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NOTRE DAME

2002-03 Men's Basketball Game Notes

2002-03 Notre Dame Schedule/Results (3-0, 0-0)

NOVEMBER

1	Fri.	ILLINOIS ALL-STARS (Ex.)	W, 107-77
11	Mon.	EA SPORTS ALL-STARS (Ex.)	W, 81-64
17	Sun.	BELMONT~	W, 76-48
18	Mon.	IUPUI+	W, 89-45
22	Fri.	BUCKNELL	W, 73-42
25-	Mon.-	vs. Furman@	8:30 p.m.
26	Tue.	vs. Creighton or IUPUI@	6:00/8:30 p.m.
30	Sat.	ALBANY	1:00 p.m.

DECEMBER

2	Mon.	MARQUETTE	7:00 p.m.
7	Sat.	vs. Maryland!	3:30 p.m.
8	Sun.	vs. George Washington/Texas!	1:00/3:30 p.m.
14	Sat.	DEPAUL	5:00 p.m.
22	Sun.	CANISIUS	1:00 p.m.
30	Mon.	VANDERBILT	7:30 p.m.

JANUARY

4	Sat.	vs. Valparaiso#	1:00 p.m.
6	Mon.	at Pittsburgh*	7:00 p.m.
12	Sun.	SETON HALL*	12:00 p.m.
14	Tue.	RUTGERS*	7:30 p.m.
18	Sat.	at Kentucky	2:00 p.m.
21	Tue.	at Providence*	7:30 p.m.
25	Sat.	at Boston College*	2:00 p.m.
29	Wed.	WEST VIRGINIA*	7:00 p.m.

FEBRUARY

1	Sat.	GEORGETOWN*	12:00 p.m.
5	Wed.	at Seton Hall*	7:30 p.m.
9	Sun.	PITTSBURGH*	3:30 p.m.
15	Sat.	at Syracuse*	1:00 p.m.
18	Tue.	at West Virginia*	7:00 p.m.
22	Sat.	VIRGINIA TECH*	1:00 p.m.
24	Mon.	CONNECTICUT*	7:00 p.m.

MARCH

1	Sat.	at Rutgers*	4:00 p.m.
4	Tue.	SYRACUSE*	7:00 p.m.
8	Sat.	at Georgetown*	4:00 p.m.
12-	Wed.	at BIG EAST Championship	TBA
15	Sat.	(Madison Square Garden — New York, N.Y.)	
20-	Thur.-	NCAA First and Second Rounds	
23	Sun.		
28-	Thur.-	NCAA Regionals	
30	Sun.		

APRIL

5 &	Sat. &	NCAA Final Four Championship	
7	Mon.	(Louisiana Superdome- New Orleans, La.)	

* — BIG EAST Conference game
~ — Guardians Classic (First Round)
+ — Guardians Classic (Second Round)
@ — Guardians Classic -Semifinal/Championship Round (Kansas City, Mo.)
! — BB&T Classic (Washington, D.C.)
— United Center (Chicago, Ill.)
() — indicates Associated Press and ESPN/USA Today rankings at time of game

All times local to site.

Games No. **3/4** NOTRE DAME (3-0) Guardians Classic



Date: Monday/Tuesday, November 25/26, 2002

Place: Municipal Auditorium (9,552), Kansas City, Mo.

Times: 8:30 p.m. CST - November 25 (Semifinals)
6:30 p.m. or 8:30 p.m. (CST) - November 26 (Consolation/Championship)

Television: HDTV — Dave Armstrong (play-by-play) and Bobby Cremins (color)

Radio: Host Communications Inc. (Jack Lorri, Jack Nolan) originates the Notre Dame Radio Network (includes WNDV 92.9 FM and 1490 AM in South Bend, Ind./Michiana Region; WBIG 1250 AM in Chicago, Ill.; ESPN 950 AM in Indianapolis, Ind.; WGL 1250 AM in Fort Wayne, Ind.; WEFM 95.9 FM in Michigan City, Ind.; WVHI 1330 AM in Evansville, Ind.; and WLUV 1520 AM in Rockford, Ill.). All radio broadcasts can also be heard through the World Wide Web at www.und.com.

Real-Time Stats: Live in-game statistics are available for all home games, via the Notre Dame athletic website (www.und.com).

SCOUTING THE IRISH —

Notre Dame heads Kansas City, Mo., for the Guardians Classic with a 3-0 record following Friday night's 73-42 victory over Bucknell at the Joyce Center. The Irish face Furman in the semifinal game and then play either Creighton or IUPUI in the championship or consolation round.

Furman enters the game with a 1-2 record. The Paladins opened up the season with a 74-71 victory over Alabama State in the first round of the Guardians Classic at Creighton, but then dropped an 82-57 decision to the Blue Jays in championship round action and also lost their home opener to James Madison 68-66.

Defense has been the key for the Irish to start the season as the Irish have allowed just 133 points in the three games, which marks the lowest three-game point total to start the season since the 1946-47 campaign when Notre Dame held Franklin, Ball State and Indiana to a combined 129 points. The last time a Notre Dame team held three straight opponents to under 50 was the 1983-84 season.

Irish opponents are averaging just 45.0 points per game, while Notre Dame is averaging 79.3 points in its first three games. Coach Mike Brey's squad has held its first three opponents to under 30 percent shooting and 24.3 percent accuracy for the three games.

Bucknell shot 21.1 percent from the field against the Irish on Saturday night, converting just 12-37 field goals attempts. The Bison made just five field goals in the second half. The 12 field goals are the fewest made by an Irish opponent since Fordham made 13 in a 60-45 Notre Dame victory January 2, 1994.

Notre Dame also has forced an average of 18.0 turnovers per game and has kept its turnover total to just 14.3 per game.

Senior **Matt Carroll (Horsham, Pa.)** leads the team in scoring with a 18.0 scoring average. In addition, he is averaging 5.0 rebounds, 3.3 assists and 3.0 steals. He netted 26 points against IUPUI as he was eight-of-14 from the field. Carroll closed out the 2001-02 campaign by scoring 20 points in Notre Dame's final four outings, and with his 26-point outing against the Jaguars, has now scored 20-plus points in five of his last seven games in an Irish uniform dating back to last season. He was named

LAST IRISH OUTING

Notre Dame 73, Bucknell 42 November 22, 2002 Joyce Center Notre Dame, IN

Bucknell (42)

Player	min	fg	fga	ft	fta	reb	ast	pf	tp
Lalugba	27	4	13	4	9	7	0	3	12
Niesz	7	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Werner	27	1	9	5	6	4	0	2	7
Blankenship	33	3	6	2	3	3	1	4	10
Bettencourt	23	1	9	1	2	1	0	0	3
Skornik	8	0	3	0	0	2	0	3	0
Slater	14	0	1	0	0	2	0	3	0
Rodgers	22	1	3	0	0	3	2	1	2
Lee	9	1	2	2	2	6	1	1	4
Webber	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Namvou	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Quinn	22	1	5	1	2	4	1	1	4
Hardenbergh	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Bennett	2	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0
Team						3			
Totals	200	12	57	15	24	37	5	20	42

Notre Dame (73)

Player	min	fg	fga	ft	fta	reb	ast	pf	tp
Cornette	22	2	2	0	0	3	0	4	4
Miller	31	4	7	3	4	8	2	5	12
Francis	29	4	8	3	4	20	0	3	11
Thomas	32	8	14	1	1	2	5	1	20
Carroll	33	4	14	4	5	5	2	0	13
Quinn	14	0	2	0	0	0	2	1	0
Cornett	5	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Macura	2	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Jones	21	6	8	1	2	3	1	3	13
Timmermans	9	0	3	0	0	2	1	3	0
Markwood	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Team						1			
Totals	200	28	59	12	16	47	13	21	73

Bucknell	21	21	--	42
Notre Dame	40	33	--	73

FG Pct: Notre Dame 47.5, Bucknell 21.1. **3-PT FG Pct:** Notre Dame 35.7, Bucknell 16.7. **FT Pct:** Notre Dame 75.0, Bucknell 62.5. **3-PT FG:** Notre Dame 5, Bucknell 3. **Turnovers:** Notre Dame 19, Bucknell 20; **Blocked Shots:** Notre Dame 7, Bucknell 4; **Steals:** Notre Dame 11, Bucknell 9. **Attendance:** 10,418.

2002-03 Rankings

ASSOCIATED PRESS (Week #2 —November 18-24)

	LW
1. Arizona	1
2. Kansas	2
3. Texas	4
4. Alabama	8
5. Pittsburgh	5
6. Duke	6
7. Oklahoma	3
8. Florida	7
9. Michigan State	9
10. Oregon	11
11. Xavier	10
12. Mississippi St.	12
13. Maryland	13
14. Connecticut	15
15. UCLA	14
16. Marquette	18
17. Kentucky	17
18. Georgia	16
19. Western Kentucky	20
20. Missouri	19
21. Gonzaga	22
22. Indiana	21
23. Cincinnati	23
24. Minnesota	24
25. Tulsa	25

ESPN/USA TODAY (Week #2 —Preseason)

	LW
1. Arizona	
2. Kansas	
3. Oklahoma	
4. Pittsburgh	
5. Texas	
6. Duke	
7. Florida	
8. Alabama	
9. Oregon	
10. Michigan State	
11. Xavier	
12. UCLA	
13. Mississippi St.	
14. Connecticut	
15. Maryland	
16. Georgia	
17. Kentucky	
18. Missouri	
19. Marquette	
20. Cincinnati	
21. Indiana	
22. Gonzaga	
23. Western Kentucky	
24. Minnesota	
25. Illinois	

bold indicates 2002-03 opponent

MVP of the Guardians Classic regional.

Senior **Dan Miller** (Mt. Holly, N.J.), who sat out last year after transferring to Notre Dame following three seasons at Maryland, is averaging 16.0 points and 9.7 rebounds per game. Miller recorded the first two doubles of his career, scoring 19 points and grabbing 10 rebounds against Belmont, followed by a 17-point and 11-rebound effort against IUPUI. Prior to his first two contests in an Irish uniform, Miller did not record a double double in his previous 104 career outings.

Sophomore **Chris Thomas** (Indianapolis, Ind.) notched the 10th 20-point performance of his career as he tallied 20 points in Notre Dame's win over Bucknell. He is averaging 14.3 points and 8.0 assists.

Freshman **Torin Francis** (Roslindale, Mass.) is averaging a double double with averages of 11.5 points and 11.5 rebounds. Francis grabbed 20 rebounds in Notre Dame's win over the Bison — the most rebounds ever by an Irish rookie. He also notched his second straight double double in the contest as he finished with 11 points in 29 minutes of action.

Although he is only averaging 3.3 points per game, **Jordan Cornette's** (Cincinnati, Ohio) impact on the floor has been on the defensive end. In the Belmont game, he registered his first career double double with an unlikely combination of 13 rebounds and a Notre Dame and Joyce Center record 11 blocked shots. Against the Jaguars, Cornette continued his blocked-shot assault with eight. His 21 blocked shots in the two games already surpass the 17 he had all of last season. Cornette is averaging 7.3 rebounds and 7.0 blocked shots.

Junior swingman **Torrian Jones** (Fairless Hills, Pa.) scored a season-high 13 points on six-for-eight shooting from the field against the Bison. He is averaging 8.3 points and 3.0 rebounds. Meanwhile, freshman point guard **Chris Quinn** (Dublin, Ohio) provides an offensive spark as he averages 4.7 points and 2.7 assists in the two games. In addition, he has made four of his seven three-point field goal attempts.

Through the first three games of the season, Notre Dame is averaging 49.2 percent accuracy from the field and 43.4 percent (23-53) from three-point range. The Irish also average 18.7 assists and 14.3 turnovers. As a team, Notre Dame has blocked 39 shots (13.0 per game), which included a record-breaking 19 versus Belmont.

NOTRE DAME VS. BUCKNELL —

Chris Thomas scored 20 points to lead five Irish players in double figures as Notre Dame defeated Bucknell 73-42 in the second-ever meeting between the two schools. **Torin Francis** recorded his second consecutive double double as he finished with 11 points and a Notre Dame freshman record 20 rebounds. **Matt Carroll** netted 13 points and **Dan Miller** had 12 points and grabbed eight rebounds. **Torrian Jones** came off the bench to score 13 points on six-for-eight shooting from the field.

Notre Dame held Bucknell to just 21.1 accuracy from the field as the Bison converted just 12 of their 57 field goal attempts. The Irish also forced 20 turnovers and outrebounded the visitors 47-37.

Notre Dame jumped out to an early 16-3 advantage in the game, but Bucknell was able to get as close as seven (23-16) with 4:41 remaining in the first half. The Irish, however, used a 17-5 run in the final 4:05 of the half to send Notre Dame into the locker room with a 40-21 lead.

GUARDIANS CLASSIC RECAP (NOTRE DAME REGIONAL) —

vs. Belmont: **Dan Miller** recorded his first double double of his career in his debut in an Irish uniform as he scored a game-high 19 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, while **Jordan Cornette** blocked a school and Joyce Center record 11 blocked shots. In addition, he grabbed a career-best 13 rebounds.

Cornette broke the school record of eight blocked (set by LaPhonso Ellis in 1992) and Joyce Center mark of 10 (set by Bill Walton of UCLA in 1973). Several of his blocked shots came in a decisive 30-5 run. Notre Dame was leading 26-21 with 2:57 remaining before halftime and closed out the first half with a 14-0 run that gave the Irish a 40-21 halftime lead.

Notre Dame held Belmont to just eight points in the first 12:30 of the contest in building a 37-point advantage (66-29). The Irish held the Bruins to just 28.1 shooting accuracy from the field and forced 17 turnovers.

Matt Carroll and **Chris Thomas** each finished with 15 points each. Thomas also had eight assists in the game. Notre Dame's 19 blocked shots also established new school and Joyce Center records.

vs. IUPUI: **Matt Carroll** scored 26 points as he hit four-of-eight three-point attempts, while **Dan Miller** registered his second straight double double as he netted 17 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in leading the Irish to an 89-45 victory over IUPUI. **Torin Francis** registered his first career double double as he tossed in 16 points and grabbed 10 boards. **Chris Thomas** finished with 11 assists and eight points.

Notre Dame used a late first-half run to finish off the Jaguars. The Irish ended the first half with an 18-5 run

2002-03 BIG EAST COACHES' PRESEASON POLL

East Division

	Pts.
1. Connecticut (9)	85
2. Boston College (2)	71
3. Villanova (2)	67
4. St. John's (1)	66
5. Miami	46
6. Providence	31
7. Virginia Tech	19

West Division

	Pts.
1. Pittsburgh (12)	90
2. Georgetown	72
3. Syracuse (2)	68
4. NOTRE DAME	59
5. Rutgers	41
6. Seton Hall	36
7. West Virginia	19

BIG EAST Preseason Player of the Year:

Brandin Knight — Pittsburgh

BIG EAST Preseason Rookie of the Year:

Carmelo Anthony — Syracuse

Preseason All-BIG EAST First Team:

Troy Bell — Boston College

Marcus Hatten — St. John's

Brandin Knight — Pittsburgh

Emeka Okafor — Connecticut

Darius Rice — Miami

Michael Sweetney — Georgetown

Preseason All-BIG EAST Second Team:

Andre Barrett — Seton Hall

Gary Buchanan — Villanova

Jerome Coleman — Rutgers

James Jones — Miami

Chris Thomas — Notre Dame

Ricky Wright — Villanova

NOTRE DAME STARTING LINE:

No.	Player	Pos	Ht.	Wt.	Class	2001-02 Statistics			Notes:
						PPG	RPG	Other	
12	Jordan Cornette	F	6-9	235	So.	3.3	7.0	21 blocked shots	ND and Joyce Center record 11 blocked shots vs. Belmont
21	Dan Miller	SF	6-8	220	Sr.	16.0	9.7	31.7	Recorded double doubles in first two games
34	Torin Francis	PF	6-10	240	Fr.	11.5	11.5	7 blocked shots	Irish freshman record 20 rebounds vs. Bucknell
1	Chris Thomas	PG	6-1	182	So.	14.3	2.0	8.0 aspg.	Dished off 11 assists in win over IUPUI
13	Matt Carroll	SG	6-6	212	Sr.	18.0	5.0	3.0 spg.	Has 20-plus points in five of his last seven outings

NOTRE DAME OFF THE BENCH:

No.	Player	Pos	Ht.	Wt.	Class	2001-02 Statistics			Notes:
						PPG	RPG	Other	
2	Chris Quinn	G	6-2	178	Fr.	4.7	0.7	2.7 aspg.	Has connected on 57.1 percent of three-pointers (4-7)
4	Omari Peterkin	F/C	6-8	260	Fr.	--	--	--	Member of US Virgin Island Junior National Team
11	Rick Cornett	F	6-8	244	Fr.	2.7	2.0	--	Has come off the bench in all three games
15	Jere Macura	F	6-9	230	Sr.	0.7	0.7	6.0 mpg.	Has played in all three contests
20	Torrian Jones	G	6-4	195	Jr.	8.3	3.0	64.7 FG Pct	Netted season-high 13 points against Bucknell
24	Dan Lustig	G	6-5	195	Sr.	0.0	0.0	--	First year walk-on
50	Tom Timmermans	C	6-11	253	Jr.	0.0	0.0	--	Missed the first two games with a lower back injury
51	Chris Markwood	G	6-4	202	Jr.	0.0	0.3	--	Has come off the bench in all three games

and then opened the second half with a 20-6 run to the put the game out of reach.

The Jaguars shot 24.3 percent for the game and made just seven baskets (on 36 attempts), while shooting 19.4 percent in the second half. Notre Dame forced 17 turnovers and blocked 13 shots in the game.

Notre Dame finished the game by shooting 54.6 percent from the field and 50.0 percent from three-point range.

HEAD COACH MIKE BREY —

Mike Brey is in his third year as the Notre Dame head coach and eighth in the collegiate ranks. He was named the 17th head coach in the program's history on July 14, 2000, following five seasons (1995-2000) as head coach at the University of Delaware, where he led the Blue Hens to an overall record of 99-52. **Brey owns a 45-21 mark (.682) with the Irish.** He is the first coach in Notre Dame history to lead his teams to consecutive 20-win campaigns and NCAA tournament appearances in his first two seasons. Last year, he led his team to a 22-11 record and 10-6 mark in BIG EAST play after guiding the 2000-01 Irish to the 2000-01 BIG EAST West Division crown with an 11-5 record and finishing with a 20-10 overall record. Five of his eight teams have advanced to postseason competition (four NCAA and one NIT appearances). **Since his arrival, he has led Notre Dame to a 21-11 mark in BIG EAST play during the regular season for a .656 winning percentage.** In the two-year period from 2000-02, the Irish's BIG EAST wins are matched only by Boston College and Connecticut. His 21 wins after only two seasons rank as the third-best total in conference history. Only four other BIG EAST coaches, including St. John's mentor Mike Jarvis, have ever posted a better winning percentage in their first two seasons in the league. **Brey has an overall record of 144-73 (.664) as a head coach.** Among active BIG EAST coaches, Brey's 22-13 record (including regular season and championship contests) for a .629 winning percentage ranks him fourth behind Jarvis, Jim Boeheim and Jim Calhoun and sixth all-time.

THE CAPTAINS —

Matt Carroll, Jere Macura and **Dan Miller** are serving as captains for the 2002-03 campaign. It marks the second straight year that the Irish will have tri-captains. Carroll, a three-year starter owns a 12.0 career scoring average in 99 games played. As a junior, he finished with a 14.0 career scoring average and ended the 2001-02 campaign by registering four straight 20-point outings in BIG EAST and NCAA tournament competition. Macura has played in 76 career games and owns a 3.7 scoring average. This is Miller's first season of competition with the Irish.

SERIES RECORD VS. GUARDIANS CLASSIC FIELD —

vs. Furman: This will be the first-ever meeting between the two schools.

vs. Creighton: If the two teams meet on Tuesday night, it would mark 37th matchup all-time. Notre Dame leads the series and has 19-17, but has lost each of the last two games. The two teams have not met February 18, 1991 with the Blue Jays earning a 90-67 victory on February 18, 1991.

vs. IUPUI: The two schools met for the first time at last weekend's Guardians Classic, with Notre Dame earning an 89-45 victory.

IRISH IN SEASON OPENERS —

With its win over Belmont, Notre Dame is 80-18 (.816) all-time in season openers and has won four straight. The last time an Irish team lost a season opener was prior to the start of the 1998-99 campaign as the Irish dropped a 76-65 decision to Miami of Ohio at home. Notre Dame is 3-0 in season openers under Mike Brey.

OUT OF THE GATES —

With a guarantee of four games in the Guardians Classic, Notre Dame will play six games during the month of November for the second straight year. Last year, the Irish finished the first month of the season with a perfect 6-0 slate. It marked the most wins ever by a Notre Dame team in the month of November and the second time in the program's history that the Irish have played six games during that month. Notre Dame also played six games in the month of November during both the 1999-2000 and 1998-99 campaigns and finished with 4-2 and 2-4 marks, respectively.

HOME SWEET HOME —

Since the inaugural season (1968-69) playing in the Joyce Center, Notre Dame owns a 409-122 record all-time for a .770 winning percentage. The Irish are 24-8 (.750) at the Joyce Center during Mike Brey's two seasons and since the 1996-97 campaign own a 74-27 mark for a 72.3 winning percentage.

2002-03 Mike Brey Teleconferences

(All Teleconferences will begin at 10:00 a.m. EST)

Wednesday, November 13, 2002
(Guardians Classic)

Wednesday, November 20, 2002
(Bucknell/Guardians Classic)

Friday, November 29, 2002
(Albany/Marquette)

Wednesday, December 4, 2002
(BB&T Classic)

Wednesday, December 11, 2002
(DePaul)

Wednesday, December 18, 2002
(Canisius)

Friday, December 27, 2002
(Vanderbilt)

Thursday, January 2, 2003
(Valparaiso/Pittsburgh)

Thursday, January 9, 2003
(Seton Hall/Rutgers)

Thursday, January 16, 2003
(Kentucky/Providence)

Thursday, January 23, 2003
(Boston College/Villanova)

Thursday, January 30, 2003
(West Virginia/Georgetown)

Thursday, February 6, 2003
(Pittsburgh)

Wednesday, February 12, 2003
(Syracuse/West Virginia)

Thursday, February 20, 2003
(Virginia Tech/Connecticut)

Wednesday, February 26
(Rutgers/Syracuse)

Thursday, March 6
(Georgetown)

Monday, March 10
(BIG EAST Tournament)

Call: (317) 263-8800 • Enter: 8458#

(*teleconference dates subject to change)

WEB SITE —

Notre Dame's publicity materials on basketball, including updated game notes, rosters, schedules and player information are available through www.umd.com. In addition, real-time statistics and live audio broadcasts are available for both home and away games. Contact the Notre Dame sports information office at 574-631-7516 for details.

THE IRISH ALL-TIME —

The 2002-03 campaign marks the 98th season of men's basketball at Notre Dame. Irish teams have posted 1508-828 record all-time for a .646 winning percentage.

RECORDS FALL AGAINST BELMONT —

Notre Dame's win over Belmont in the season opener, produced several new Irish records.

- The 19 blocked shots the Irish had as a team set the school and Joyce Center mark, eclipsing the old mark of 12. The team total ties for third all-time on the NCAA blocked shots list with Seton Hall (November of 2000).
- **Jordan Cornette's** 11 blocked shots broke the school record of eight set by LaPhonso Ellis in 1992 in an NIT game versus Kansas State. He also established a new Joyce Center record, breaking the record of 10 set by UCLA's Bill Walton on January 27, 1973.

IRISH SPELL SUCCESS — D-E-F-E-N-S-E —

Notre Dame's strong defensive showing in its first three games has resulted in three Irish wins as the Irish have held Belmont, IUPUI and Bucknell to just 45.0 point per game and a 24.6 field goal percentage accuracy after making a combined 48 of 195 field goal attempts. Coach Mike Brey's squad has held their opponents to a three-game point total of 135 — that's the fewest points allowed by an Irish team to started the season since the 1946-47 campaign when Notre Dame first three opponents — Franklin, Ball State and Indiana — were held to a combined 129 points. The last time an Irish team held three opponents to under 50 points was during the 1983-84 season when Notre Dame lost to Northwestern (40-36) and then defeated Lehigh (68-46) and Cornell (55-48). Subsequently, that string ran to four games with an 80-48 victory over Valparaiso following the win over Cornell. The last time a Notre Dame team began the season by holding three straight opponents to under 50 points was the the 1944-45 campaign.

KEEPING IT CLOSE —

Notre Dame's 10 losses last season were by a combined total of 49 points for an average margin of defeat of 4.45 points. Only one loss (versus Georgetown - 83-73) was by double figures, while eight of those setbacks were by five points or less. In the 21 losses the Irish have suffered under head coach Mike Brey over the course of the last two seasons, only four have been by a double-digit margin. In its first season (2001-01), Brey's squad lost 11 games by a combined 85 points with its biggest loss coming against Connecticut (16 points) in a 75-59 setback.

IRISH SET TO MEET DEFENDING NATIONAL CHAMPIONS —

Notre Dame will play defending national champion Maryland in the first round of the BB&T Classic at the MCI Center in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, December 7 at 3:30 p.m. Texas and George Washington will meet in the first game of the tournament at 1:00 p.m. The consolation game will take place at 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 8, followed by the championship tilt at 3:30 p.m. Raycom/Comcast will televise all four games of the tournament. Notre Dame's matchup with Maryland will mark the 30th time an Irish squad has faced a team that had won the national title the previous year.

THOMAS NAMED TO WOODEN AND NAISMITH LISTS —

Sophomore point guard **Chris Thomas** is one of 50 preseason candidates for the 2003 John R. Wooden Award, which is annually presented to the nation's top men's basketball player. He also was named as a preseason candidate (one of 30) for the 2002-03 Naismith College Basketball Player of the Year Award, which is presented annually by the Atlanta Tipoff Club. Thomas is among five sophomores chosen to the Wooden Award list and is one of five BIG EAST players selected to the Naismith List.

THERE'S NO SLOWING HIM DOWN —

Matt Carroll ended the 2001-02 campaign by scoring 20 points in Notre Dame's two BIG EAST and two NCAA tournament games. Carroll's 26-point outing against IUPUI was the fifth 20-plus effort he has for the Irish in the last seven games. He has scored 20-plus points 11 times during his career.

MILLER TIME —

After sitting out the 2001-02 campaign following his transfer to Notre Dame from Maryland in the summer of 2001, **Dan Miller** has made the most of first two games in an Irish uniform as he has recorded double doubles in the Belmont and IUPUI contest. Against the Bruins, he had 19 points and 10 rebounds and came back against the Jaguars to score 17 points and grab 11 rebounds. In his three seasons with the Terrapins (104 career games), he did not record a double double and never grabbed more than seven rebounds in a game.

CARROLL CLOSING IN ON IRISH THREE-POINT RECORD —

Former Notre Dame standout David Graves (1998-2002) set the Irish three-point mark last season with 259, but it is likely that **Matt Carroll** will break that record at some point during the 2002-03 campaign. Carroll is third on the all-time list with 209, needing just 51 to break the record. Ryan Hoover (1992-96) currently is second with 248. In 102 career games played, Carroll has averaged 2.05 three-pointers per game.

FANTASTIC FRANCIS —

Rookie **Torin Francis** is averaging a double double through Notre Dame's first three games with averages of 11.3 points and 11.3 rebounds. He has registered a double double in the Irish's last two games. Against IUPUI he had 16 points and 10 rebounds for his first career double double, and followed that with 11 points and 20 rebounds against Bucknell. The 20 rebounds were the most ever by an Irish freshman and the most since former Irish All-American Troy Murphy grabbed 20 rebounds against Seton Hall on January 8, 2001.

BREY SHOWS IRISH THE WAY ON THE ROAD —

Notre Dame played just 13 homes games during the 2001-02 campaign, but found life on the road to be rather friendly. The Irish were 8-4 in contests played on the opponent's home floor and were 5-3 in

2002-03 BIG EAST Coaches Teleconference

Media wishing to participate should phone:
(913) 981-5520

Dates:

Thurs., December 12	Thurs., January 16
Thurs., January 30	Thurs., February 13
Thurs., February 27	Mon., March 10

The schedule of coaches is (all times Eastern):

11:00 a.m.	Jay Wright, Villanova
11:08 a.m.	Mike Brey, Notre Dame
11:16 a.m.	Al Skinner, Boston College
11:24 a.m.	Jim Calhoun, Connecticut
11:32 a.m.	Mike Jarvis, St. John's
11:40 a.m.	Ben Howland, Pittsburgh
11:48 a.m.	Jim Boeheim, Syracuse
11:56 a.m.	Perry Clark, Miami
12:04 p.m.	John Beilein, West Virginia
12:20 p.m.	Gary Waters, Rutgers
12:28 p.m.	Tim Welsh, Providence
12:36 p.m.	Craig Esherick, Georgetown
12:44 p.m.	Ricky Stokes, Virginia Tech

Irish All-Time vs. 2002-03 Opponents

Team	Record
Albany	0-0
Belmont	1-0
Boston College	9-9
Bucknell	2-0
Canisius	18-4
Connecticut	3-7
Creighton	19-17
DePaul	48-41
Furman	0-0
Georgetown	8-6
George Washington	0-0
IUPUI	1-0
Kentucky	17-39
Marquette	74-29
Maryland	8-8
Pittsburgh	24-20
Providence	6-8
Rutgers	9-8
Seton Hall	8-6
Syracuse	15-14
Texas	0-1
Valparaiso	36-3
Vanderbilt	3-4
Virginia Tech	1-1
West Virginia	17-7
Total	327-232 (.585)

neutral site contests for an overall record of 13-7 away from the Joyce Center. In Brey's first season, Notre Dame was 6-4 on the road and 2-2 in neutral site games for an overall record of 8-6. In two seasons under Brey, Notre Dame has a 14-8 (.636) road mark and 7-5 (.583) mark in neutral site contests. Over the past two seasons, Irish teams have compiled a 21-13 (.618) record playing away from home.

IRONMAN —

Matt Carroll played in his 100th career game yesterday in Notre Dame's win over Belmont and has seen action in 102 career games in an Irish uniform. He has started all but eight of those games and has missed just one contest (Miami (Fla.) on the road last season) because of an ankle injury in 103 career games. It is likely that he will break David Graves' (1998-02) games played career mark of 130.

116 AND COUNTING —

Heading into tonight's game against Furman, Notre Dame has hit at least one three-pointer in 116 straight games, which dates back to the 1998-99 campaign. The last time the Irish did not make a three-pointer was in a 101-70 loss to Connecticut in the Hartford Civic Center (Jan. 12, 1999) as Notre Dame finished 0-7 in the contest from three-point range. The Pittsburgh game on Jan. 26, 2002, marked the 100th consecutive game in which the Irish hit a three-pointer. Notre Dame made a season-high 14 against Rutgers on Feb. 6, 2002.

ONE OF JUST 12 —

Getting back into the NCAA tournament the last two seasons has put Notre Dame in rather elite company as the Irish were one of just 12 schools to win at least one NCAA game in both 2001 and 2002. The list also includes: Arizona, Cincinnati, Duke, Illinois, Kansas, Kent State, Kentucky, Maryland, Missouri, Stanford and UCLA.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION —

Head coach Mike Brey and the Irish once again will receive tremendous exposure with 10 nationally-televised games on CBS, ABC, ESPN and ESPN2. Notre Dame was featured on national television 16 times in the regular season during the past two seasons.

THE NATIONAL LINEUP

Mon., Dec. 2 vs. Marquette (7:00 p.m.) — ESPN2

Mon., Jan. 6 at Pittsburgh (7:00 p.m.) — ESPN

Sat., Jan. 18 at Kentucky (2:00 p.m.) — CBS

Sat., Jan. 25 at Boston College (2:00 p.m.) — ESPN

Sun., Feb. 9 vs. Pittsburgh (3:30 p.m.) — ABC

Sat., Feb. 15 at Syracuse (1:00 p.m.) — ESPN

Mon., Feb. 24 vs. Connecticut (7:00 p.m.) — ESPN

Sat., Mar. 1 at Rutgers (4:00 p.m.) — ESPN2

Tue., Mar. 4 vs. Syracuse (7:00 p.m.) — ESPN2

TAKING CARE OF THE BALL —

During the 2000-01 and 2001-02 campaigns (63 games), Notre Dame averaged 18.3 assists and just 13.7 turnovers for a 1.34 assist-to-turnover ratio. The Irish ranked third with a 1.45 assist-to-turnover ratio and ninth in 2001-02 with a 1.23 ratio. Notre Dame's 629 assists last season were second-most in school history — the 1999-2000 team had 643 assists in 37 games for a 17.4 assist per game average. Against Bucknell, Notre Dame had more turnovers (19) than assists (13); that's just the third time that has happened in the last 36 games. During the 2001-02 season, only twice did the Irish have more turnovers than assists.

DEFENSE GETTING IT DONE —

Notre Dame's defense has been stellar in the first two games as the Irish have held their opponents to just 24.6 accuracy from the field (48-195), while also forcing an average of 18.0 turnovers per game. Bucknell shot just 21.1 percent from the field and missed 25 field goal attempts (5-30) against the Irish in the second half (16.7 percent).

JONES PROVIDES THE SPARK —

Torrian Jones has been a spark for Notre Dame off the bench this season. In the first two games, it was his defensive presence that ignited the Irish. Against Bucknell, it was his offensive play that provided that helped produce the win as he scored 13 points (on 6-8 shooting from the field) while playing a season-high 21 minutes. He is averaging 8.3 points and 3.0 rebounds.

IN THE SPIRIT OF GIVING —

Chris Thomas continues to be one of Notre Dame's most unselfish players. As a freshman, he ranked fifth nationally with a 7.64 assist average. Already this season, Thomas is averaging 8.0 assists in the first three Irish games. His 11 assists against marked the 10th time in 35 career games that he dished off 10-plus assists in a game.

DECISIVE FIRST-HALF RUNS —

In the first three games of the season, its been runs in the final seven minutes of the first half that has been the catalyst for the rest of the game in leading the Irish to victory.

- Against Belmont, Notre Dame led 26-21 with 2:57 remaining and closed out the half with a 14-5 run for a 40-21 halftime advantage.
- In the IUPUI game, Notre Dame trailed 23-22 with 6:34 left before the game, but used a 18-5 run to gain a 40-28 halftime lead.
- Leading by seven (23-16) with 4:41 remaining in the first half, Notre Dame outscored Bucknell 17-5 for a 40-21 halftime lead.

BROTHERLY LOVE —

Three members of the Notre Dame squad have brothers playing at other Division I schools. **Matt Carroll's** brother Pat is a sophomore at St. Joseph's (Pa.); **Jordan Cornette's** brother Joel is a senior at Butler; and **Jere Macura** has a brother Petar who is a freshman at IUPUI. Jere and Petar both saw action on the floor at the same time in Monday night's matchup.

LUSTIG ADDED TO IRISH ROSTER —

Senior **Dan Lustig** has joined the Irish as a walk-on for the 2002-03 campaign. The 6-5, 195-pound guard hails from Alexandria, Ind., and attended Alexandria Monroe High School. He led his high school prep team to the 1998 Indiana Class II-A state championship and an appearance in the semifinals in 1999. A member of the Irish Guard, he is the sixth family member of nine children to attend Notre Dame. He will wear No. 24 this season.

NOTRE DAME'S NAME GAME —

A quick glance at the Notre Dame roster can be confusing with three players whose first name begins with Chris; two players whose last name sounds the same, but is spelled differently; and two other players whose first names are nearly identical.

First off, three of Notre Dame's guards are named Chris — there's Chris Markwood (a junior), Chris Thomas (a sophomore) and Chris Quinn (a freshman). Both point guards, Thomas and Quinn wear jersey numbers 1 and 2, respectively, while Markwood dons No. 51.

Then, there's the frontline duo of sophomore Jordan Cornette and freshman Rick Cornett. Jordan wears No. 12 and Rick's jersey number is 11.

Very little separates the first names of junior Torrian (pronounced tour-REE-in) Jones and freshman Torin (tur-rin) Francis.

In addition, there are two players named Dan — senior forward Dan Miller and senior guard Dan Lustig, who joined the team this season as a walk-on.

Next year's roster could be even more confusing with two Omaris — current rookie Omari Peterkin and incoming freshman Omari Isreal.

ND-DEPAUL GAME TIME MOVED —

The Notre Dame-DePaul game, originally scheduled for a 7:30 p.m. tip on Saturday, December 14, has been pushed up to a 5:00 p.m. start. The game will be televised by WGN in Chicago and will be the 90th meeting between the two schools.

KEVIN WHITE RADIO SHOW —

A weekly half-hour talk show featuring Notre Dame athletics director Kevin White airs on Chicago's ESPN Radio 1000 (1000 AM in Chicago, www.espnradio1000.com). In its third season, "The Kevin White Show" can be heard in 35 states Thursdays at 9:00 p.m. Central time. White welcomes to the show a series of guests and prominent figures associated with college athletics, including administrators, coaches and media members.

SPORTS ILLUSTRATED RANKS NOTRE DAME 15TH —

In the October 7, 2002 issue of *Sports Illustrated*, Notre Dame was ranked the 15th best Sports College among Division I schools for the 2001-02 school year. Texas and Stanford finished first and second, respectively. SI combined a variety of factors in arriving at its 2002 rankings, which included performance during the school year in five sports (baseball, football, hockey and men's and women's basketball); position in the '01-'02 Sears Cup NCAA all-sports standings; number of varsity, club and intramural sports; range of recreational facilities; and whether or not spirit-boosting events like Midnight Madness were held.

USA TODAY/NCAA ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AWARD —

Notre Dame received a 2002 *USA Today*/NCAA Academic Achievement Award for graduating 90 percent of its freshmen student-athletes who enrolled in 1995. Now in its second year, the awards were presented in late September of 2002 to 10 institutions with the highest overall graduation rates for scholarship student-athletes who began college in the 1995-96 academic year. Rice University finished with a rate of 91 percent, one percentage higher than Notre Dame, Stanford and Duke.

IRISH INK TWO IN EARLY SIGNING PERIOD —

Notre Dame head coach Mike Brey signed two players to national letters of intent during the early signing period — **Colin Falls**, a 6-4, 200-pound shooting guard out of Park Ridge, Ill., and **Omari Isreal**, a 6-8, 210-pound forward from Rockville, Md. Falls averaged 24.0 points, 5.5 rebounds and 4.0 assists during his junior season at Loyola Academy in Wilmette, Ill. In addition, he captured first-team all-Chicago Catholic League honors for the second consecutive year, while also earning second-team all-state accolades. Isreal averaged 18.5 points, 9.0 rebounds and 3.0 blocked shots in his junior season at Our Lady of Good Counsel in Wheaton, Md. An all-Washington Catholic Athletic Conference (WCAC) second-team selection each of the last two years, he earned first team all-county honors from both the *Montgomery County Journal* and *Montgomery County Gazette*.

BASKETBALL LUNCHEON SET FOR JANUARY 28, 2003 —

The second of two Notre Dame basketball luncheons will be held on Tues., January 28 at noon. Mike Brey and several Irish players will be featured at the event. Tickets are \$16.00 each and can be ordered by writing to the Notre Dame Athletics Business Office, 112 Joyce Center, Notre Dame, Ind., 46556. Checks may be made payable to the University of Notre Dame. Reservation forms are also available at the Joyce Center ticket windows. Telephone reservations are not accepted. For information call 574-631-5031.

TOUGH TICKET AT THE JOYCE CENTER —

Notre Dame's first official sellout of the season was Friday night's game against Bucknell. Before the start of the 2002-03 campaign, it was announced that six of Irish's 16 home games had already sold out. In addition, all 3,150 student ticket packages sold out in a record 36 hours after being put on sale. The six sellouts already equalled the total number at the Joyce Center during the entire 2001-02 campaign. The last time Notre Dame has seven or more sellouts in a season was during the 1994-95 season when nine game drew a capacity crowd of 11,418 at the Joyce Center. The upcoming games already sold out are: Marquette (Dec. 2), DePaul (Dec. 14), Georgetown (Feb. 1), Pittsburgh (Feb. 9), Virginia Tech (Feb. 22) and Connecticut (Feb. 24). There are a limited number of bleacher seats remaining for the Syracuse contest on March 4.

Irish Record

By Day	
On Sundays:	1-0
On Mondays:	1-0
On Tuesdays:	0-0
On Wednesdays:	0-0
On Thursdays:	0-0
On Fridays:	1-0
On Saturdays:	0-0

By Time	
Night Games:	2-0
Day Games:	1-0

By Location	
Home Games:	3-0
Road Games:	0-0
Neutral Games:	0-0

By Halftime Score	
Lead at halftime:	3-0
Trail at halftime:	0-0
Tied at halftime:	0-0

By Rebound Margin	
Outrebounding opponents:	2-0
Outrebounded by opponents:	1-0
Same number of rebounds	0-0

By Field Goal Shooting	
Shoot better from field:	3-0
Shoot worse from field:	0-0
Shoot same from field:	0-0
Shoot 50% or better:	1-0
Shoot less than 50%:	2-0
Keep opponents under 50%:	3-0
Keep opponents under 40%:	3-0

By Free Throw Margin	
Hit more free throws:	2-0
Hit fewer free throws:	1-0
Same number of free throws:	0-0

By Turnovers	
Commit fewer turnovers:	3-0
Commit more turnovers:	0-0
Commit same number of turnovers:	0-0

By Margin	
One-point games:	0-0
Two-point games:	0-0
Three-point games:	0-0
Four-point games:	0-0
5-10 point games:	0-0
11-20 point games:	0-0
21-30 point games:	1-0
31+point games:	2-0

By Conference	
Atlantic-Sun	1-0
Mid-Continent	1-0
Patriot League	1-0

By Month	
In November	3-0
In December	0-0
In January	0-0
In February	0-0
In March	0-0

Irish Double Doubles in 2002-03

Jordan Cornette (1)	vs. Belmont (13 rebs., 11 blks.)
Torin Francis (2)	vs. IUPUI (16 pts., 11 rebs.)
	vs. Bucknell (11 pts., 20 rebs.)
Dan Miller (2)	vs. Belmont (19 pts., 10 rebs.)
	vs. IUPUI (17 pts., 11 rebs.)

2002-03 Box Scores

Notre Dame 76, Belmont 48 November 17, 2002 Joyce Center — Guardians Classic (First Round) Notre Dame, IN

Belmont (48)

Player	min	fg	fga	ft	fta	reb	ast	pf	tp
Mark	30	4	11	1	2	6	2	3	10
Sonn	25	3	19	0	1	14	2	1	6
Snyder	25	1	9	0	0	2	0	3	3
Drabyn	31	6	11	0	0	1	2	2	17
Sonn	19	2	2	0	0	2	1	4	4
Collings	15	2	5	2	3	0	3	0	7
Patton	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Howard-Downs	19	0	3	0	0	1	0	1	0
Caterson	12	0	0	0	0	2	2	1	0
Colbert	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Otis	15	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	0
Modlin	1	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Oliver	6	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Team						6		1	
Totals	200	18	64	4	8	40	12	18	76

Notre Dame (76)

Player	min	fg	fga	ft	fta	reb	ast	pf	tp
Cornette	30	1	1	0	0	13	1	1	2
Miller	30	5	13	7	9	10	0	0	19
Francis	25	3	8	1	2	4	2	2	7
Thomas	30	4	8	4	4	3	8	1	15
Carroll	24	6	14	1	2	5	2	3	15
Quinn	20	3	4	0	0	2	3	2	8
Cornett	11	1	2	2	2	2	0	2	4
Macura	12	0	1	0	2	0	0	1	0
Jones	16	2	4	1	2	1	2	1	6
Lustig	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Markwood	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Team						3			
Totals	200	25	56	16	23	43	18	13	76

Belmont	21	40	--	48
Notre Dame	40	36	--	76

FG Pct: Notre Dame 44.6, Belmont 28.1. **3-PT FG Pct:** Notre Dame 43.5, Belmont 33.3. **FT Pct:** Notre Dame 69.6, Belmont 50.0. **3-PT FG:** Notre Dame 10, Belmont 8. **Turnovers:** Notre Dame 13, Belmont 17; **Blocked Shots:** Notre Dame 19, Belmont 0; **Steals:** Notre Dame 14, Belmont 10. **Attendance:** 10,689.

Notre Dame 89, IUPUI 45 November 18, 2002 Joyce Center — Guardians Classic (Championship Round) Notre Dame, IN

IUPUI (45)

Player	min	fg	fga	ft	fta	reb	ast	pf	tp
Mullins	22	1	3	0	0	2	2	3	3
Murray	28	5	16	0	1	12	2	3	10
Bradley	27	2	13	0	2	5	0	4	4
May	32	2	6	1	1	2	6	4	6
Crenshaw	23	0	3	1	3	4	0	2	1
Harvey	22	1	7	3	4	6	0	3	5
Osborn	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Macura	4	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Cole	21	3	12	0	0	7	0	1	8
Lewis	13	4	10	0	0	5	0	2	8
Long	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lambert	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Team						5			
Totals	200	18	74	5	11	49	10	23	45

Notre Dame (89)

Player	min	fg	fga	ft	fta	reb	ast	pf	tp
Cornette	23	2	4	0	0	6	1	2	4
Miller	34	7	10	2	4	11	2	1	17
Francis	28	8	13	0	3	10	0	3	16
Thomas	32	2	9	3	4	1	11	2	8
Carroll	32	8	14	6	6	5	6	2	26
Quinn	18	2	3	0	0	0	3	2	6
Cornett	4	1	2	2	2	2	0	1	4
Macura	4	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	2
Jones	20	3	5	0	2	5	1	2	6
Lustig	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Markwood	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Team						4			
Totals	200	34	62	13	21	46	25	16	89

IUPUI	28	17	--	45
Notre Dame	40	49	--	89

FG Pct: Notre Dame 54.8, IUPUI 24.3. **3-PT FG Pct:** Notre Dame 50.0, IUPUI 26.7. **FT Pct:** Notre Dame 61.9, IUPUI 45.5. **3-PT FG:** Notre Dame 8, IUPUI 4. **Turnovers:** Notre Dame 11, IUPUI 17; **Blocked Shots:** Notre Dame 13, IUPUI 3; **Steals:** Notre Dame 9, IUPUI 6. **Attendance:** 10,255.