on the 11-player 2004 preseason all-BIG EAST team ... ND senior F **Mary Boland** was overlooked on the preseason all-BIG EAST team (as selected by the league's coaches), despite earning 1st team all-BIG EAST and NSCAA 2nd-team all-region honors in '03 ... sophomore D **Christie Shaner** – the league's co-rookie of the year and 2nd-team all-BIG EAST in '03 – failed to crack the '04 preseason list, which includes two D (Tancredi and Villanova's Michelle Biehl).

FRESHMAN CLASS RATED NO. 2 – *Soccer Buzz* ranked ND's incoming class as the 2nd-best in the nation while *Soccer America* had the Irish 5th on its list of top '04 classes ... the six signees for '04 included four highly-regarded forwards – **Amanda Cinalli** (Maple Hts, Ohio), **Kerri Hanks** (Allen, Texas), **Susan Pinnick** (South Bend, Ind.) and **Jannica Tjeder** (Espoo, Finland) – plus M **Ashley Jones** (Westlake Village, Calif.) and G **Lauren Karas** (Flower Mound, Texas) ... Hanks is the leading scorer for the U.S. Under-19 National Team while Cinalli and Pinnick have been members of the U-17s, with each of those three earning prep All-America honors ... each of the five U.S. signees was a member of her respective Olympic Development regional team, with Karas a member of the U-16 National Team player pool while Jones helped lead both her ODP squad and the Southern California United club program to national titles ... Tjeder is one of the top young players in Finland, playing for her national under-17, u-19 and u-21 teams.

RECRUIT RANKINGS HISTORY – ND's '04 roster is comprised of four top-ranked recruiting classes ... ND joins UNC and Virginia as the only teams to have their recruiting classes in the *Soccer Buzz* top 15 from '01-'04 (ND was 14th in '01, 9th in '02, 5th in '03; UNC 2nd-1st-6th-3rd from '01-'04; UVa 1st-3rd-11th-12th) ... ND and UNC are the only teams to be in the *Soccer Buzz* top-15 classes every year since those rankings began in '98 (ND was 11th in '98, 4th in '99, 9th in '00; UNC 2nd-1st-2nd from '98-'00) ... *Soccer America* has ranked top-10 classes since '02, with ND and UNC the only teams in the SA top 10 every year from '02-'04 (ND was 9th by SA in '02, 5th in '03; UNC 1st in '02, 6th in '03) ... ND and Texas (3rd in '03 and '04) are the only teams to attract SA top-5 classes each of the past two seasons ... SB's top-15 classes for '04: Texas A&M, ND, UNC, Penn St., Texas, Clemson, Portland, Maryland, Ohio St., Cal, Villanova, UVa, Michigan, Illinois, Santa Clara ... SA's top-10: A&M, UNC, Texas, PSU, ND, Nebraska, OSU, Portland, Florida, Cal.

BALANCED DOMINANCE – The 2003 Notre Dame women's soccer team joined national champ UNC as the only teams in the top five of final NCAA leaders for scoring (3rd; 3.04 goals/gm) and goals-against average (5th; 0.49).

WINNING TRADITIONS – Several ND women's soccer players led their clubs and state Olympic Development teams to elite status before becoming part of another winning tradition with the Irish ... five members of the current sophomore class helped their teams post top national finishes in '03 and the current freshman class also lived up to the standard ... most notably, **Ashley Jones** completed the rare double of winning 2004 national titles with her California South state ODP team and her Southern California United club ... her classmate **Kerri Hanks** earlier won the Golden Boot Award as the tournament's top scorer with the '03 Dallas Texans national champs while **Lauren Karas** earned the Golden Glove Award with North Texas at the 2004 ODP nationals (her team lost to Jones and Cal-South, 1-0) ... finally, newcomer **Susan Pinnick** led the Carmel Commotion to a runner-up finish at the 2003 USYSA under-17 nationals while **Kelly Simon** was a member of the St. Louis-based Busch Soccer Club that was the '01 and '02 national runner-up.

NATIONAL TEAMS – Three former ND players – D **Kate Sobrero Markgraf**, G **LaKeysia Beene** and defensive M **Shannon Boxx** – recently have been starters with the U.S. National Team, with Sobrero and Boxx starting for the '03 World Cup (3rd place) and '04 Olympic (gold) teams ... nine current members of the ND program have been active with various national teams, including **Candace Chapman** and **Melissa Tancredi** (starters with Canada's national team) and Chapman and **Katie Thorlakson** with Canada's Under-19 National Team ... four others – **Annie Scheffer**, **Mary Boland**, **Jen Buczkowski** and **Kerri Hanks** – have been starters with the U.S. U-19s while **Gudrun Gunnarsdottir** is a member of Iceland's national team and **Jannica Tjeder** has been a regular with Finland's Under-17, -19 and -21 teams ... former Irish D **Monica Gonzalez** is a founding member of Mexico's women's national team and captained Mexico in its historic appearance at the '04 Olympics (former Irish F **Monica Gerardo** also was a founding member of the Mexican team).

GONE, BUT NOT FORGOTTEN – Four members of the ND women's soccer team – not including senior F **Mary Boland** (broken leg in 4th game of '04) – will not compete with the Irish in '04 ... freshman F **Kerri Hanks** – rated by *Soccer America* as the nation's No. 4 signee and part of the nation's No. 2-ranked freshman class (per *Soccer Buzz*, No. 4 class per SA) – is training with the U.S. for the Under-19 World Championship (Nov. 10-27 in Thailand) and will enroll at ND next spring ... 5th-year M **Randi Scheller** (hip), freshman F **Susan Pinnick** (neck/back, suffered in summer club team van accident) and freshman M **Kelly Simon** (shoulder surgery) are out due to injuries ... Pinnick, like her classmates Hanks and Amanda Cinalli, was a prep All-American and played alongside Cinalli on the U.S. Under-17 National Team.

VIVA BRAZIL! – Notre Dame's preseason training trip in Campinas, Brazil (Aug. 10-19), featured a 5-0-1 record and 16-3 scoring edge vs. top semi-pro women's teams from the Sao Paulo area ... the games attracted many curious local spectators and included the traditional exchange of gifts and group photos ... the Irish enjoyed great camaraderie at the wonderful five-star Vitoria Hotel and soaked in the atmosphere at first-division Brazilian men's games at Ponta Preta and Guarani ... meals included Brazil's many exotic and tasty forms of pizza and the unique Brazilian steakhouses that feature table-top carvings of a variety of entrees ... leading scorers on the trip included senior F/D **Candace Chapman** (4G), junior F **Katie Thorlakson** (6A) and the freshman duo of F/M **Jannica Tjeder** (3G-2A) and M **Ashley Jones** (2G-3A).