

Notre Dame Cross Country Will Play Host To Highly Competitive Notre Dame Invitational

2000 SCHEDULE			
SEPTEMBER			
9	Saturday	Valparaiso Invitational Valparaiso, Ind.	M-1st W-1st
22	Friday	National Catholic Notre Dame, Ind.	M-1st W-1st
OCTOBER			
6	Friday	Notre Dame Invitational 4:15/5 p.m. Notre Dame, Ind.	
14	Saturday	Pre-National Meet Ames, Iowa	TBA
27	Friday	BIG EAST Championships Boston, Mass.	TBA
NOVEMBER			
11	Saturday	NCAA District IV Ypsilanti, Mich.	TBA
20	Monday	NCAA Championships Ames, Iowa	TBA
All home meets run at Burke Memorial Golf Course			
All times local to site			

2000 MONDO Men's Cross Country Poll Oct. 2, 2000				
Rank	Team	Region	Points	Prev.
1.	Arkansas	SC	392	1
2.	<i>Stanford</i>	W	390	2
3.	Colorado	MT	367	3
4.	Providence	NE	342	4
5.	Wisconsin	GL	322	6
6.	Iona College	NE	316	5
7.	Georgetown	MA	314	7
8.	<i>N.C. State</i>	SE	283	8
9.	BYU	W	265	9
10.	<i>Arizona</i>	W	260	10
11.	Northern Arizona	MT	214	13
12.	Colorado State	MT	210	11
13.	William & Mary	SE	194	15
14.	Arizona State	W	186	12
15.	Michigan State	GL	180	14
16.	Oklahoma State	MW	170	18
17.	Oregon	W	159	16
18.	Washington	W	113	19
19.	Michigan	GL	110	17
20.	Weber State	MT	98	20
21.	South Florida	S	89	21
22.	NOTRE DAME	GL	56	22
23.	<i>Duke</i>	SE	42	24
24.	<i>Eastern Michigan</i>	GL	41	25
25.	Princeton	NE	24	--

Italics indicates teams involved in the ND Invitational.

Irish Prepare to Run with the Best:

The Notre Dame men's and women's cross country teams, each boasting two team titles heading into the third meet of the season, are not about to relax and enjoy their previous victories. The Irish will face some of the nation's stiffest competition breezing into South Bend on Friday for the 45th annual Notre Dame Invitational.

Six of the top-25 men's squads will be racing on the Burke Memorial Golf Course on Notre Dame's campus Friday, Oct. 6, namely Arizona, North Carolina State, Eastern Michigan, Duke and Stanford, among other top-flight competition.

The women's squad also faces an equally tough field, with teams from Ball State, Duke, North Carolina State, Michigan and #1 Stanford.

Notre Dame's men's squad won the Notre Dame Invitational team titles for a six-year stretch from 1990 to 1995, but finished second in the '98 running of the ND Invite, and third in '99. Luke Watson, the junior who has taken over as the Irish top runner, finished 19th (23:53) in '98 and seventh in '99 (24:10).

Notre Dame's women won the '99 Notre Dame Invitational over second place Missouri by 16 points. Sophomore Jennifer Handley took sixth (17:36), the sole woman returning to the 2000 Notre Dame squad that finished in the top 50. (Graduated seniors JoAnna Deeter and Alison Klemmer took first and third, respectively).

But the recent success of both Irish harrier squad has been due in large part to the strong running of their freshmen and sophomore runners. Three of the women's top-10 finishes at the recent National Catholic (where both Irish teams finished first) came from two freshmen (Megan Johnson and Rachel Endress) and a sophomore (Muffy Schmidt).

On the men's side, freshmen David Alber and Brian Kerwin were the fourth- and fifth-place finishers for the Irish at the National Catholic (in 19th and 21st, respectively.)

Notre Dame Invitational Gold Division Race:

The Notre Dame Invitational is also featuring a Men's Gold Division race at 2:45 p.m.

The following is a list of the teams participating in the Gold Division race:

Youngstown State	Heidelberg
Wabash	UW-Oshkosh
Chicago	Hillsdale
RIT	UW-Green Bay
Akron	Arkansas State
Slippery Rock	Siena Heights
Calvin	Anderson
UW-Parkside	Indiana Wesleyan
UW-Stevens Point	Augustana

**Teams Participating in the
45th Notre Dame Invitational**

Women's Varsity Race:

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|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Wisconsin Green-Bay | 2. Slippery Rock |
| 3. Anderson | 4. Youngstown St. |
| 5. Miami | 6. Purdue |
| 7. Ball State (25) | 8. Houston |
| 9. Adams State | 10. Cincinnati |
| 11. Western Michigan | 12. Florida State |
| 13. NOTRE DAME | 14. N.C. State (5) |
| 15. Duke (24) | 16. Windsor |
| 17. Michigan (13) | 18. Stanford (1) |
| 19. Calvin | 20. Northwestern |
| 21. Indiana | 22. Akron |
| 23. Butler | 24. Arizona (15) |
| 25. Malone | 26. Arkansas State |
| 27. Bowling Green | 28. Kent State |
| 29. Hillsdale | 30. Ohio State |
| 31. Eastern Michigan | |

Men's Varsity Race:

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|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 4. Eastern Michigan (24) | 5. Purdue |
| 6. Truman State | 7. Adams State |
| 8. Butler | 9. N.C. State (8) |
| 10. Houston | 11. Cincinnati |
| 12. Arizona (10) | 13. Duke (23) |
| 14. Western Michigan | 15. Stanford (2) |
| 16. Indiana | 17. Ball State |
| 18. NOTRE DAME (22) | 19. North Central |
| 20. Kent State | 21. Windsor |
| 22. Florida State | 23. Bowling Green |
| 24. Ohio State | 25. Malone |

Note: Numbers indicate starting boxes at the course.

() - indicates ranking as of Oct. 3.

Notre Dame Invitational Schedule:

- 2:45 p.m. - Men's Gold Division Race
- 3:30 p.m. - Open Race (Men and Women)
- 4:15 p.m. - Women's Varsity Race
- 5:00 p.m. - Men's Varsity Race

Notre Dame Invitational Results:

Results will be available as soon as possible after the meet on the University of Notre Dame's official athletic website, www.und.com. If needed, results can be faxed on a case-by-case basis, please contact Alan Wasielewski in the Notre Dame Sports Information office via e-mail, Wasielewski.3@nd.edu, or phone at 219-631-3397.